

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMW Motorcycle Club  
Montana BMW Riders



CLUB CHARTER

MEMBERSHIPS :

BMWMOA #155

AMA #6830

*Next Meeting*

*Winninghoff Park*

*Phillipsburg*

*Noon*

*17 May 2020*

**-HOME OF THE NEXT BEST RIDE-**

## President's Corner



So how are you passing your days during the virus apocalypse? I hear of people spending it mainly in pajamas or yoga pants but that is not my case, nor have I been stocking a cache of arms, ammunition, and Spam. Instead I've been battling a barrage of work emails and Zoom meetings during the week, and puttering around the house on the weekends. A bathroom faucet replaced, a leaky shower fixed, a deck sanded and stained, every grimy window washed, and every venetian blind rid of its thick dust rind. Under the close scrutiny of my loving but skeptical wife Lisa (trust; but verify), I've sifted through boxes of persistent, irrelevant clutter, packing some contents up for Goodwill and jettisoning some off to the landfill. As the motorcycle teaches us: to be lighter is to be nimbler and more free.

We've got our two late-teenage man-children in the house full-time too, and have tried to make the most of this unexpected situation. We binge-watched three seasons of Stranger Things. We unearthed home videos from when Sawyer was 5 and Wyatt was 3; plenty of laughs to go around, and then hugs too (good thing we still had that old VCR). We rediscovered and rekindled the Nerf basketball hoop, Sudoku, Monopoly, neighborhood walks, postcards to Aunt Jane, the bass guitar, the bread maker and ice cream maker. If there's any upside to social distancing and home sequestration, I suppose it makes for a good opportunity to get caught up on all kinds of neglected tasks, including spending time together with family.

But now spring is fully upon us, the roads are beckoning, and the motorcycles are waiting. Adios, family! I got my first ride of the season two weeks ago. **John DiBari** set up a nice day of riding up from Missoula through the Flathead Reservation, a mostly-dirt route up to Flathead Lake and back down to the Bison Range. **Joseph Puglielli** came down from Whitefish and joined us in Polson for the ride south. What a terrific day that was. Talk about social distancing! We saw many cows but very few people that day. I'm still more comfortable riding on asphalt than gravel, but that gravel sure does lead to some remote and special corners of this beautiful state. I love being on those unfamiliar roads that go through nowhere in particular, following no particular timeline. I expect to keep the GS for a long time, for days and rides like these. (*Check out the track and article in this Newsletter.*)

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **President's Corner - (continued)**

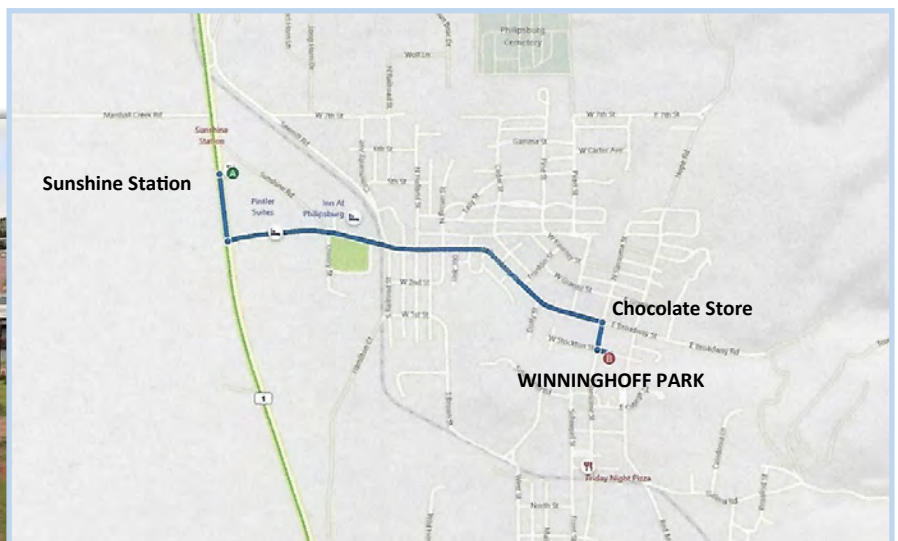
I was pleased to have seven club members take advantage of my offer to sign and submit their BMOW MOA mileage contest forms. That tells me it's a helpful service, and one worth continuing in the future. Hopefully more members will be encouraged to submit their MOA mileage form in the future. I don't know why exactly, except it's satisfying to open up that annual issue of the BMW Owners News magazine and see a bunch of familiar names under the Montana column. It's nice to beat other states like Idaho, who only had two riders last year compared to Montana's nine. Again, I don't know why exactly that matters. I suppose it doesn't, really, but it's something to do.

Where to get all those miles, exactly? That might be the question this summer. Like many rally-goers, the cancellation of the BMW MOA National Rally left a void in my June plans. At least they decided to retain Great Falls as the venue and reschedule it to 2021, so we'll get another crack at it next year. Other regional summer rally options are drying up as well. The BMW Riders of Oregon cancelled their Chief Joseph Rally (June). The Bavarian Mountain West Motorcycle Club of Idaho cancelled the Stanley Stomp (August). The Bee Cee Beemers cancelled their Nakusp Hotsprings Rally (August). On the other hand, the Touratech Rally West (June; Plain, WA), the Cascade Country Rendezvous (July; Republic, WA), and Beartooth Rendezvous (August; Red Lodge), and all still seem to be on schedule – for now, anyway.

As for our own club plans for 2020, we'll do our best to minimize the disruption to those, while being smart and responsible about the virus. It's going to take some creativity to define what it means for us to congregate while also social distancing. We had to cancel the annual spring crowd-pleaser, Tech Weekend at the Huddy Outpost, but hope that our generous hosts Kevin and Annie will have an opportunity to invite us back later this year, perhaps clad in scuba gear or Level A hazmat suits. In the meantime, Kevin planned a new riding contest to help ease the loss and keep us busy buzzing around the state.

As for our monthly lunch meetings, we had to cancel our May meeting at Philipsburg's Sunshine Station, but replaced it with an **open-air, picnic meet-up at Winninghoff Park, just a block from Philipsburg's historic main drag. That's noon on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**. Bring your camp chair, bring a sack lunch or buy some local takeout from the handful of P-Burg restaurants offering that service (e.g., Sunshine Station, Doe Brothers, UpNSmokin BBQ House), and then head on over to the park to join us – at the requisite 6-foot square spacing, of course. Yes, there will be a raffle! And maybe an impromptu ride around Georgetown Lake, or over Skalkaho Pass? It's been a long winter and we've got plenty to talk about, and many miles to start building towards, so I hope to see you there.

*Chris Keyes*



# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

**Secretary - Treasures Column - Dave McCormack**



It is predicted to be in the 70's tomorrow (Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>). With the Montana economy slowly recovering, we are all anxious to get out on the road and retest our skills in what is likely a low traffic arena for a while until the economy is fully back humming.

The club came through this tough period in great shape financially. We are fiscally as healthy as at any time in the past and are positioned well for the future. As soon as Chris and I can safely get together face to face, he will be handing me the books and all of his files. He has done an outstanding job of managing the club's finances and legal responsibilities.

