

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMW Motorcycle Club
Montana BMW Riders



CLUB CHARTER

MEMBERSHIPS

BMWMOA #155

AMA #6830



Club Activities - Editor



Riding year 2023 seems to be getting off to a good start. The Little Belts Dual Sport rides (and a few Winnebago rides) under **Phil Haglund's** guidance is coming together. The over-night in Lewistown, Montana with **Tom Moe** taking the lead in organizing the lodging and dinner venues seems to be on track for a good event. The current details for both of these are included in this issue.

Club member **John Webster**, and also a member of the Christian Motorcycle Association, has extended an invitation to the MONTANA BMW RIDERS to their event in Moab in March. Be sure to check-out the details of this event, included as an attachment to this Newsletter.

Club member **Charles Rossell** reminded me there will be a vintage motorcycle event, referred to as the John Rummel's Annual Missouri River Run in early June that will welcome 'antiques' - motorcycles, riders or both. More on that in a later issue.

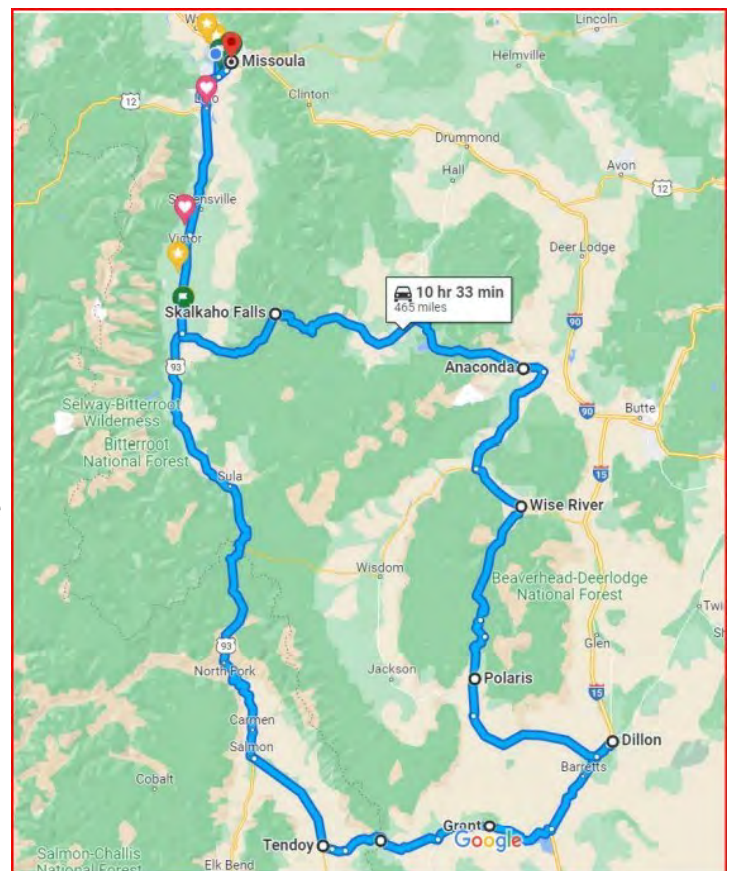
As you will see in this issue, many members have full season planned out.

Administratively, we will also electing new officers, as noted in **Dave McCormack's** column.

My contribution, along with **Dean Hall**, to the summer's riding adventure will be following a segment of the Lewis and Clark track, where they left the Jefferson River near present day Clark Canyon Reservoir and crossed the Continental Divide at Lemhi Pass. We will go in reverse order, starting at Traveler's Rest in Lolo, to Tendoy, Idaho, Lemhi Pass to the Reservoir. Our final leg will include the Pioneer Mountain Scenic By-Way.

One additional ride will be to introduce **Dean Hall** to the Beartooth Highway, one of the area's best rides.

Dick French - Editor



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Secretary—Treasurer - Dave McCormack



Hot News - Elections: You will be receiving a ballot for the biennial election of new officers shortly after the February Newsletter is published. You'll have until February 15th to send the ballot back to the Election Officer (me) to be counted. It's a simple ballot and the candidates would appreciate a large response supporting their candidacy.

