

·HOME OF THE NEXT BEST RIDE·

President's Corner



If you were one of the many who attended the BMW MOA National Rally in Great Falls last week, perhaps like me you too are still unpacking and getting caught up. From all indications the rally seemed a great success, so hats off to all the volunteers (including many in this club) that helped make it so. The weather cooperated too, and we just barely avoided the heat spell that has since gripped most of Montana. I arrived a day early in order to be prepared for my Authority Training workshop with the BMW Performance Center on Thursday morning. Fortunately, **John DiBari** had saved a space for my Landcruiser and rooftop tent, because even by Wednesday evening the fairgrounds was rapidly filling up — despite the fact that the rally wouldn't even technically open until the next day.

As more motorcycles steadily rolled in and attendance swelled to unexpectedly high numbers, it didn't take long for the decent unreserved tent spaces to become scarce. Some campers had to grudgingly settle for less-than-ideal sites, like the grassy 6-foot-wide median strip separating an access road from a vast parking lot that was quickly covered by nylon tents. **Kevin** and **Annie Huddy** deserve thanks for defending our reserved chartered club camping space against incursion until our members could arrive and claim the land. I observed as they rebuffed several potential intruders who coveted the still-vacant turf within our designated borders. By Friday night though, MTBMWR settlers had filled in virtually all of our colony, and you had to watch your step to avoid tripping over guy lines and tent stakes. At the center of it all, our navy blue 'hospitality tent' functioned as a kind of community center. For much of the rally it seemed to be ringed by camp chairs, and filled with Montana motorcyclists, lively conversation, and intermittent plumes of cigar smoke. Next year, shall we do it all again at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds in Springfield, Missouri?

On Saturday the 26th, some of us uprooted ourselves from the fairgrounds and aimed westward to the monthly club meeting in Choteau, joining up with other members riding in from around the state. The setting was a serene one as we picnicked beneath creek side trees at the town's municipal park. It was a pleasure to meet and visit with new members **Lorne Dauenhauer** of Whitefish and **Todd Jones** of Helena, and newish member **Jason Humberger** (and mysterious wife **Deb**) of Bozeman. If these are the kinds of new members joining our ranks, then our future is a bright one indeed. However, none among them held a winning raffle ticket. Instead, **Dave Dixon** took home a BMW MOA dry bag; **Rod Ympa** selected a MTBMWR club t-shirt (the last of the most recent 2019 pressing); **Dick French** pocketed two Town Pump car wash certificates; and member-to-be **Dan Siddens** garnered a matching BMW MOA towel and patch set.

President's Corner - (continued)

Turning to business briefly, your officers when not playing on motorcycles have been assessing and revising the club's bylaws. Last updated in 2013, it was overdue for a refresh. We recently finalized a draft and put it out to legal review, and shortly we'll be submitting it to the full membership for an up-down ratification vote. You won't see drastic changes in this proposed revision, but you'll see clarification of items like officer terms, election cycles, membership and dues, and so forth. As our club expands in numbers, we believe it's important to clearly articulate and codify the club's guiding principles and procedures that will carry us forward into the future.

Speaking of the future, our next club meeting date quickly approaches: **12 pm on Sunday, July 18th at Winninghoff Park in Philipsburg**. It will be another outdoor affair, similar to last year's pandemic-inspired socially-distanced event. With many an eatery located just a block away, it makes an ideal venue for a take-out picnic, so come along and bring along your camp chair too. We've got goodies in the raffle bin to give away, including more of those BMW MOA dry bags, towels, and patches. Somebody has to win them, so shouldn't it be you? Also coming later this month July is "To Helena and Back," the inaugural long-weekend riding event organized by **Mike Hofferber** and **Ken Conrad** event that kicks off on **July 28th**.

I'm thinking I'll take my retired law enforcement R1100RT to the Philipsburg meeting, and if time permits, return home via the Big Hole. I recently rediscovered the joy of piloting the aging but nimble oilhead boxer twin during a recent breakfast run up to Lochsa Lodge with **Dave McCormack**. I'd forgotten how the bike's crisp steering, smooth acceleration, and comfortable cockpit produced a feeling so different from the R1200GS. After years of dragging my feet

on selling this thing, I've capitulated to my own reluctance and decided to hang onto it for now. Perhaps it was my conespraying performance during the MOA rally Authority Training that rekindled my interest the old police bike. Maybe it was simply watching hundreds of motorcycles filter past my rally campsite for three days, reminding me that there are many terrific kinds of motorcycles and that it's probably better to own more than just one of them. Or maybe it's because I keep hearing that Arkansas (just 36 miles from Ruston, Louisiana) is known for endless miles of curvy asphalt roads, where a sporttouring RT will fit in very nicely!



Chris Keyes

President, Montana BMW Riders

Secretary - Treasure's Column - Dave McCormack



As of June 27th, there are 125 members in good standing. Our financial position is one of the best ever in club history. We are essentially on budget and looking to have a great year for our riders. There are some big ticket items in that budget including our website, already paid for by mostly our advertisers. There is a \$350 scholarship fund as yet unused so far this year (please get in touch with Kevin Huddy if you are planning on taking a rider course this year for the details on qualifying), and the Christmas Party that usually has multiple prizes, trophies, food and fun.

We have paid our taxes with the IRS and Montana State Revenue department this year and our charter memberships with BMWMOA and the AMA. And we expect to support both the Helena and Back weekend in July and the Huddy Tech Days in September.

Our nonprofit standing does not allow charitable contributions so between advertisers and member dues, our policy is to break even with a small surplus going forward.

Many years ago there was a back taxes issue that was finally and positively solved by our dedicated members, **Mike** and **Donna McInerney**. We have put some of our surplus in CDs to cover the potential liability. The CDs are there to protect the club against any further tax issues, to underwrite possible low membership levels in future, and for special circumstances unforeseen.

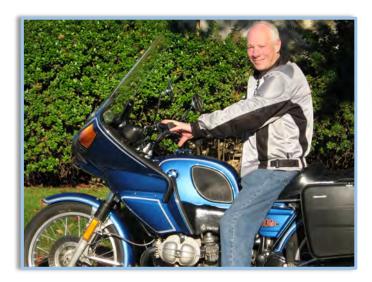
So your dues remain at \$15 a calendar year and will remain there for the foreseeable future.

We are classified as a 501(c) 7 nonprofit 'social club'. Our club exists to support our mission of providing a safe and interesting year of riding and fellowship opportunities for our members.

Dave McCormack



Tom Moe - 33028 BMW MOA Regional Coordinator



I think somewhat as expected, the 2021 National Rally was a total success for the organizers and those who attended. Unofficially there was a reported 4,900 attendees, the weather was pretty darn good and attendees seemed to be having a great time.