Advertising has always been an integral part of our club's financial structure and we've had occasional hiccups on pricing, who should be an advertiser and keeping track of the money that advertisers pay for the privilege of getting into Dick French's "magazine" each month. Where once we only wanted advertisers who were motorcycle related, we now believe that because we reach more than just our membership, but also the digital world through our website and Facebook accounts, we shouldn't restrict our advertisers based on that philosophy. We have always believed that to keep membership inexpensive (\$15 a calendar year for as long as I can remember), we want to reach out to advertisers to help fund our website and functions that benefit the entire membership. This issue of the newsletter, we've suggested a rate structure unique for just this year and then for calendar years ahead. We encourage you to contact Mark Johnson who is heading up our advertising sales effort or either one of us (Dick, Chris, and myself) if you have a business or know a business that would like to support our club. Remember too, that we are a non profit and advertising with us is deductible.

In my last column, I suggested that Mike Wright our Website guru, was close to burnout and needed someone willing to help with the burden. Thankfully, **Lance Lerum** stepped up and for that we thank him. All of the jobs that need tending in the club can be fun and rewarding if approached as just that. Thanks Lance and for sure, thanks, Mike.

*Dave McCormack*

**We're on the Web:**

**[www.mtbmwriders.org](http://www.mtbmwriders.org)**

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

**Tom Moe 33028 – BMW MOA Regional Coordinator**



In this difficult time clubs like ours, both local and national, are going to face financial hurdles and if we want them to remain vibrant and ready to serve members when this crisis has passed we need to support our clubs. I have renewed memberships for as many years as I can, and hope others will do so as well. Keep our clubs financially stable, renew memberships.

Mike Hofferber and I had a discussion last week about scheduling Billings centered rides for the summer. After some discussion we decided not to schedule a May ride but are hopeful we can schedule June, July, August (Beartooth Rendezvous) and September rides. Let us keep our collective fin-

gers crossed for safe resolution of the issue and safe riding.

Speaking of the Beartooth, it is still scheduled and I for one plan to sign up soon hoping, of course, that it will occur. Here are some of the pertinent details:

## **BEARTOOTH BEEMERS**

**BMW MOA Chartered Club #303**

**“The Best Little Rally in the West”**

**THE 22ND ANNUAL BEARTOOTH RENDEZVOUS WILL BE AUGUST 13 – 16, 2020.**

Online signup is open, go to [beartoothbeemers.org](http://beartoothbeemers.org) to sign up.

**REGISTER EARLY AS CABINS AND BUNKS IN CABINS TEND TO GO FAST.**

**REGISTER BY 07/20 AND IT IS \$80, AFTER 07/20 IT IS \$100.**

THANKS TO ALL OF THE 2019 ATTENDEES FOR MAKING THE 21ST RENDEZVOUS SUCH A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!! THERE WAS A RECORD NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS ON THURSDAY, WITH 162 PEOPLE SHOWING UP. OVERALL, THERE WERE 182 PARTICIPANTS IN 2019!!

With the Beartooth and the following Getaways one could certainly have great riding in in August and September.

## **MOA GETAWAY COPPER MOUNTAIN**

**SAVE THE DATES! AUGUST 21 - 23, 2020**

Welcome to the majestic Rocky Mountains! Copper Mountain Resort is an ideal vacation destination with a laid-back and inclusive vibe that represents the best of Colorado.

### **EVENT DETAILS**

During the summer months, the mountain transforms into an unspoiled playground for hikers, mountain bikers and all those seeking a genuine Colorado experience. Three pedestrian-friendly village areas provide a vibrant atmosphere with lodging, retail outlets, restaurants, bars and family activities.

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **Tom Moe 33028 – BMW MOA Regional Coordinator (continued)**

Nothing compares to the experience of riding the high mountain passes of the Rockies and if you didn't get enough of them on your way to the Getaway, there is no shortage of heart stopping turns and breathtaking views waiting during your visit. No matter which way you go, something spectacular is ahead. Independence Pass, Rocky Mountain National Park, the historic town of Leadville and so much more. It is all here for you to explore.

### **EVENT FEES**

The \$99 event fee includes a Friday night welcome party and dinner with cash bar, Saturday night dinner and awards with cash bar, \$500 worth of door prizes and a special MOA gift. *Hotel/lodging is not included and the facility may have strict cancellation policies. Please verify these policies with the hotel prior to making any reservations.*

### **\*NEW DATE\* MOA GETAWAY COEUR D'ALENE**

Join us August 28-30 for the Coeur d'Alene Getaway. We will gather at The Coeur d'Alene Resort situated on Lake Coeur d'Alene for a fabulous weekend. Sunset complimentary!

This picturesque location hosts abundant riding with routes as varied as the area. The lakefront resort offers five-star amenities in a beautifully rugged setting, where comfortable luxury meets outdoor adventure and guests enjoy premium [ACCOMMODATIONS](#) and plush [AMENITIES](#) in a beautifully scenic location. The hotel offers a convenient location near some of the area's most popular [ATTRACTIONS](#), [DINING](#), entertainment and more.

Once you have arrived and checked in, you might enjoy a walk around the historic Downtown area where you might see Mudgie, the famous Moose, visit one of the many art galleries that line Sherman Avenue, Take a stroll along the marina's Boardwalk, or choose to relax at the Dockside Lounge for a beverage. Friday evening we will take to the shimmering waters of the Lake to a two-hour dinner cruise.

### **EVENT FEES**

The \$99 event fee includes a Friday night dinner cruise, Saturday night dinner and awards with cash bar, \$500 worth of door prizes and a special MOA gift.

The Getaway event fee does not include lodging. Please call the hotel directly or visit the hotel's website for reservations and cancellation policies. *Hotel/lodging facility may have strict cancellation policies. Please verify these policies with the hotel prior to making any reservations.*

### **MOA GETAWAY CEDAR CITY**

#### **SAVE THE DATES! SEPTEMBER 11 - 13, 2020**

In 2020 we return to the site of our inaugural Getaway - Cedar City, Utah. Located within a day ride to Cedar Breaks, Bryce Canyon, Escalante, Capitol Reef, Zion and even the Grand Canyon, Cedar City is the epicenter of National Parks in the United States.

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

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

## **EVENT DETAILS**

Cedar City is a stone's throw from countless attractions! Run your fingers through time at the Parowan Gap Petroglyphs, a series of rock etchings left by Native Americans as they traversed the rugged landscape. Trek to the top of Brian Head Peak and immerse yourself in the bracingly beautiful trails of the region. Explore on wheels with ATV rentals and guided tours during summer. Experience the trove of natural parks such as Zion National Park, the Grand Canyon or Cedar Breaks National Monument.

If dirt is your thing, there is an abundance of roads right out the front door to choose from. Spend the day exploring the high mountain terrain or ride the twisties cutting through the deep valleys. Either way you will marvel at Utah's beauty.

If a day of relaxation is more to your liking, spend a day in the historic downtown area of [Cedar City](#), visit the [Southern Utah Museum of Art](#) or enjoy the sunshine on the campus of Southern Utah University.