Other News: The **Lewistown meeting** scheduled for August 5th is on. Thanks to the ongoing efforts of our Lewistown local, **Tom Moe**, we have secured a block of 20 rooms at the Yogo Inn. The rooms are 2 queen beds going for a rate of \$125 per night. If you plan on going the day before (Friday), you can book that night for the same rate. The hotel will hold those rooms until July 1ST after which they will release the unspoken for rooms. **You'll need to call the hotel at 406-535-8721 and ask for the Montana BMW Riders rate.** You're not required to stay at the Yogo Inn and can choose camping, dry camping, or other hotels/motels. There are quite a few summer time events going on during the same period so we took the initiative to secure the rooms. The Yogo Inn is centrally located and has dining choices in the hotel. We are still working on the details of the evening meeting on the 5th. Hopefully we can secure a place big enough that will allow us all to share some motor-talk with each other. The club is looking for an equitable way to underwrite some portion of your costs for the weekend. Stay tuned. However, ...to make sure we don't end up with a huge expense and a small turnout, we'll be asking you to put your hand up if you're planning to go. I suspect that question will be asked in the March Newsletter.

Dave McCormack

Secretary—Treasure (*Retiring*)

With elections next month, this issue will be Dave's last as Secretary-Treasurer. Dave joined the club shortly after moving to Montana from California in 2010, and was riding a Kawasaki Concours 14 at the time. That was followed by a Yamaha Super Tenere 1200. We now see Dave on a CAN AM RT, of which he is on his second edition. He has contributed to the MONTANA BMW RIDERS as Secretary-Treasurer on two separate occasions, as well as editor of the Newsletter.

He brought his experience from Silicon Valley, initiating and facilitating review of the Club's charter and bringing the Bylaws up to date. Dave has been an avid supporter of the club, as well as an active participant in the Club's activities. We hope we will see him on CAN AM at many of the functions and activities as he enjoys his 'retirement'.

Editor



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMWMOA Regional Coordinator – Tom Moe 33028

Central Montana Event – August 5



In keeping with Dick's theme of summer riding plans I am pleased to announce that we are planning the Central Montana event - **Lewistown** - for an August 5 dinner, most likely to be held at the **Elks Country Club (a.k.a.) Pine Meadows Golf Course**. This is a very special place, a very spacious clubhouse with a great view of the golf course and Judith Mountains. At this point it appears we can simply have a nice sized group and order off the menu.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the **YOGO INN (yogoinn.com)** for both August 4 and 5 for any that want to arrive a day early and take a day ride on Saturday. We will come up with some route ideas for both GS and road riders. The rate at the Yogo Inn is \$125.00 plus tax for a total of about \$136.00 per night. When you call ask for the **MT BMW Riders** rate, your credit card will not be charged until arrival and cancellations prior to 24 hours of arrival will not be charged. We need to fill at least 8 rooms to get this rate or it will go back to rack rate in effect at the time. While the Yogo Inn will hold the rooms until about **July 1ST** let's reserve early and let club leadership know how many are attending so we can plan properly. The Yogo Inn number is **406-535-8721**. It would also be helpful for planning to let us know attendance levels, let me know as soon as you can at 406-599-5226 - call or text. While it is not exactly the Ritz and there are renovations in progress the rates aren't bad and the nice thing about the Yogo Inn is, there is a restaurant and bar under one roof. Sunday mornings there is usually a breakfast buffet and we could probably get a big table for the group.

There is a great brewery, [Big Spring Brewery](#), across the street from the Yogo Inn crafting great beers from that fabulous Big Spring water.

Other options include free first come first serve camping at the [Kiwanis Campground](#) west of Lewistown with restrooms and water available.

There is a music festival in town that weekend as well so we have competition for rooms and food, at the same time some might enjoy the music festival.

As to my riding plans, I hope to finally complete my quest to get a photo of my bike in front of every county courthouse in Montana, it has been a long time effort. I need to get about half of the counties yet.

Ride safe, keep the rubber side down.

Tom Moe



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Long Term Bucket List - Annie Huddy



Just discovered my long term bucket list- and that is attending the Dragon in Wales in late January-early February. I'm going to need a translator!! Those road signs are killer.