On Thursday morning I attended the Regional Coordinators meeting and workshop headed up by Ray Tubbs. The presentation was great, the conversation and input helpful and the enthusiasm evident. Several of the bullet points in the presentation that caught my eye for projects were:

- An annual unified project with the chartered clubs such as a dealer demo day.
- A national membership drive like "May is Membership Month".
- National dealer open houses coordinated with clubs and perhaps events in the area.
- Other RC generated ideas or board initiatives.
- Efforts to include membership to participate in club events and activities.

Thanks again to **Chuck Reaves** for taking over my After the Rally Cleanup chairmanship so I could attend the Creekside Grand Opening in Lewistown where my siblings and I had contributed in memory of our parents. It was a very fine event and a great addition to Lewistown. If in Lewistown get a beer at Central Feed Grilling and see the Creekside project across the parking lot.



Quality products from BMW, KTM, Kawasaki and now GAS GAS off-road motorcycles ...and great service sets Big Sky Motorsports apart from other dealers. Our service department specializes in all types of motorcycle, ATV and snow-mobile maintenance and aftermarket parts and accessory installation.



Wander on down to 2315 South Avenue West in Missoula or call (406) 728-5341 to speak to one of the highly trained staff.

When you go, tell them you saw our ad in the MONTANA BMW Riders JULY 2021 newsletter and ask about our models and financing.



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

I was reminded about the BMWMOA Chartered Club Resources which include:

♦ USE OF BMW TRADEMARKS

BMW Motorcycle Owners of America is an umbrella club represented on the International Council of Clubs.

♦ EVENT LISTING

Promote your Rally or event with a free event listing in our calendar.

♦ RALLY AND EVENT INSURANCE

The MOA can provide event liability insurance through which all of our United States chapters can purchase low cost liability insurance for their rallies.

♦ WEBSITE LISTING AND INFORMATION PAGE

MOA Chartered Clubs receive a page on the MOA website that is visible to all MOA members.

♦ LISTING IN BMW OWNERS ANONYMOUS BOOK

Along with the website listing, each Chartered Club will be provided a listing in the annual BMW Owners Anonymous Book.

♦ RALLY AND EVENT PROMOTION

Your rally or event is likely the high point of the year for your club. The MOA can offer several ways to promote your rally, event or open house - usually at no charge to the Chartered Club.

MOA GEAR FOR EVENT PRIZES

Who doesn't love a little SWAG? Contact RAY TUBBS for cool MOA Gear to giveaway at your next event.

♦ JOINT RECRUITING EFFORTS

Have an idea for a cool membership drive? The MOA can help with your recruiting effort.

♦ DEDICATED REPRESENTATION TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The REGIONAL COORDINATORS have a seat at the Board of Directors table. Designated as Key Volunteers for the MOA, the Regional Coordinators are your link to the decision makers. The Regional Coordinators routinely solicit feedback from the Charted Clubs and represents your interest in the decision-making process.

♦ LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

Each year at the BMW MOA International Rally, the MOA hosts a round table for Chartered Club Presidents.

♦ OWNERS NEWS COVERAGE OF CLUB ACTIVITIES

The magazine news hounds are always on the hunt for another story or interesting article.

7om Moe

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

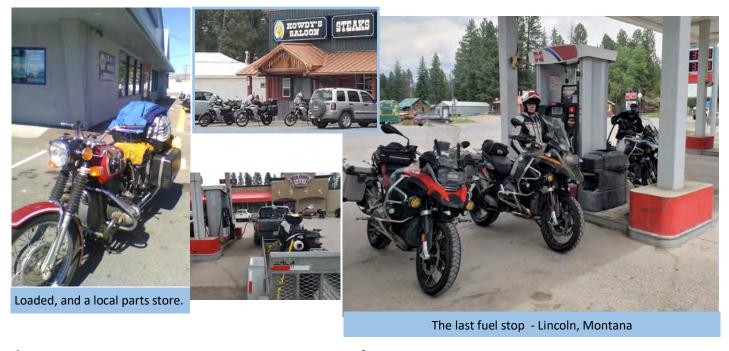
As the saying goes, the BMW MOA 2021 Rally is in the history books. I was one of the "1st Time Rally Goers" of which there were 942. Every sight, sound and experience was a first, and I enjoyed all of them. I have taken **Kevin Huddy's** recommendation, to capture the Rally in a Life Magazine (I know most of you remember Life Magazine) format. MONTANA BMW RIDERS club members have provided many photographs of the events and people. I have attempted to credit the photos to the originator, but I am sure I have missed many. Thank you to all. I hope you enjoy, and have good reflections on the photos on the following pages.

Editor

<u>Editor's Note</u> - One of my goals as editor, is to associate names and faces whenever either appeared in the newsletter. In preparing this issue, there are names, and faces that have not been identified, and perhaps miss-identified. If you are one of those, call me at 406-274-0783, or TXT to the same number, or email me at R_G_French@msn.com. I'll include a 'corrections' section in a subsequent issue.



On the way to the Rally



2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

On the way to the Rally

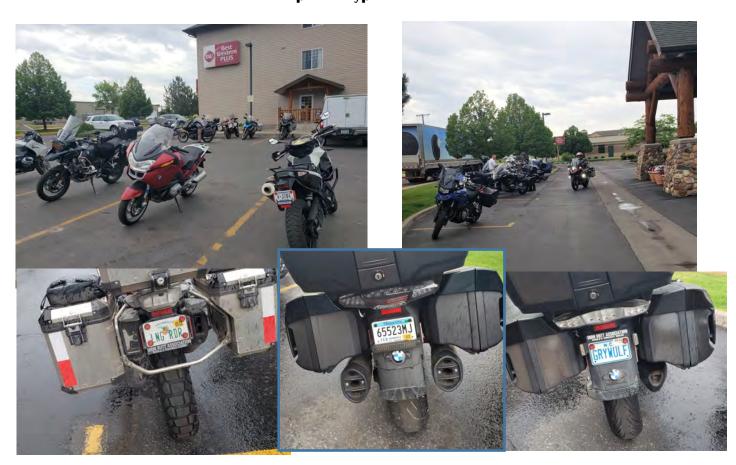


I'm holding up in Glasgow right now due to high winds and impending storms tonight— Dan Hubing, Wisconsin



Dan made it, and fulfilled his volunteer duties

Home for the Non-Campers - Typical of Most Motels in Great Falls



2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Bikes and Tents - Expo Park





2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Bikes -Tents- People - Expo Park



Ed Field





Chuck Reaves and Robert Carpenter



John Wing, Mick Baughman, Marlene Baughman, Coop Wing, (See Editor's Note) and Lonald McComas



Mick Baughman and Dick French



Paul Smietanka and Coop Wing

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Bikes, Tents and People - Expo Park



Long term members, Chuck Reaves and Chuck Bloom



Paul Smietanka and a bike of the past



A vintage owner's work is never done







2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Bikes, Tents and People - Expo Park



MONTANA BMW RIDERS Club member **Rick Kuschel** entry in the Vintage Display is a 1967 BMW R60/2 original /unrestored. It was awarded 98-7/8 points out of 100. The saddle bags are period correct Enduro bags.