## **EVENT FEES**

The \$99 event fee includes a Friday night welcome party and dinner with cash bar, Saturday night dinner and awards with cash bar, \$500 worth of door prizes and a special MOA gift, The Getaway event fee does not include lodging. Please call the hotel directly or visit the hotel's website for reservations and cancellation policies. *Hotel/lodging facility may have strict cancellation policies. Please verify these policies with the hotel prior to making any reservations.*

## **MOA ADVERTISERS OFFER SPECIAL DEALS, NEW DISCOUNTS**

With everything getting all chaotic during the pandemic, the advertisers and vendors who support the MOA year after year and rally after rally are reaching out with special deals and additional discounts on their products and services.

While some deals are reserved only for MOA members, many of them are offering discounts to anybody who rides! Now is the time to book your next tour or get that riding gear, shop manual, emergency coverage, parts and accessories and just about anything else you can dream up.

MOA members must [log in to bmwmoa.org first to view the full list of deals and discounts](#) (complete with discount codes), but non-MOA members can [get a taste of what's available](#) too, as well as see some deals that aren't reserved exclusively for MOA members.

Ride safe, keep the rubber side down.

*Tom Moe*



# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

**BMW MOA Ambassadors - Annie and Kevin Huddy**



Good-day from the Outpost, center for quarantine operations in the Silver Creek Valley. Things are going well as we take the opportunity to do some construction in the shop, take an occasional ride and help with the grandkids. Anyone up for dry walling, taping and mudding a ceiling?

## **Two announcements:**

First, on April 20<sup>th</sup> the BMWMOA announced the rally scheduled for this year in Great Falls is postponed until 2021. The 2021 BMWMOA National Rally will be held on 24-27 June, 2021 in Great Falls. The decision to not hold a rally this year was a sad but necessary one, but it is wonderful that the MOA and ExpoPark in Great Falls were able to agree to keep the rally in Montana. If you pre-registered for the 2020 rally, then you are automatically carried over to 2021. If you prefer, you can get a refund or a voucher for a future MOA event. The latter two options require submitting a refund request form available at BMWMOA.org.

Second, our plan was to take this year off from the yearly riding contests the club held for the past four years. After two years of Café-to-Café, and a year each for Park-To-Park and Place-To-Place, we thought we all needed a break. However, the home confinement that many of us are enduring changed our minds. As things begin to loosen up, even if slowly and cautiously, folks may need a little impetus to get out and ride. So, we are announcing the:

## **2020 Montana BWM Riders, Seat of Your Pants Ride**

Concept: Ride to every county seat of every county in the state of Montana. If you do not know where a county seat is located for any county, then check Wikipedia; that site will be the official arbiter of any misunderstandings.

Rules: (More like mildly strong suggestions) Keep track of your progress and report to Kevin Huddy ([huddykl@gmail.com](mailto:huddykl@gmail.com)); this is based on the honor system. There is no limit on how many county seats you can visit per day. Update Kevin every ten or so counties you conquer. No need to provide pictures, but **please** take pictures and send them to Dick French, our able-bodied Newsletter Editor. You must ride a two or three wheeled vehicle. Report all county seats visited no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Less strong suggestions: Find someone to ride with and be the reason some other recluse gets on the road. Continue to take precautions to avoid the dreaded virus. Avoid the current hot spots until later in the year.

Participants who visit at least ten county seats will be recognized at the Christmas party and will be eligible for a drawing.

*Kevin and Annie*



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Editor's Corner



Who would have thought a newsletter for an informal group of motorcycle riders would have a theme organized around an invisible bug that has impacted most motorcyclist world wide. The reason we have a motorcycle is to RIDE. And now either our governments or our own prudence is telling not to ride. As Chris Keyes informed us last month, "Shelter-at-Home" except for 'essential' activities, with outdoor activities considered 'essential.' It would be too harsh to consider our fellow club members as 'renegades' - I prefer innovative interpreters of the rules. It seemed logical to learn how the MONTANA BMW RIDERS were dealing with the 'lock-down.' I contacted members in the four-corners of our membership region. I talked with **Joseph Puglielli** (Whitefish) who was exploring new off-roads with a recently acquired KTM 790 Adventure; **Mike Hofferber** (Billings) who collected a new (to him) BMW R1100R; the **McInerneys** in Colorado who were taking advantaged of the down time to have Donna's bike in the shop for some long lead time parts and Mike was maintaining his daily 10 K run schedule. Some of our **Canadian** members were busy tidying up existing shop spaces and creating more shop space. Heavy duty maintenance and repairs was also the order of day since the snow had not receded in Alberta. (Be sure to check out their stories in this issue.) There seemed to be lots of grandkid time for the **Huddys**, along with modifications to our favorite Outpost shop. Hopefully the 'bug' will retreat long enough for a Tech Session later this year. Kevin mentioned something about a beaver dam and an underwater chain saw. I'm sure there is a story, perhaps slightly elaborated, about the incident.

Be sure to read about **Chris Froines** execution of Shelter-at-Home.

As you will see in this issue, there was a liberal interpretation of 'social distancing' (See below for guidance.) and 'outdoor' activities with rides, even with the marginal temperatures and limited number of sunny days.

Thank you to the many members who contributed to this issue. I received two photos, shown close by, but failed to record the owners. Who owns the mystery motorcycles?



*Dick French - Editor*



Curtsey **Ron Kitchen** and Motorcycle Mojo publication.



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

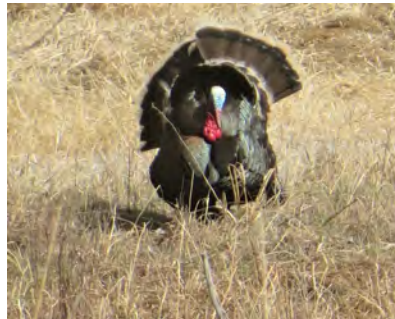
## Examples of a Motorcyclist Social Distancing



Trying to find someone to 'social distance' with in Montana is not easy. Some of the members went to great lengths



And when we came upon a likely 'socialite', they just waved and kept on riding.



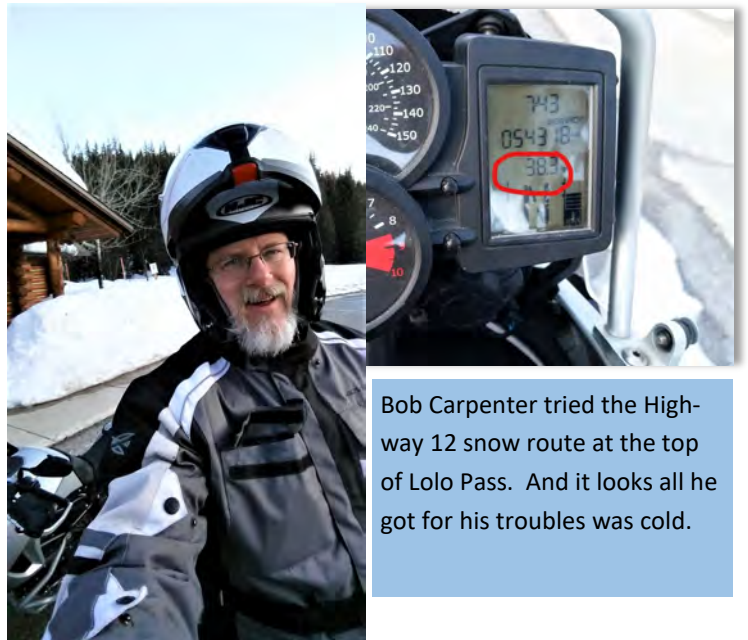
Some prospects were down-right unfriendly.