According to WIKIPEDIA, the **Dragon Rally** is a motorcycle camping rally held annually during winter in North Wales, since 1962, making it one of the UK's longest running bike events. In the 1960s the attendance at the Dragon sometimes topped 3,000 riders; more recently the figure ranged from 1,500 to 2,000 depending on the weather and location. The rally is famed for its toughness and spartan facilities. Riders often have to endure miserable riding conditions to attend the rally and, once on site, they are expected to camp without regard to the weather conditions. It is an event held in veneration by large numbers of motorcyclists as a test of stamina and endurance because (in the first two decades at least) it was common to have to endure snow and ice to ride there. The Dragon Rally is often grouped with the German *Elefantentreffen* (Elephant Rally) and the Norwegian *Krystall Rally*.

Annie Huddy



Historian — Stuff in the Attic - Kim Lemke



Our Founder and many of the Charter Members attended this Rally



My First BMW. My first teaching job was in Australia. During school breaks, a total of 10 weeks (2 weeks, 6 weeks, 2 weeks), I toured; (1) Queensland, (2) New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and, Victoria and, (3) New South Wales again.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

A Summer 2022 Ride - Mick Baughman

This was a Backcountry day trip in the Whitefish range on my KLR. Riding with a buddy who was on an ATV. He had an easier day than I did but I managed to stay upright.

Mick Baughman



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Nate Bertland
OWNER



Andy Main
MASTER CERTIFIED BMW TECHNICIAN



Nik Anderson
BMW & KTM CERTIFIED TECHNICIAN

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Africa - David Fishbaugh

Africa – You should consider it.

My wife **Mary** said, “Africa is the most a like and the most different place I have ever been.” Our ride started in Cape Town, South Africa, continued through Namibia and Botswana, ended in Zimbabwe at Victoria Falls. Africa is one of



those places where you can step completely out of your comfort zone. I remember in junior high I was infatuated with Africa, the Congo in particular and the African animals. Maybe because geography was my favorite subject, but was a mystery continent.

Africa has a diverse and sometimes dangerous political atmosphere. I understand why people would be hesitant to visit Africa. Mary and I can tell you that the people we met were friendly, welcoming, and spoke English. It didn't matter if we were in Cape Town or in the back country where people typically live in straw huts or 8x10 concrete block homes with no running water. Step out of your comfort zone and experience Africa, you will not regret the experiences and you will quickly become comfortable.

The climate was dry with low humidity. In fact, the countries we visited had been experiencing a five-year drought. Each country was a different form of a desert. South Africa in many places looked similar to Wyoming. The country



was mountainous, not high but lots of rock out crops and considerably more vegetation than the other countries. There were wineries in the northwest.



The Namibian desert consisted of red sand and mountain bluffs of various shades of red with sparse vegetation. Namibia has 10 national parks but the Namib-Naukluft National Park is impressive with the world's largest sand dunes hundreds of feet high. The trees in the photo have been dated at 800 years old. Those trees at one time grew in a river delta plain but the climate changed 800 years ago and desert sands migrated in over the delta. The river is gone. Wild

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Africa - David Fishbaugh - (continued)

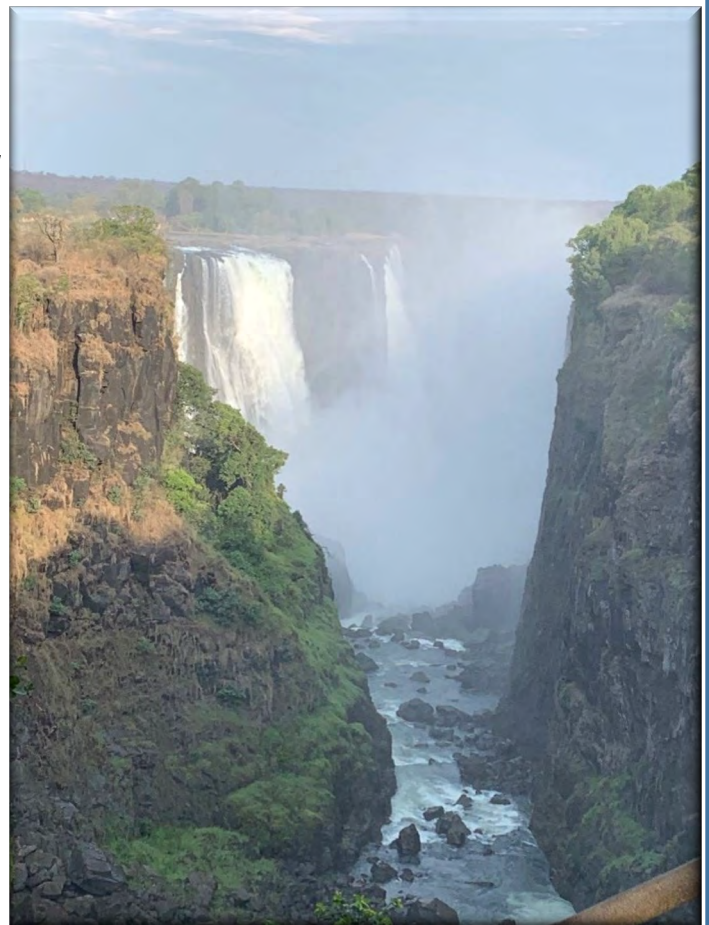
horses live in the desert and approach any visitor - they are looking for food. Diamond mines are located along the west coast with mining corporations owning most of the property.