2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Bikes, Tents and People - Expo Park







SHERPA TOWN - Ben Crossman, Bozeman reverted to these when his motel reservations fell through. He reported they were quite comfortable with a cot, mat and folding chairs.

Maybe their own bathtub?





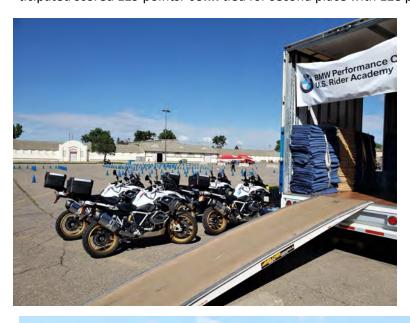


DUNK

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

BMW PERFORMANCE CENTER AUTHORITY TRAINING

Chris Keyes and John DiBari took the BMW Performance Center Authority Training class. At the end of the training all participants rode the training course as part of a contest. Points were deducted from 100 possible points for hitting a cone, putting down a foot, riding out of the course, falling, etc. The last part of the course was a "race" to see who can go the slowest through about a 30' section of the course. The number of seconds were added to a rider's score from the rest of the course. If no points were deducted in the main course and it took 30 seconds to ride the last part of the course, the rider's score would be 130 points. The winner of the contest in the section that John and Chris participated scored 129 points. John tied for second place with 128 points. No other scores were recorded.





2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

OFF-ROAD TRAINING WITH WEST38MOTO

Ben Crossman, Bozeman participated in this training course on this KTM and provided the photos.











Ben and his KTM, both muddy and both happy!

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

STREETMASTERS RALLY CORNERING WORKSHOP

Your **editor** and **Rebecca Coursey**, participated in this training course—slow U-turns, extreme braking and late apex cornering. No scores awarded, and as for your editor, didn't run over the instructor and no 'drops' either!







2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Other Activities



Marrea Matthews hitting the dirt on and e-Bike



Entertainment



Dean Hall at the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center





2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

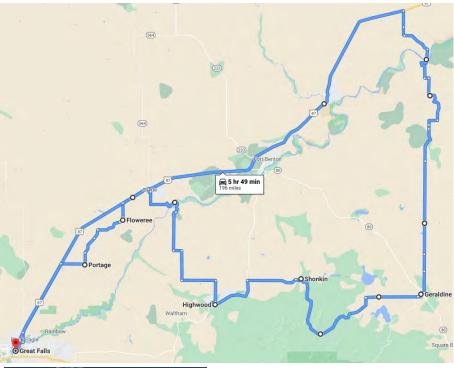
Other Activities



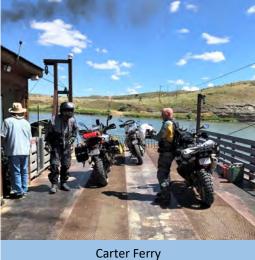


Chris Keyes - Canal Road

Vergelle Ferry







<u>Trip 1:</u> The Google Maps route (which is mostly right) goes with the Vergelle and Carter Ferry images. I (**John DiBari**) did this ride with **Dave Dixon** and **Dan Siddens**. On this trip we also visited the Shonkin Sag (look it up on Wikipedia).

<u>Trip 2:</u> The windmill photo was taken with **Dan Siddens** and **Dave Dixon** on our way to lunch in Choteau.

<u>Trip 3:</u> The photo with **Chris Keyes** is on the Sun River Canal Road from Choteau to the Gibson Reservoir.

John DiBari

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Other Activities



In spite of growing up 107 miles away and spending quite a bit of time in GF over the years I had never seen the scenic Rainbow Falls and Dam. - Tom Moe Photograph

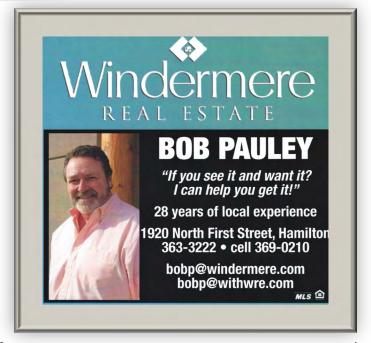


I was pleased to see that rally attendees were taking advantage of the local features including the Lewis and Clark Interpretive center. - Tom Moe Photograph



On my way from Fort Benton to Denton to Lewistown the view of Square Butte is always a sight to see. One of my favorite views in this part of the country.—*Tom Moe Photograph*





2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

BMW CLUB REPRESENTATION





Liz Banister



MOA



FOUR WINDS BMW RIDERS

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

The People



An octogenarian (retired construction worker) on his 'tumper', a BMW G310GS, from Vermont.

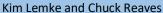




Dan Mainwaring



Mike Reaves and Robert Carpenter
Photo by John Webster









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2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

The People



Tom Moe and long time friend Kirk Eastman





Ed Field



A rider wiping down his 186,000 mile RT, in the rain.



Closing Ceremonies



Ben Crossman after purchasing two of the 340 tires Dunlop sold at the Rally

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

The Food

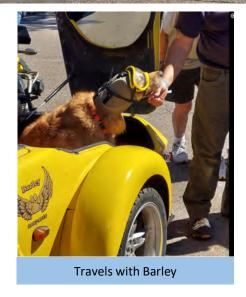


2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

The Characters









2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Party is Over - Going Home

I (**Rebecca Coursey**) camped out off of HWY 12 between White Sulphur and Harlowton. There is a road that goes back to Whitetail Campground but there is a small campground along the creek called Springs? campground. I had scoped it out last fall when I went camping in the truck exploring back there. It's this cool little one lane paved road and then about two miles of modest dirt. I thought this would be the perfect place for me to go to explore more dirt to campground experience, not too much, within a safe enough distance if I had to get out and get help, and enough travel at times with people who ride there, horses, a few land owners.









It came out of this, it must fit

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Party is Over - Who Came?