Even the Outpost's neighborhood dog, Tripod, was not interested.



A couple of riders simply tried to wear the paint off the MSF BRC markings on the Missoula College Parking lot.



Bob Carpenter tried the Highway 12 snow route at the top of Lolo Pass. And it looks all he got for his troubles was cold.

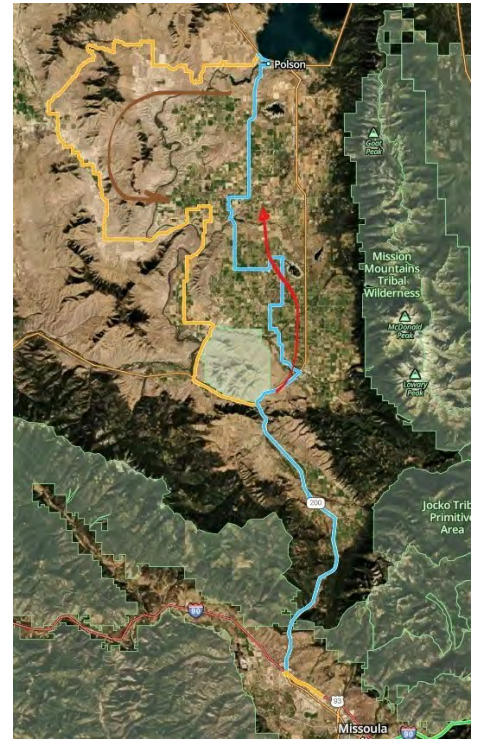


# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Examples of a Motorcyclist Social Distancing

Through liberal interpretation of the Governor's 'outdoor activities' guidelines, many of our members found ways to social distance on a motorcycle.

For example, **John DiBari**, **Chris Keyes** and **Joseph Puglielli** (sorry, no file photos of Joseph on his new KTM) road all dirt route from just north of the Highway 93 and 200 junction to Polson and return to Moiese. See the nearby route map.



Lance Lerum and Mike Kreikemeier spent some time exploring abandoned railroad tunnels east of Toston, Montana.



Dean Hall and your editor made a run to Painted Rocks State Park on the West Fork of the Bitterroot river.



Pie and coffee must be 'essential'?

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

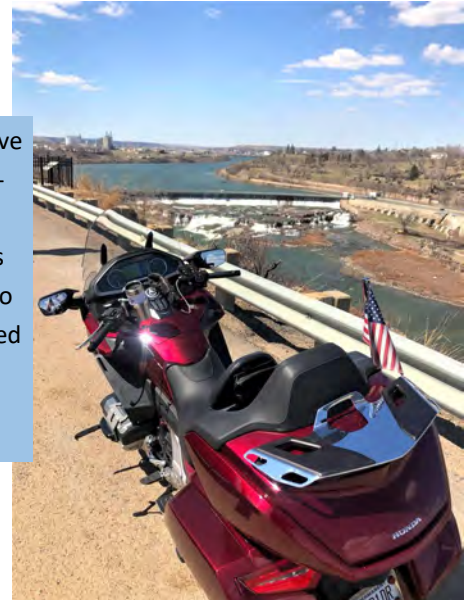
## Examples of a Motorcyclist Social Distancing



Took a ride today, beautiful but colder on the pass and in the big hole and over to Georgetown lake, after that is was a little warmer, 320 miles. Trying to test my travel per day limit for trip planning. *Bob Carpenter*



Don Deuel and Greg Hines stayed their respective distances on a run to the Great Falls on the Missouri at Great Falls and the First Special Service Force Memorial in Helena. Know as the "Devil's Brigade" an elite American-Canadian commando unit in World War II, that was formed and trained at Fort Harrison near Helena.



Took a motorcycle trip to the Soldiers Chapel in front of the Chapel in in tribute to the of Montana who gave there life defending the beautiful state of Montana down to Wisdom, Dillon, Twin Bridges, Nevada City, Virginia City, Ennis, Madison Canyon Earthquake Area, Quake Lake, Hebgen Dam and Lake and up Highway 191 which goes into Yellowstone National Park a very few miles and up to the Big Sky, Mt to see the memorial and up to Belgrade, Mt and back home which was a total of 641 miles.

el, Big Sky, Mt where there is a large marker soldiers of the 163rd Infantry, 41st Division our country. Awesome day of riding in the

*Don Deuel (Facebook)*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Mileage Contest

Mileage junkies, we still have a couple of days for you to get your entries in (has to be EOM April), but as you may get this after that date, you'll be too late unless I receive them in my mail/email box before the end of the month. As of 28 April, here are the "official players" in this year's mileage contest:

- Gary Armstrong,
- Larry Banister,
- Don Davis,
- John DiBari,
- Dick French,
- Bruce Gobeo,
- Carol and Gary Graham,
- Annie Huddy,
- Chris Keyes,
- Kim Lemke,
- Dave McCormack,
- Donna and Mike McInerney,
- Mike Meredith,
- Thomas Moe,
- Chuck Reaves,
- John Webster,
- Bob Carpenter and
- Mike Wright.



Thanks to everyone who entered...now we need to get riding! *Larry Banister*

**Banister again** - Ladies and Gentlemen....received this (*Attachment to the NEWSLETTER*) from **Ken Conrad**. It contains some good information concerning how we might stay "sharp" as we begin the riding season, given the fact that many of the training opportunities are shut down, certainly our own Montana Motorcycle Safety Education Program. You'll note in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> paragraph of the notice are some links to some free on-line training. So while nothing beats the hands on training under the supervision of qualified instructions....something may be better than nothing.

Ride Safe...

*Larry Banister*

Safety Mom  
Montana BMW Riders



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Reports from the Road - Death Valley Days - Jared Beard



Jared Beard, a Triumph Tiger 800 rider and an occasional participant in MONTANA BMW RIDER events lead a group in a week long motorcycle adventure to Death Valley National Park in early March. He contributed these photos and narrative of the trip. *(Editor)*



Packed up and ready to go. It was a long trip, but it didn't seem that long, we made plenty of stops, snacked, and had great fellowship the whole time. Couldn't have asked for a better group of guys to make the trip.

The trip began at Maverick Motorsports. We are hoping this becomes an annual Spring trip. We will be sending out information come November. You want to do DV, if you haven't al-



ready. And you want to go again. Basically, when God was creating earth, he decided to make the perfect place for motorcycles and called it Death Valley. It's Disney Land for motorcycles for both street and dirt. There are awesome twisties and lots of dirt. Its got something for everyone and I was amazed at the magnificence of it all. When we first pulled into camp, our jaws dropped by the sheer magnitude of the place. It's as stunning as staring into the Grand Canyon or up to the Going to the Sun Road. This is a bucket list trip for sure. Make plans to tag along next year. The price was nice too, it was a really cheap trip for what we got.



We stayed at Panamint Springs RV Park. Highly recommend it! It is the only private campground in the park. The camp owns the water rights here which is why they have gotten to stay in the park. The restaurant was good, loved the pizza! We base camp here and returned every night. It made for light travel, since we didn't have to fill up our bikes with gear. There is fuel, food, and showers. We're planning to return here next year, and basecamp at Panamint. Its nice to ride all day and come back home to everything all ready set up and the pizza.



We experienced all the weather, hot, cold, rain, snow, wind, Death Valley had to offer. Yes, we even got to ride through snow, go figure. The precipitation created the slipperiest mud ever. There was hardly any traction on one ride and we had to turn around, it got too dangerous. But it was a whole lot of fun.



One of the many abandon mine shafts we encountered.

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Reports from the Road - Death Valley Days - Jared Beard (continued)



Here we are on the road to Scotty's Castle, which was closed. It hasn't been open for quite some time. The road was washed out a couple of years ago. There was another trail we took early in the week that was washed out as well.



On the way to Titus Canyon, which was a favorite. We did it two times and wanted to go again. Death Valley is a must and Titus Canyon must be ridden. Doctor's Orders!!



We took off right at the beginning to the outbreak. There was no sheltering in place, or we would have stayed home. We got back a week and a half before lock down. It was however at the time of the TP crises. Every stop we looked for TP and found none until we got to Ballarat, CA. which I highly encourage you to visit, which you must visit Death Valley. Here is Josh showing off his prize possessions, TP and sanitizer. We didn't need it but he bought it just for the fun.



We reached the lowest point of our lives at Badwater. It is the lowest point in the US. As you can tell from the photo, it was a very cloudy day. More like Missoula than Death Valley. For a place that doesn't get much rain each year, and some years none, we got it all while we were there.

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Reports from the Road - Alberta Members



I located **Marg Lang**, currently living in Kirkcaldy, Alberta. The photo on the left was taken in Nakusp with **Alastair MacLean** at a BMW rally taking senior for rides. She is on a very nice BMW K100 sidecar rig. (Editor)

*"I still have my F700GS which I love. After all, I did put 70,000km (that is 42,000 miles for you Americans) on it the first two years I had it."*

*"I bought the sidecar in BC in 2006. I had a friend drive me out there and had to learn to drive it to get it home. Not an easy task."*

*"Sidecars are way different than motorcycles. But taking care I made it and learned as I went." "It (the sidecar rig) is a 1985 K100RT with an EML sidecar. For many years now I have taken it to Nakusp to the BMW rally to take the seniors for rides. It is such a heartwarming feeling".*

*"Sadly I have not been on either this year partly because of Covid-19 and partly because there is so much to do here in Kirkcaldy."*

*"Replacing deck, staining, gardening. It never ends. So I better finish my dissertation and get to work. Love to all. Stay safe and hope to see you on the road real soon."*

*Marg*



I reached **Alastair MacLean**, Lethbridge who is shown in the photo above, to ask about his 'lock-down' activities. (Editor)



"The sidecar rigs are now situated in the new shop I finished building last fall and have now organized during this period of isolation. The second photo is of my small home shop after cleaning, organizing and parts inventory obviously done by someone with too much free time. Since the picture was taken the G/S is now in a state of partial disassembly for a complete service as it appears any travel this summer is apt to be limited. Yesterday the Alberta Health officer advised all social events with more than fifteen persons expected to attend are prohibited for the summer season with the result being events such as the Calgary Stampede have been cancelled. This recent decision and the uncertainty whether the Canadian/US border will open anytime soon means it may be a summer for short local rides and motorcycle service."

*Alastair*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Reports from the Road - Alberta Members

Another member from Alberta, **Ron Kitchen** took time out from a very busy “lockdown” schedule to send the following:

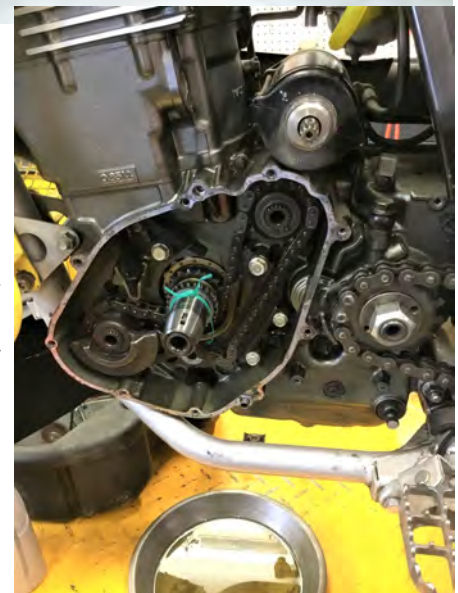
*“This winter was spent puttering in my garage/shop which thanks to my lovely wife is heated. Three projects kept me occupied until the second week of April.”*

*“The first was my venerable Bitsy ( R100T ) who arrived several years ago in boxes but has served me well over the years but alas, the drive splines for the bevel drive became too thin for any extended use. The repair procedure involves complete disassembly of the drive, removal of the original splines, welding and installation of the hub, and reassembly with new bearings and shims as required. Beyond my ability so off to the expert at Toph Restorations in Medicine Hat, Alberta. Kelly is a very accomplished meticulous machinist and comes highly recommended.”*

*“Second item was my KLR. The swiss army knife of bikes. All that was required was regular maintenance. Change fluids, adjust chain, check the valve clearance. Just an all around good bike.”*

*“Third project was a challenge. Never worked on a Honda before. At some point in the past the PO had welded the gear lever to the shaft. This made it impossible to remove the cover over the drive sprocket and chain for replacement. Out with the Dremel and after several cuts off came the lever. No splines were remaining on the shaft and it had been ground down to a point, thus the welding for repair. Out with the Dremel. I patiently ( I don't have any ) cut new splines. The new lever slid into place and all was well. Next was a carb rebuild but the kit didn't fit. After checking with local dealer we determined the original carb had been replaced. It seems a Nighthawk and a Rebel are not the same even though they are. One has a 32mm carb and the other has a 35mm carb for performance. All this time I felt a 250 wouldn't pull the skin off a rice pudding but lo and behold, a performance carb. Who knew? The bike has now gone to its owner and she is as pleased as punch.”*

*“That sums up my uneventful winter.”*



*PS. It seems my KLR is not ready. ATTGATT, jumped on, fired her up and away I went for 100 yards, clunk, bang and pushed back to the garage, onto the hoist, on to a voyage of discovery.*

*“Not looking good.”*

**Ron Kitchen**

ABC #11961  
81 R100T  
02 KLR 650  
Lethbridge





# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **Three-Wheeler Corner**



**Ken Conrad** has been whiling away his 'shelter-in-place' time apparently combing the internet for side car features - video type. Here is one I am sure you will find entertaining: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRhCfb6kx88>) PS - You will have to copy and paste this link in your browser.



**Mike Hofferber's** Ural with its newly installed dog seat. Mike reported he recently installed a wind screen for this new arrangement. Photos of the dog next month.