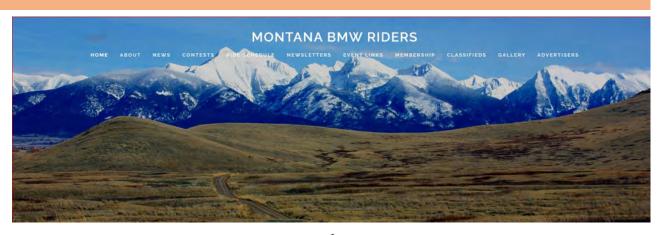
	A	В	C	D	E	
1	Last Name	First Name	City	State	Did you Camp- Includes RV? (Yes/No)	
2	Anderson	Doug	Red Lodge	MT		
	Ayars	Wayne	Whitefish	MT		
4	Banister	Larry	Missoula	MT	Yes	
5	Baughman	Mick	Florence	MT		
6	Bloom	Chuck	Missoula	MT		
7	Carpenter	Robert	Missoula	MT		
8	Coursey	Rebecca	Bozeman	MT	Yes	
9	Crossman	Ben	Bozeman	MT	Yes	
10	Dauenhauer	Loren	Whitefish	MT	Yes	
11	DiBari	John	Missoula	MT	Yes	
12	Dixon	Dave	Lakeside	MT		
13	Ellzey	Mark	Helena	MT	Yes	
14	Endres	Pat	Billings	MT	Yes	
15	Field	Ed	Helena	MT	Yes	
16	Fisk	Russell	Capistrano Beach	CA		
17	French	Richard	Missoula	MT	No	
18	Grode	David	Bigfork	MT	Yes	
19	Haglund	Phil	Belt	MT	Yes	
20	Hall	Dean	Missoula	MT		
21	Helm	Carol	Corvallis	MT	Yes	
22	Hubing	Daniel	Sturgeon Bay	WI		
23	Huddy	Annie	Helena	MT	No	
_	Huddy	Kevin	Helena	MT	No	
25	Humberger	Jason	Bozeman	MT		
26	Johnson	Mark	Kalispell	MT	No	
27	Keyes	Chris	Missoula	MT	Yes	
28	Krumm	Blair	Helena	MT		
29	Kuschel	Rick	Missoula	MT		
30	Lemke	Kim	Missoula	MT	Yes	
31	Lerum	Lance	Townsend	MT	No	
32	Mainwaring	Dan	Townsend	MT	Yes	
	Manchester	Larry	Corvalis	MT	Yes	

2021 BMW MOA RALLY - GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Party is Over - Who Came?

	A	В	C	D	Е	
1	Last Name	First Name	City	State	Did you Camp- Includes RV? (Yes/No)	
	Matthews	Marrea	Hamilton	MT		
	McComas	Lonald	Bozeman	MT	Yes	
36	McInerney	Michael	Northglenn	СО	Yes	
	Meredith	Mike	Helena	MT		
38	Moe	Tom	Bozeman	MT		
39	Murray	Albert	Helena	MT	Yes	
40	Pastorius	Dawn	Missoula	MT	Yes	
41	Pastorius	Wayne	Missoula	MT	Yes	
42	Pleban	Pete	Wapiti	WY	Yes	
43	Puglielli	Joseph	Whitefish	MT	No	
44	Reaves	Chuck	Missoula	MT	Yes	
45	Reaves	Mike	Missoula	MT	Yes	
46	Reed	Ben	Helena	MT	No	
47	Rennick	Bob	Ashland	OR	No	
48	Smietanka	Paul	Clancy	MT	Yes	
49	Sullivan	Stephen	Whitefish	MT		
50	Webster	John	Missoula	MT	Yes	
51	Wing	John	Missoula	MT	Yes	
52	Ympa	Rod	Harrison	MT	Yes	
53	Ympa	Hedie	Harrison	MT	Yes	

Note: Charles Rossell, Great Falls also attended, concentrating on the air head seminars, but was missed on this tabulation.



June Meeting - Choteau (continued)







Dean Hall, Todd Jones (partially hidden), Rod Ypma, Jason Humberger, Deb, Chris Keyes, John DiBari and Dave McCormack (black hat).



Jason Humberger



Several members took a break from the BMW MOA Rally for a lunch and meeting in a very pleasant setting in the Choteau City Park. In addition to those shown in the photos, Dave Dixon, Dan Siddens, Lorne Dauenhauer, Lance Lerum, Mike Kreikermeier and guest Vikki. I missed the

photos of the late arrivals. **Dave McCormack** made the trip from Hamilton in his SUV, all others rode from various locations. It was a bit hot, and quite windy on the return ride to Great Falls.

Editor

Reports from the Road - Dean Hall

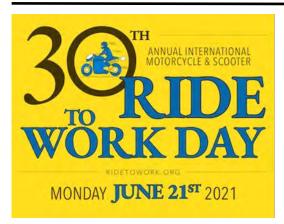


This past Tuesday morning while reading my morning newspaper and drinking coffee, I received a phone call. The voice on the other end asked me if I knew about the BMW Anonymous Registry? I said I did and that voice went on to identify himself as Ray. Ray had broken off a mirror on his 90s Airhead. He asked if I might be able to help and I said I'd be happy to if I can. I gave him and his friend John directions to my house and they arrived about an hour later. The broken off mirror stud had very little sticking up to get a purchase on. We were able to take the locking nut off the bottom side of the stud after using some penetrating oil. Next we attempted to grind a slot in the broken off bolt with my Dremel tool. After doing so, we still could not budge the stud. Ray decided that he would ask for some help at Big Sky Motorsports since he was supposed to pick up a tire there later in the morning anyway. Fail-

ing that, he would seek out a machine shop.

After making that plan, I invited them in to have some coffee. We sat for 45 minutes and related our time at the rally in Great Falls and other issues. I did forget to mention that Ray had pointed out the mileage on his airhead. He had a hundred and eighty-three thousand miles on it. That's a testament to a lot of riding. Did I mention that he is an O.F. (*very mature person*) just as I am. After the coffee, we wished each other the best and they departed. Once getting the new mirror installed, they plan to make it back to Michigan where they live.

Dean Hall









Kim Lemke at the historic Lewis and Clark Travelers Rest interpretative Area.

School House Contest

Folks and especially new members... there's always time to sign up and get going on the One Room School House contest. It began on April 1st and will conclude on October 31st. You only need to be a member in good standing to participate.

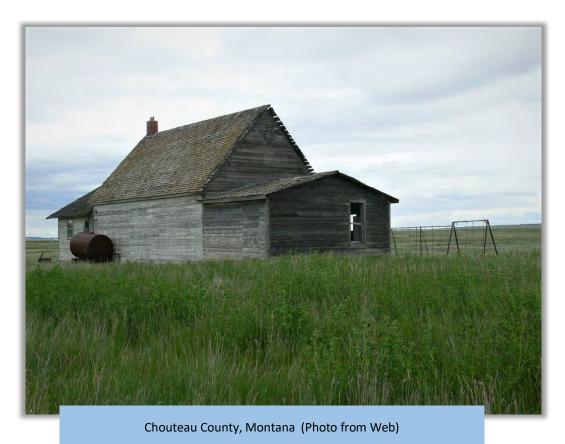
It's really designed to give you an excuse to get on the bike and go somewhere unfamiliar. It's even designed to get you out of your comfort zone and explore remote locations where several generations went to school, built not much larger than a single car garage with a teacherette and outhouse attached. Most kids traveled on foot or horseback and the schoolmarm was often a drafted rancher's wife.

A few folks are already active but it's not about winning as much as it is an opportunity (while on your bike) to get familiar with a unique part of Montana's early days...the late 1800's through about 1950's.