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Letters to the Editor



Getting a little riding in by exploring all the new-to-me roads here in SW Oregon on my **new bike**, a **2018 Suzuki GSX S1000F**. My BMW of choice is a K1300, shown nearby on a ride to Applegate, Oregon. Other than that we have been working seven days a week for the last six months doing all the maintenance that was deferred on the house by the previous owner. Oh well, all the work ends up making it our own ..... and that's a good thing. I hear it's snowing today in Montana. Hope that ends soon and your riding begins in earnest. Regards, Bob.

**Bob Rennick**  
406-437-3993



Hello club members,

Since my wife and I moved to the NW Wyoming area a few years ago it has always been on our riding schedule to ride the Beartooth Pass either on its opening weekend or the weekend that follows. This usually takes place in late May/early June. Our route takes us through Cody ( as we live 12 miles west of Cody) , head N to Belfry, then west to Red Lodge. We usually plan it to arrive in Red Lodge just before noon to grab a bite at Bogarts Restaurant ( our go to spot) before heading up to the pass, down the Chief Joseph and home. One never knows the temps up there even though Cody and Red Lodge can be in the 60s or even 70s, early June on the Beartooth brings some interesting rider scenarios. Case in point, gear up.

So even though the opening of the pass is still a few weeks away, last Sunday ( April 5th) , today is April 9th as I scribe, the frau and I took our social hibernation out for a similar bike trek ride but instead on our motorcycle we went by 4 wheels up the Chief Joseph Hwy up towards Beartooth in search of some firewood. Once we got on the CJ Hwy the drive was

spectacular and several times wishing we were on 2 wheels instead of 4, but then again , tough duty hauling a cord of standing dead in my side cases. It was funny though as I was driving through the 15 mph curves with my 1/2 ton how I felt even at 15 I was going too fast yet though on my bike 15 was just an afterthought. As I looked out into the valleys and climbs I only wished for the warm days ahead to tackle the Beartooth once again. From our place its a 215 mile loop, a nice excuse to "go have lunch" on a Sunday afternoon. If any of you have not ridden the Beartooth early on upon its opening, I strongly urge you to do so. While the roads will be cleared of snow, what's cool, is riding through the snowbanks that border the cleared pathways. Its a hoot for a great weekend jaunt. So, that's my little story on social distancing. Even so we rode the Chief Joseph Hwy in a truck, I still had something to look forward to as soon as we all get through what our world is going through now. A nice ride in the local mountains. We are blessed. Stay safe, see ya on the hill.

**Pete and Laura Pleban**

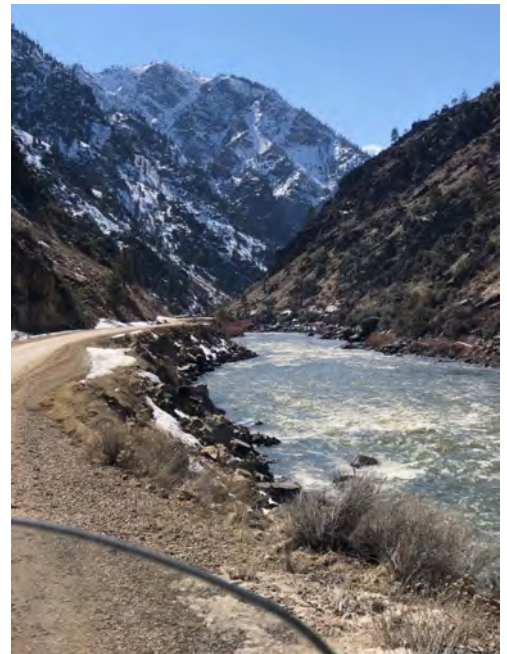
# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Letters to the Editor (continued)

I went down the "River of no return" a couple weeks back.

**Bob Pauley**

1920 N 1st Street Ste. A  
Hamilton, MT. 59840  
Office 406.363.3222  
Cell 406.369.0210



**Editors Note**— Together with the adjacent [Gospel Hump Wilderness](#) and surrounding unprotected roadless [Forest Service](#) land, it is the core of a 3.3 million acre (13,000 km<sup>2</sup>) roadless area.<sup>[5]</sup> It is separated from the [Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness](#), to the north, by a single dirt road (**the Magruder Corridor**).<sup>[5]</sup> The wilderness contains parts of several mountain ranges, including the [Salmon River Mountains](#), the [Clearwater Mountains](#), and the [Bighorn Crags](#). The ranges are split by steep canyons of the Middle and Main forks of the [Salmon River](#).<sup>[5]</sup> The Salmon River is a popular destination for whitewater [rafting](#),<sup>[5]</sup> and is colloquially known as the "River of No Return" for its swift current and large rapids which make upstream travel difficult. Most of the area is covered by [coniferous](#) forests, with dry, open land along the rivers at lower elevations.

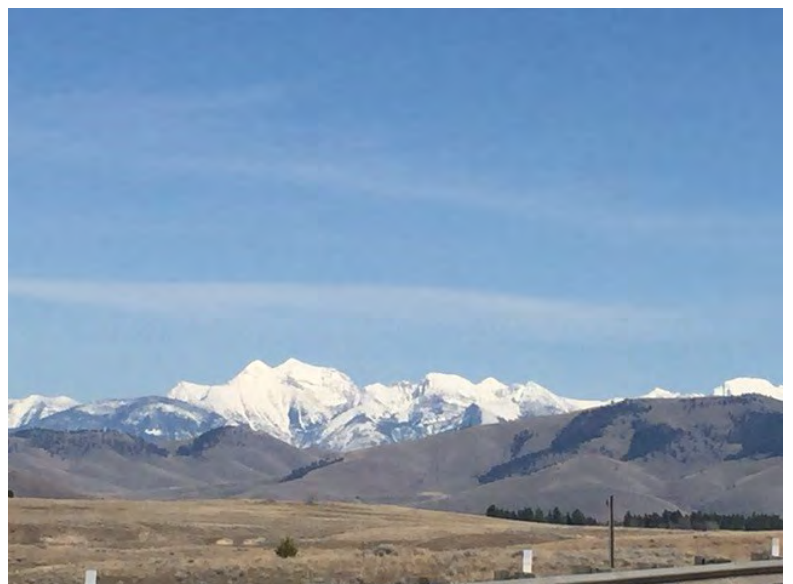
*From Wikipedia*



*"I'm ready to trade up on my Spyder but the one I want is in Spokane and if I leave the state, I have to self quarantine for 14 days (again) when I get back. So, I'm hoping when the quarantine is lifted, the bike I want will still be there. They won't even call me back to let me put a deposit down on it. I think they're hoping to sell it to someone in Washington first. I can't even travel over there to do a test drive, without having to go through guaranteeing. Tough life, huh?"*

From Dave McCormack

*"Looking out right now, it is hard to believe we had such a beautiful ride up to Thompson Falls on Thursday. Sightings of big horn sheep, wild turkeys and more daffodils than have made an appearance in Missoula. All that and a magnificent view of the Missions as we rode along the Flathead River west of Dixon on the way home". Stay well, Carol (Graham)*



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Letters to the Editor (continued)



On March 16, 2020 Klaus Lambrich wrote, "I'm in Dawson City right now for the Thaw di Gras spring Carnevale. Sadly a lot of events canceled on account of the virus. The day I arrived it was around minus 20 deg. F. Took a walk along the levee but it was punishing. Minus 30 the next day but it's warming up to around 20 plus today. The council is trucking out tons of snow."



Since Klaus, an Australian spends summers in the Yukon, I assumed he was starting the summer riding season early. As it turns out, it was 'vacation' time and he planned to return to Australia. After returning, he wrote this, "Qantas Airways left me stranded at Vancouver Airport. They just cancel the ticket on the day of departure without making any effort to contact me. Nice he? Luckily Air Canada had a flight going to Melbourne and I was able to purchase a ticket. Not cheap but it got me home. 16 hour flight, no hot meals or drinks. Only water and sandwiches." "Self isolation here too. The state of Western Australia is divided into a number of "zones" that one can not leave without a permit, And you're meant to have a good reason for travel. "I'm looking for toilet paper" is good enough I hope." *Klaus*



Member **Chris Froines** took 'social distancing to another level. This is his boat, the **Sea Storey** on Puget Sound. It is a 55 foot (or 60 feet overall) craft with two 550 horsepower Detroit 6-92 diesel engines. It is able to make



its own water, has a 16 Kw generator to keep things comfortable when at anchor and a 650 gallon fuel tank, enough to ride out a long 'shelter at home' situation. The boom on the far side (the 'Port' side I believe in seamanship terms) looks adequate to lift an African Twin on an off the boat, should the desire arise. He also described the accommodations on board, and it seemed there was adequate room for the kids and grand kids. As you might expect, Chris used his camera mounted quad copter to take some shots underway. Open YouTube and copy this link in the 'search' option. (<https://youtu.be/9cHHIVFP7Xo>)



Chris spent 23 years with his own commercial fishing boat in the waters off Alaska, so being a 'seafarer' is not unknown to him.

Chris' legal office in Missoula is still open, and he hopes to be back in Montana this summer for a few rides with his fellow MONTANA BMW RIDERS. (*Editor*)

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Historian's Corner - Kim Lemke



With the postponement of the 2020 BMW MOA Rally in Great Falls, our Historian reflected on some past rallies and the motorcycles that got him to the rallies.

*Editor*



K100 as set up to go to Grand Canyon (**1991 Rally**), great windshield for pilot but not so much for passenger.

1994 I took it off and got the airflow. 1997 got the Russell seat. Rojene and I toured 1990-2013 to SD, AZ, ALB, BC, WA, OR, NV, UT, ID, WY, I also went to KS, NE, CO, WY, ND, MN, WI, IA

## New (to the owner) Bikes in the Stable



My new bike is a "KTM 790 Adventure R".  
I've been having fun finding dirt roads in Flathead Valley.

Best regards,

*Joseph* (and Monika) *Puglielli*



**Mike Hofferber** added this **2000 BMW R1100R** to his rides. Picked it up on Monday April 20, 2020 and rode it from Bozeman to his home in Billings.



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## 2020 Ride & Meeting Schedule (Revised 1 May 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	Lambkins	Sunday	1:00 PM
<del>April</del>	<del>19th</del>	<del>Townsend</del>	<del>The Mint</del>	<del>Sunday</del>	<del>1:00 PM</del>
TBD	TBD	Helena	Huddy's Outpost	Saturday	All Day
May	17th	Phillipsburg	Winninghoff Park	Sunday	Noon
June	20th	Big Fork	Echo Lake Café	Saturday	1:00 PM
<del>June</del>	<del>27th</del>	<del>Great Falls</del>	<del>BMW Rally Beer Tent</del>	<del>Saturday</del>	<del>1:00 PM</del>
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

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## CLASSIFIEDS

### 2013 SUSUKI DRZ400S

Asking: \$4500

Mileage: 2897

Weight: Manufacturer Reported 295 lbs.

Condition: Excellent. Just serviced at S & S Sports including carburetor rebuild. There are abrasions on some plastic surfaces where mounting straps rubbed when being transported. Always garaged.

#### Upgrades:

- Upgraded front forks and rear shock with Race Tech Springs--\$250
- Clark 3.9 gal. oversize translucent gas tank--\$230
- Tusk built aluminum gas cap--\$30
- Bark Buster Hand Guards with integrated LED turn signals--\$243
- SoloRacer LED tail light and turn signals--\$235
- Upgraded to LED headlight--\$150
- Knight Design foot pegs--\$150
- UNABIKER radiator guards--\$115
- 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](mailto:deanlovestocamp@yahoo.com)



# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### **SCOOTER FOR SALE- Missoula**

#### **2008 Buddy 150 International Scooter**

- VIN # RFVPAC60981000403
- Engine capacity - 150 cc
- Transmission - automatic
- Electric start
- Under 3000 miles
- Single and dual kick stand
- Locked seat over storage for helmet
- Front basket and rear luggage / grocery rack
- Fuel capacity—1.5 gallon
- Fuel usage - approx. 65 mpg
- Comfort riding speed 60 mph although it has been ridden from Missoula to Polson at 65-70 mph
- It's in excellent condition, but needs a battery.
- Selling Price— \$1300



*Mr. Brian D. Campbell*

*16654 Aubrey Ann Ct.*

*Huson MT. 59846 (541) 420-4586*

*bcampbell6903@hotmail.com*





# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### **1988 Suzuki Intruder 750 "Monte's Mistress"**

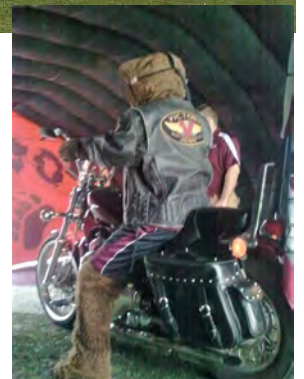
After getting a BMW a few years back (thanks Chuck Reaves!), I've found my Intruder is sitting in the garage more than she deserves. It's time for someone else to enjoy this great bike as much as I have. Monte was a good friend of mine in college and borrowed the bike multiple times during the 2011 and 2012 Griz football seasons to blast out of the tunnel at Washington Grizzly Stadium. I was happy to oblige, not only for the bike's credentials, but for the sideline passes included in the deal. For the die-hard Griz fan and rider, there's no better addition to your garage. If you're looking for a great town-cruiser that turns heads everywhere you go; this is the one. It would be a great starter bike; low center of gravity, forgiving controls, and not too much power for a new rider. (*If you're looking for a quiet, subtle, or inconspicuous bike; this is not the one for you.*)

- RIDDEN BY MONTE for multiple Washington Grizzly Stadium football game entrances in 2011 and 2012
- 23k miles; runs great, zero issues, regularly maintained, 200+ miles ridden so far in 2020
- Lots of additions/extras: new Memphis Shades demon windshield, aftermarket mirrors, forward controls, Saddleman seat, saddlebags, stage 1 carb kit (Suzuki dealership installed/tuned), straight pipes (**LOUD**)
- New tires and battery at beginning of 2019 season
- All stock parts included
- Repair/maintenance manual included
- Search "Monte's Mistress" on Facebook Marketplace for more photos

Contact: [erik.berry.mt@gmail.com](mailto:erik.berry.mt@gmail.com) or 406.240.6662

**\$2,500 OBO**

**Erik Berry**



# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### **2019 BMW F850**

Purchased October 17, 2019

VIN: **WB10B1901KZ790813**

Current Mileage 3,300

The bike will be sold with:

- Garmin GPS,
- two side bags and top bag,
- skid plate,
- lg foot pegs,
- headlight protection,
- tall windshield,
- lowered seat and the original seat and,
- crash bars.