Check out the List, Points, Rules and Hints on the website.

To sign up, send an email to **Dave McCormack** at "dhmcc@aol.com.





To Helena and Back Ride - 29 July-1 August - Ken Conrad

As of today, June 28th, we have 28 riders participating in the Helena-based, Thursday evening, July 29, through Sunday, August 1 event. Details have been published in previous newsletters.

For those folks who have not already signed up/committed to the event and are maybe unfamiliar with the concept, the format is this: We are basing the out-and-back daily rides from Jorgenson's Inn and Suites, each day's rides will have a variety of suggested routes, some all paved, some mostly paved, and some mostly unpaved with the requisite amount of pavement needed to get to the unpaved routes.

The rides are not regimented, or have formal "ride leaders" (cat herders). Choose your route, depart when you want, stop when and where you want, modify the route to your liking, have fun, don't fall down, maybe even get lost a couple times. In keeping with one of the original founding principles of the MTBMWR being a "Disorganized Organization" this Helena event will follow that principle. The intent is to provide a loosely organized, relatively unstructured opportunity to explore some of the fun and interesting areas and roads around Helena.

The only "organized" part: Dinner is at Jorgenson's, 7:00pm, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening; breakfast at Jorgenson's 7:00am, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning. We can discuss details of the routes at dinner and review them the next morning at breakfast. Jorgenson's has a group of rooms blocked for us, and will provide a dedicated area of their dining room for our use for dinners and breakfasts.

For questions about lodging contact **Mike Hofferber, 406-698-8179**. For questions about the routes contact me, **Ken Conrad, 406-431-4999**.

Routes Overview

On pages 12 through 14 of the January 2021 Newsletter I detailed an almost turn-by-turn description of the route from Jorgenson's to Chessman Reservoir, to Priest Pass, to Blossberg and Mullen Pass, to Marysville, and back to Helena. Way too much detail, way too much work (for me - grin), and not in keeping with the KISS principle and Disorganized Organization concept.

So.... The following is a general overview of the suggested routes we have put together for To Helena and Back.

Since most of us have Montana maps, GPS, and phone mapping apps, I have photographed appropriate pages of the Benchmark Maps Montana Road and Recreation Atlas that I used to plan the routes. I have emailed these photos to Dick, who will work some computer voodoo and make the photos accessible for transferring to your phone or other navigation aid for use during the rides. I will have the Atlas with me at Jorgenson's if you want to photograph the appropriate pages for your route choices. Simple. And frugal, eh? (Cheapest thing on a BMW is...) Dave McCormack, our esteemed Minister of Finance, has slackened the purse strings a bit so there will be copies of the map pages available as well for those of us who could be described as rather more neander...., er, "traditional" navigation fans and still prefer a paper map.

I suggest that riders look at the map pictures that I sent to Dick, as well as Montana state highway maps, and others, before the start of the event to become familiar with the area and the routes. Also, it may be helpful to look online at some of the points of interest along the routes. I've included links to some of them in the route descriptions. Another thing that would be helpful is to print out this portion of the newsletter, or save it to your phone, bring it with you to dinner/breakfast, and take it along with you on the ride, so you have a reference for details of the routes.

There are two general types of routes: paved, and combined paved/unpaved. Some town's names are abbreviated: HLN - Helena, GTF - Great Falls, BTM - Butte. I will include notes to describe some points of interest or comments.

To Helena and Back Ride - 29 July-1 August - Ken Conrad (continued)

Paved

HLN - GTF - Belt - Neihart (stop at the Inconvenience Store, interesting place, interesting locals) - White Sulphur Springs - Deep Creek Canyon (Hwy 12) - Canyon Ferry Dam (right on 284 before Townsend) - HLN

NOTES: from HLN ride I-15 north until entering the canyon, then watch for exit 219, Recreation Road (aptly named, fun, and scenic road along the Missouri River, old two lane prior to the interstate), stay on the Recreation Road all the way to Ulm, cross under the interstate to the west side, frontage road, to I-15 at the GTF airport. Giant Springs Park in GTF (Giant Springs, world's shortest river), and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center (4201 Giant Springs Road) are worth a stop. Side trip, north of HLN on I-15, exit 209, Gates of The Mountains (and a good boat tour of Gates of The Mountains, and the Mann Gulch Fire Memorial) Interesting to watch the "gates" open up as you approach what looks to be the end of the river, Lewis and Clark thought so too. And/or, just past Wolf Creek, turn right immediately after crossing the bridge, to Holter Lake, nice views of the lake, pavement ends after a few miles, but if on an unpaved-capable motorcycle there's a good view of the Beartooth Wildlife Management Area from the top of the hill, also a good view looking back west toward Holter Lake, then continue farther east, down the hill, towards Gates of The Mountains Wilderness, road ends near the Missouri River downstream from Gates of The Mountains. A view of the backside, north side, of Helena's landmark, the Sleeping Giant, from the road along Holter Lake. Information on these items online. Pictures looking east/west from top of the hill, Beartooth Wildlife Management Area, are attached at the end of this article.

HLN - Boulder - hwy 69, Cardwell - Lewis and Clark Caverns (fun caverns tour) - Three Forks (Sacajawea Hotel, neat place) - cross over I-90 to frontage road (hwy 205) - Bozeman - hwy 86 along the east side of the Bridger Range - Wilsall (The Bank Bar and Vault Restaurant) - hwy 89 to intersection of Deep Creek Canyon (hwy 12) - hwy 284 to Canyon Ferry Dam - HLN.

NOTES: Boulder, The River Pizza and Subs, 104 N Main, great handmade burgers, generous servings of Wicoxson's ice cream. If you would rather ride less interstate from Helena to Boulder take Colonial Drive to Montana City, continue on the frontage road all the way to Jefferson City, you can then get on the interstate south to Boulder (see notes in Combined Paved/Unpaved, HLN - Jefferson City). Side trip: Shortly after Three Forks, heading toward Bozeman, turn left, to Trident. Trident was one of the first cement plants in Montana, the Three Forks Portland Cement Company. http://www.tfhistory.org/history%20Trident%2001.html Trident was quite a sizable community. I remember reading that their first bag of cement went to Missoula. Also, as you ride the short distance to Trident, you will pass by the Missouri Headwaters, Three Forks of the Missouri National Historic Landmark, where three rivers (three forks), the Gallatin, Jefferson, and Madison converge, forming the headwaters of the Missouri River.

HLN - Canyon Ferry Dam - Deep Creek Canyon (hwy 12) - right on hwy 89 to hwy 294 (south side of Castle Mountains) - Martinsdale (Bair Museum, interesting history, tour) - White Sulphur Springs (hwy 12, north side of Castle Mountains) - Deep Creek Canyon (hwy 12) - hwy 284, Canyon Ferry Dam - HLN

NOTE: look for the "Castles" in the Castle Mountains

NOTE: hwy 294 (south side of the Castle Mountains), you'll pass by Lennep. Before Lennep, there's an old brick two story transformer building from 1914. The Milwaukee Railroad was electric (locomotive on display, along the highway through Harlowton) between Miles City, Montana, and Cedar Falls, Washington. Short (1/4 mile off the highway) side trip to Lennep School - MTBMWR Rural School House Contest), Lennep Mercantile, Lennep Church. https://www.montanapictures.net/martinsdale-and-lennep-montana-picture-tour-montanapictures-net/

To Helena and Back Ride - 29 July-1 August - Ken Conrad (continued)

HLN - BTM - Granite Mountain Speculator Mine Fire Memorial (June 8, 1917, 168 miners died, interesting history, www.minememorial.org, nicely done outdoor memorial overlooking the mine, North Main, Butte, Centerville, just past St Lawrence O'Toole Church watch for a headstone marker on right, right on Alexander St.) - hwy 2, Pipestone Pass - Whitehall - hwy 69, Boulder - HLN. OR: hwy 2, Pipestone Pass - hwy 41, Twin Bridges - Virginia City - Ennis - Harrison - hwy 359, Cardwell - Boulder - HLN.

HLN - GTF - Vaughn - Simms - Augusta - Rogers Pass - Flesher Pass (hwy 279) - HLN.

NOTES: see Recreation Road, HLN - GTF notes above. If you care to ride a bit of good unpaved road, and wave to the Unibomber's old stomping grounds, instead of riding Flesher Pass to Helena, continue to Lincoln, then ride Stemple Pass to hwy 279 (Flesher Pass road), then to HLN. Just past the Canyon Creek Store on hwy 279, Lincoln Road, heading east, the road makes a roughly 90 degree right turn. If you continue straight rather than going around that bend, you will come to the Canyon Creek School, 7435 Duffy Road. **MTBMWR Rural School**

House Contest canyoncreekschool.org.

Combined Paved/Unpaved

HLN - Jefferson City (see notes below) - Wickes Tunnel (east, Boulder end) - Boulder - Cattle Drive Road (see notes below) - Bernice - forest road 82 to 442 - Hail Columbia Gulch - Orofino Gulch Road - Centerville - (see above comments in paved routes, reference the Granite Mountain Speculator Mine Fire Memorial) - BTM - hwy 2, Pipestone Pass - Whitehall - hwy 399 (Whitetail Road), Boulder - back toward Wickes Tunnel - Amazon Road, to/through through the burgeoning metropolis of Wickes to the west end of Wickes Tunnel - back to Wickes - Jefferson City - HLN.

NOTES: From HLN to Jefferson City, to avoid the interstate, take Colonial Drive to Montana City, continue on the frontage road all the way to Jefferson City. At Jefferson City, cross to the west side of the interstate to the old two lane on the west side of the interstate, to the end of the pavement at Boulder Pass/Boulder Hill. At the end of the pavement take the left fork, the sign says dead end, it lies. Stay on the dirt road, into the valley on the south side of Boulder Pass/Boulder Hill. At the T intersection, turn right, you will come to an intersection near a house and some equipment near the road, and a sign saying something like "road not maintained past this point", turn left, that is the old railroad bed to the Wickes Tunnel. At that left turn is also the start of Amazon Road (see above) that will take you to Wickes and the Wickes end of the Boulder Tunnel on the return leg. Last I checked, the east end of the tunnel (Boulder end) railroad bed has been blocked by a rockslide (backhoe slide?), so it would be difficult to enter the tunnel and ride to the Wickes end, or from the Wickes end, coming out at the Boulder end. I know of some folks who have braved the mile-long tunnel, deep water, bricks falling from the ceiling and hidden under the water, and the DARK. I have not ridden through the tunnel and don't intend to, nor am I in any way suggesting anyone attempt it. I've included a picture of the entrance to the tunnel at the end of this article. Looks a little like the Grim Reaper, eh? Backtrack from the Boulder end of the Wickes Tunnel to the Tintersection, where you turned right to get to the Boulder end of the Wickes Tunnel and Amazon Road, continue straight, past the intersection, pavement begins in a short distance, stay on that frontage road to Boulder. From Boulder to the Cattle Drive Road: at the south end of main street in Boulder, immediately after crossing the bridge, turn right, that is Cattle Drive Road. Stay on that road, all the way to Bernice, remain on the left side of the interstate at Basin, to Bernice. Cross to the other side of the interstate at Bernice. See also comments about great burgers and generous servings of Wilcoxson's ice cream at The River Pizza and Subs in Boulder in Paved Routes above. Of interest, although Basin and Bernice are south of Helena, you are actually travelling north and northeast on portions of the road between Boulder and Basin.

HLN - Unionville (interesting historical information sign at end of pavement, on right) - Travis Creek Road - Corral Gulch Road - Chessman Reservoir - Rimini Road - Priest Pass - Blossberg - forest 1855 - Marysville - Long Gulch (Dump Road) - hwy 279, Lincoln Road (see notes in Paved routes, Canyon Creek school, MTBMWR Rural School House Contest) - HLN

To Helena and Back Ride - 29 July-1 August - Ken Conrad (continued)

NOTES: (over) detailed directions, see January 2021 Newsletter. Short side trip: from Mullen Pass, just past Blossberg, take a short detour to the east toward Austin and Helena (forest road 1805). If you are interested in trains, there is a good vantage point just down the hill a little bit, looking east toward Austin, that provides a view of the trains climbing the Continental Divide. A little way further there is a high trestle over the road. Neat viewpoint, especially if there is a train on the trestle. Just prior to the trestle there is a short spur road that leads to the end of the trestle. Pictures attached at the end of this article. The Marysville House, marysvillehouse.com, in Marysville, interesting history, open 4:00pm, Wednesday - Sunday, used to be the Silver City Great Northern Railway Station. Until it was moved to Marysville and converted to a restaurant/bar, an interesting story. Rumor has it the requisite gumment blessings were not obtained prior to the move; the fines cost more than the cost of moving it. Good spot to stop for a break. The Dump Road, Long Gulch Road, starts at the north end of town and goes up over the hill. Ride past the Marysville House a couple blocks, turn right, head to the edge of town and up the hill. Good view of Marysville, and the Great Divide ski area from the top of the hill. Historical information sign, on the main (paved) road, just past the street the Marysville House is on, describes the history of Marysville, also, some buildings in Marysville have historical information signs as well. Good size town back in the gold mining days.

HLN - York - Nelson (Cribbage Capital of the World) - Beaver Creek Road (138) - American Bar Road (1812) to the east side of Gates of The Mountains - back to Nelson - Burnt Gulch Road (138) - Hogback Mountain (**Lookout Tower**) - return to York - HLN

NOTES: Good view from the Hogback Mountain Lookout Tower, plus, another lookout tower to log for the **MTBMWR Lookout Tower Contest**. Picture attached of **Lookout Tower** at the end of this article. The World Famous York Bar is an interesting place to take a break. Another good spot for a break is Vigilante Campground, continue past York, not back to Helena, paved, except for the last 3(?) miles of good dirt/gravel, dead ends at the campground, nice shady spot to take a break. Then turn around, backtrack to York, to Helena.