Clear title.

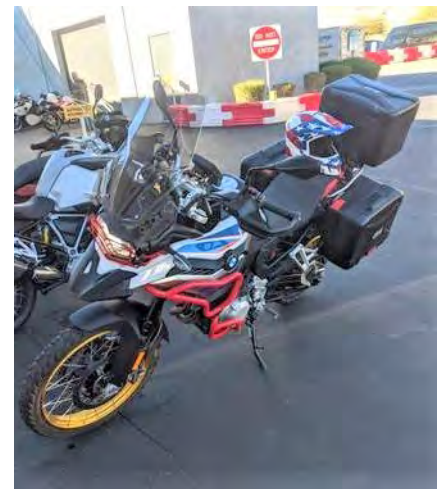
Price: **\$14,995** Cash Only

### CONTACT

Jim Haar

[hymark25@gmail.com](mailto:hymark25@gmail.com)

406-702-0225



# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **ADVERTISING RATES 2020-2021**

### **FULL YEAR**—January through December

Full Page	\$100.00
Half Page	\$ 75.00
Quarter Page	\$ 50.00
Business Card	\$ 25.00

### **HALF YEAR**— July through December

Full Page	\$ 50.00
Half Page	\$ 37.00
Quarter Page	\$ 13.00
Business Card	\$ 10.00

Artwork must be provided by advertiser in JPEG, TIFF or JNP format.

Artwork changes during an advertising year, will cost \$25 each change.

Montana BMW Riders does not provide artwork services.

All ads will be on a calendar year basis beginning in January of 2021. Ads will be billed to the advertiser in October of each year. Ads not paid by December 31st of each calendar year will be deleted beginning January.

Rates are subject to change with advanced notice

## **WRIGHT INSURANCE AGENCY**

2801 So. Russell, Suite 13 Missoula, MT 59801

(406) 728-6333

**HOLLY SILK**

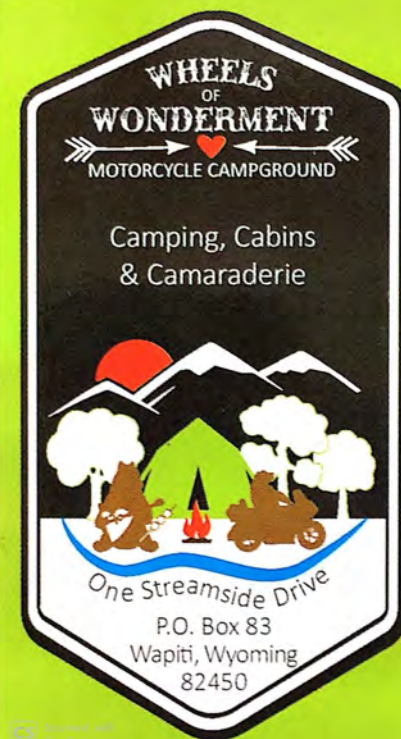
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**HANNAH LEPIANE**

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MOTORCYCLE

wrightinsurance1@gmail.com



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[www.mtBMWriders.org](http://www.mtBMWriders.org)**

# 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 \$30 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.

**PRESIDENT:** CHRIS KEYES

Email: crkeyes@icould.com

**VICE PRESIDENT:** MARK D. JOHNSON

Email: jeepin77cj@hotmail.com

1292 Two Mile Drive

Kalispell, Montana 59901

**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** DAVE McCORMACK

Email: dhmcc@aol.com

**WEB MASTER:** MIKE WRIGHT

Email: mikewinmt@gmail.com

**MILEAGE CONTEST COORDINATOR:** LARRY BANISTER

Email: beemermt@msn.com

**FACEBOOK MASTER:** TERRY KAY

Email: tmky66@yahoo.com

**CLUB HISTORIAN & PAST PRESIDENT:** KIM LEMKE

Email: lemkennt@live.com

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** DICK FRENCH

Email: r\_g\_french@msn.com

**BMWMOA—REGIONAL COORDINATOR:** TOM MOE

Email: Tom.moe@sbcglobal.net

**BMWMOA—AMBASSADORS:** KEVIN & ANNIE HUDDY

Email: huddykl@gmail.com or huddya@hotmail.com

**CLASSIFIED ADS FOR THE WEBSITE:** MIKE WRIGHT

Email: mikewinmt@gmail.com

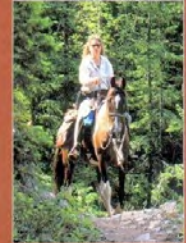
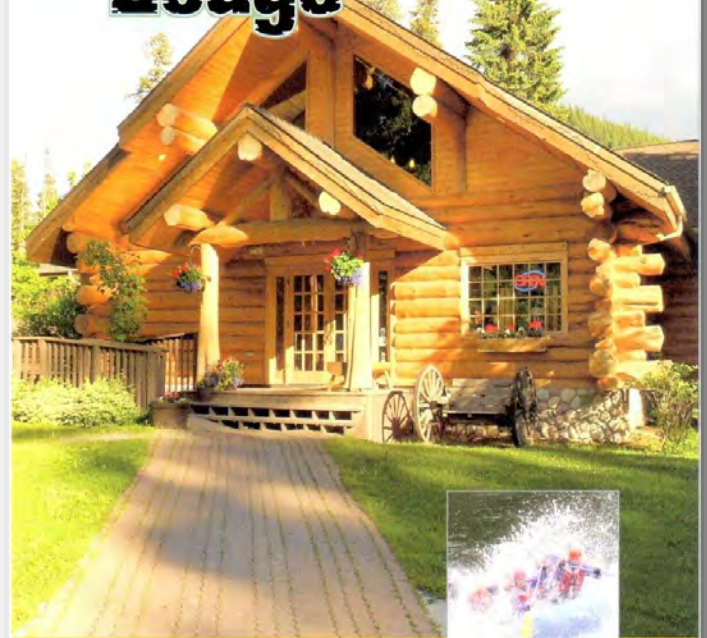
Items for the newsletter are welcome and may be emailed to either:

(R\_G\_French@msn.com) or

(RGFRENCH1937@gmail.com)

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# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER



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When you go, tell them you saw their ad in the MT BMW Riders **MAY** newsletter and ask about closeout models and financing.



With riding season right around the corner we at Big Sky Motorsports have new 2020 motorcycles and riding gear arriving daily. We have the most popular brands of riding apparel and helmets on sale now. So, its time to get geared up for spring and ready to ride.



As always our pricing is competitive with internet retailers, so lets keep it local and help support each other. Stop by the shop to check out all the new gear and let us save you some money.



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