HLN - Boulder - Elkhorn Ghost Town - back towards Boulder, then...?

NOTES: Mostly paved, except for the Jefferson City - Boulder portion if you use that route instead of the interstate to Boulder (see previous notes). Last 7(?) miles south of Elkhorn is unpaved. Elkhorn Ghost Town has quite a bit of history. The old cemetery is a history lesson in itself. Continue through Elkhorn, stay right, the cemetery is at the end of the road (heh, heh) above Elkhorn. fwp.mt.gov/stateparks/elkhorn/

HLN - Boulder (via Jefferson City - see previous notes) - Whitetail Road (hwy 399) - Whitehall - hwy 2 toward Pipestone Pass - right onto Pipestone Road - Ringing Rocks - return to HLN via...?

NOTES: When on hwy 2 heading west from Whitehall, Pipestone Road is a right turn (look for a small sign) just after crossing a bridge a few miles (4?) from Whitehall. Check the description of Ringing Rocks on the internet, interesting place, and phenomenon. The road narrows in places, and the last quarter mile or so has a steep(ish) rocky climb up from a turnaround/parking area. blm.gov/visit/ringing-rocks

HLN - Canyon Ferry Dam - Magpie Gulch, forest 425 - forest 425 - 259 - 287 - Fort Logan - White Sulphur Springs - Deep Creek Canyon (hwy 12) - Canyon Ferry Dam - HLN

HLN - Canyon Ferry Dam - Magpie Gulch, forest 425 - forest 359 - Avalanche Gulch. Or, instead of forest 359, if the gate is open, 425 - Avalanche Butte - Needham Mountain - White Gulch, forest 587 - back to Canyon Ferry Road (hwy 284) - HLN.

AND/OR: south on 284 to Confederate Gulch, forest 287 - Fort Logan - White Sulphur Springs - Deep creek Canyon - Canyon Ferry Dam - HLN.

AND/OR: continue further south on hwy 284, to Duck Creek Road - Duck Creek Pass - Gipsy (yup, Gipsy) Lake - White Sulphur Springs - Deep Creek Canyon - Canyon Ferry Dam - HLN.

NOTES: Once up any of the gulches, Magpie, Avalanche, White, Confederate, other routes are available. Consult the map. And don't forget, ya can't get lost if ya don't know where you're going.

To Helena and Back Ride - 29 July-1 August - Ken Conrad (continued)

<u>Here's a couple more suggestions for those heading back home</u>, either east or west, to get pointed in that direction. Of course there are a number of paved roads to head either east or west. The following routes can include, or do include, a combination of paved/unpaved.

WEST

HLN - Fort Harrison - Birdseye Road - Austin Road (railroad trestle, spur road to end of trestle, see previous notes) - Mullen Pass - forest 1855 or 571 to Ophir Creek Road (forest 136) - hwy 141 - Avon or Helmville or hwy 200 - continue West

OR: HLN - Jefferson City - Boulder - Cattle Drive Road - Bernice (see above route description) - Boulder River Road, forest 82 - Deer Lodge - continue West

OR: HLN - Flesher Pass (or Stemple Pass, good unpaved) - Lincoln - continue West

EAST

Pavement? Simply ride the east side of Canyon Ferry Lake - Deep Creek Canyon - then continue east, south side of the Castle Mountains is preferable. (See Notes above in Paved Routes, **Lennep School - MTBMWR Rural School House Contest**) I much prefer riding the east side of Canyon Ferry Lake to Deep Creek Canyon, rather than riding hwy 287/12 on the west side of the lake to Townsend and Deep Creek Canyon. Much more pleasant, much less traffic, just a few miles more. I'd suggest not riding 287/12 from Helena to Townsend to Three Forks, too much traffic, and it's (perpetually) under construction. Last time I was on 287/12 from Helena to Townsend to Three Forks some of the construction areas had some "interesting" very soft dirt sections. Heading east, I always go around the south side of the Castle Mountains, hwy 294, to Martinsdale, Harlowton, and then east. Of course, I do have a strong aversion to the stuporslab. Charles Kuralt said it well, "Now that the interstate highway system is complete you can travel coast-to-coast and not see a thing".

OR, paved/unpaved: HLN - Canyon Ferry Dam/east side of Canyon Ferry Lake - Deep Creek Canyon - White Sulphur Springs - hwy 12, Fourmile Creek Road, forest 211 - forest 581 - Castle Town (ghost town), (or forest 585; 581 is more interesting) - Lennep - Martinsdale - Harlowton - continue east.

NOTES: see Notes above in Paved Routes, Lennep School - MTBMWR Rural School House Contest

Seven pictures referenced above attached at end of this article: Grim Reaper at the entrance to the Wickes Tunnel, trestle near Mullen Pass, Beartooth Wildlife Management Area near Holter Lake, and Hogback Mountain lookout tower. Remember to also check the links to the Benchmark Maps Montana Road and Recreation Atlas pages pictures (see Routes Overview).

See you at Jorgenson's.

Ken and Mike





To Helena and Back Ride - 29 July-1 August - Ken Conrad (continued)















Reports from the Road - Marrea Matthews



What does one do when a parade prevents you from leaving town? You get out and soak in the community and fun of a small town. Some young attendees at the Augusta 4th of July Parade received reading material from the Book Mobile librarian.





Marrea Matthews

The youngster that changed paleontologists' understanding of dinosaurs was found near its nest outside of Augusta, MT. Until this discovery, it was believed the eggs were left to hatch and fend for themselves.



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New Members



Meet **Victor Johnson** from Lincoln, Montana. Victor's riding career got off to an early start at six years old and in a big way. His father worked in the oil drilling and production industry in Venezue-la. Although there were rules for riding and licensing requirements, they were loosely followed and rarely enforced. Consequently, a six-year-old who could get his hands on a Honda 50 cc mini-bike, and along with friends with similar interests, could ride as much as sub-teen boys could muster. He moved up in equipment as his skills, and size grew until he became a legal rider at 16 years old, the minimum age for a motorcycle license in Venezuela at the time, when he was able to ride street bikes

To satisfy a teenager's quest for competition, it was not long before Victor was trying his skills a moto-crossing. Although he raced Hondas four-stroke bikes, he was constantly outclassed by the more powerful two-cycle Yamahas. He solved this problem by importing one of the first Honda CR125M Elsinore two cycle models into Venezuela. He won a few races until the competition acquired similar racing models, and Victor was relegated to the '...also ran...." category. After acquiring a Honda CB350, he remembers he and his father, on the iconic 1968 Honda CB 750, became touring buddies. At fourteen he was sent back to the states to continue his schooling, and through high school

he continued to ride, a Honda CB 750(K4) and one of the first year (1975) Honda GL1000 Gold Wings. Again, he and his father toured the western United States on these bikes down the west coast and back up through the southwest deserts.

Victor earned a Mechanical Engineering degree from Montana State College in the late 1970's and, like his father, pursued a career in the oil exploration and drilling business. Working from a base in northern Colorado, he worked in the Williston basin in the Dakotas and the Wyoming overthrust. This was at a time when the price of oil was plummeting, and it soon became clear his future was looking bleak. He returned to MSU and earned a Masters degree in Computer Science which led to a multi-decade career with Hewlett-Packard in Fort Collins, Colorado. It was here that he acquired a Honda NT650GT Hawk, still one of his favorite rides, and was reintroduced to off-road riding by local riding partners. The latter was on a series of Hondas, an XR250, a CFR250X and a CFR450R. He noted the latter was a handful to ride on trails and was its best when pushed to the limits or it would try to buck one off or pitch you into the trees.

His wife's family had a cabin in the Lincoln, Montana area. He became familiar with the area through his many family visits over a 40-year time frame. With the passing of his wife, and his children pursuing careers in the western United States, he relocated to Lincoln, and by a stroke of luck found a large workshop, with a house attached. It met his criterial perfectly.

Victor estimates that over his 55 years of riding on at least 30 different motorcycles he has accumulated over one million miles on two-wheelers. As with many of our club members, there was a hiatus in riding to focus on family and a career, he is now back in the swing of things. His current daily rider is a Honda ST1300, with the off-road task going to a Honda Africa Twin and a CRF 450L. Shop projects include two Honda 650 Hawks, one inherited from his son, from which he hopes to create one ridable 650 Hawk.

Victor reflected, that as an officially anointed "old fart", he hopes to enjoy the incredible lightness of motion that is the motorcycle for many more years until that last long ride on a short trail. Any and all are welcome to stop by and join in for a ride and a pint of fine craft beer when in the Lincoln area.

Welcome to the MONTANA BMW RIDERS club, and we hope to see you soon and often at our riding and social events.

Editor



New Members - (continued)



I grew up in St. Joseph, Missouri and we lived in a dead end street ironically next to two cemeteries and city boulevard system where all the neighbor boys had dirt bikes and they rode all over the place. My parents refused to allow me to get a motorcycle because it was "too dangerous", so they bought me a go cart instead.

I have always enjoyed being on two wheels and the freedom bicycling offers and have ridden many miles over the years. My wife and I met on a bike ride.

We have lived in Helena since 1992, moving here from Eugene, Oregon. My son Peter was home on spring break from MSU in 2016 and he talked me into signing up for the MMRS Basic Rider Course together. I was reluctant and did not think my son, who was a

college junior, should buy a motorcycle. It was the best decision to take the course **Ken Conrad** gave Mothers Day weekend with my son. My daughter also took the course a few years later and got her motorcycle endorsement too.

Peter picked out my first motorcycle, a 2016 Honda CB500X, which I enjoyed for four and half riding seasons. I sold it last year in the middle of June and was looking for another bike until I just got the 2016 R1200RS on May 20th from Dean Morris in Kalispell.

I studied a lot of motorcycles and what sold me on the BMW was the technology, shaft drive, and history of the brand. Oddly enough we received several of inches of snow the next day I got my bike so I could only admire it in the garage for a few days.

Over the last several years I read several books Neil Peart wrote. He was the amazing drummer for the Canadian rock group *Rush*, who I heard twice in high school. I could relate to Neil who was an avid bicyclist and got into motorcycling later in life on BMW GSs. He would make a riding adventure on tour between concerts.

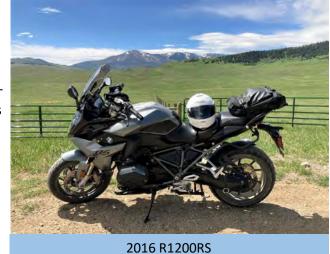
I love to ride and explore our beautiful state. The RS is sporty and comfortable. It amazes me how many people I see admire it and ask me about it from Two Dot to Wisdom.

Thank you **Kevin Huddy** who suggested joining the club, along with checking out my bike and offering advice. My

son and I are passionate about riding motorcycles and it started with **Ken Conrad's** safety course and his comments about his BMWs.

I plan to ride to Port Orchard, Washington this summer where my son recently moved, and to Draper, Utah to visit my daughter this fall. Active travel on a BMW gets me exciting to ride as often as possible and meet some incredible people who share the same passion on two wheels.

Ride safe and enjoy life.



Todd Jones

Club Meetings and Ride Schedule 2021

Month	Date	Location	Venue	Day	Time	Theme ⁽¹⁾				
January										
February	Although no entire MT BMW RIDERS club events are scheduled, each geographical area is encouraged to informally arrange social gatherings suitable for your level of comfort with the level of COVID -19 at the time.									
March										
April	18 th	Lincoln	Montana Steak House	Sunday	1:00 PM					
May	23 rd	Hauser Lake	Lakeside on Hauser	Sunday	1:00 PM	Air Heads & Three Wheelers				
	24th – 27th	Great Falls	BMW MOA RALLY	Thursday – Sunday	All Day	Just Ride				
June	26th	Choteau	Choteau City Park (Bring your own lunch)	Saturday	Noon					
	18 th	Phillipsburg	Winninghoff Park	Sunday	Noon	Newest				
July	29-31 & Aug 1 st	Helena	Base Camp Jorgenson's	Thursday – Saturday	Thursday Evening – All day Friday - Sunday	To Helena and Back, Paved, Unpaved & Combination				
August	21 st	Powell, ID	Lochsa Lodge	Saturday	1:00 PM (MDT)	K Bikes				
		GS/ADV								
September	25 th	Helena	Huddy's Out- post	Saturday	All Day	Repair and Winterization				
October	17 th	Ovando	Trixi's	Sunday	1:00 PM	Thumpers				
November	20 th	Jackson	Jackson Hot Springs	Saturday	1:00 PM					
December	4 th	Missoula	Big Sky Mo- torsports	Saturday	5:00 PM					
The "Theme" is to encourage riders of the type of bike noted, to ride that motorcycle to the event.										

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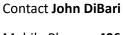
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Artwork must be provided by advertiser in JPEG, TIFF or JNP format.

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.

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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@icloud.com
VICE PRESIDENT: MARK JOHNSON
Email: jeepin77cj@hotmail.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER: DAVE McCORMACK

Email: dhmcc@aol.com

WEB MASTER: LANCE LERUM

Email: jllerum@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: lemkemt@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: LANCE LERUM

Email: JLLERUM@GMAIL.COM

Items for the newsletter are welcome and may be emailed

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