Botswana is in the Kalahari Desert. The terrain is generally flat with scattered desert trees, little under brush, and sparse grass. Botswana has four national parks and six game reserves each one with a large variety of animals including 50,000 elephants. Botswana has the world's largest elephant population. We went on three safaris, two by land and one by boat on the Okavango Delta which is one of Africa's most famous destinations. We cruised by a ranger station; their mission was to hunt down and capture poachers. They did not like pictures taken of the base. More about the animals later.

We dropped off the bikes at the Botswana/Zimbabwe border then took vans approximately 60 miles into Victoria Falls. The falls and town have the same name. Victoria Falls consisted of several impressive falls; a few channels were dry due to the ongoing draught. We stayed at the famous Victory Falls Hotel, built for and named after Queen Victoria. The hotel is a British high-tea hotel located on a bluff above the Zambezi River which is the longest (1,599 mi) east-flowing river and fourth longest river in Africa. The hotel did not have potable drinking water. We were given bottles of water with our rooms.

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MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Africa - David Fishbaugh - (continued)

Things appear to be a little dysfunctional in Zimbabwe. Even though the river runs through town, they don't have the money to consistently operate a water treatment plant. Gasoline deliveries come on Thursday. Cars line up on Wednesday to get their ration of gas on Thursday. Trucks drive into Botswana to get gas and use their highways to move north and south or around before re-entry into Zimbabwe. At the border, there were close to 100 plus trucks lined up waiting to cross. They have one scale that frequently breaks down. It takes approximately three weeks to get a truck across the border. The driver pulls up in line, hires a local to move the truck forward and gives him a phone. When the truck is within a week of crossing, the local calls the driver and he finishes the crossing. We did go to a nice restaurant with good food and African entertainment.



Border crossings are interesting. You pass through border patrol of the country that you are leaving and the one you are entering. It takes about an hour or so to cross while agents check your passport and pay fees (road tax). We were riding motorcycles, so we stood out at each crossing. It seems Americans get a little extra attention. The goal was to politely answer questions, take no pictures, and keep a low profile (hard to do wearing ATGATT). We had to purchase a visa to get into Zimbabwe, it was \$20 US. I handed two 10's to the agent. One was a little used and the other had a small tear. He handed them back. I dug out another and Mary gave me one, both of which appeared fairly new. He took those. Fortunately, Mary had a crisp \$20 bill.



The ride was approximately 2,300 miles with 500-600 miles on silt and gravel roads, with a little sand thrown in here and there. There were eight bikes with eleven people on the ride. The bikes were all BMW GS's of various sizes, mine was an 850. Our tour guide of course had his own bike plus we had a second guide (both named Carlos) who occasionally rode tail. There was a Mercedes passenger van and a Toyota, Tacoma pulling a trailer with two additional back up bikes (more about that later) as support vehicles. As an aside, it appears that 95% of all vehicles in Africa are white. We were riding on the left side of the road in all three countries. The roadside rest areas consisted of a tall tree and maybe a concrete picnic table. That's it. The ride took two weeks, when you throw in getting there and back you end up with a three-week trip (30 hours of flying and airport time).



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Africa - David Fishbaugh - (continued)

In Namibia and Botswana, if you are hurt in an accident, there is no state police, ambulance, or helicopter coming to pick you up to take you to a hospital. You're on your own. However, there are few other vehicles on the road outside of major towns so it's you, the bike, and the road. Once we left Cape Town, we never saw another motorcycle. All eyes were on us whenever we came upon folks. They would be waving and giving us the universal hands in the air pretending to be hanging on to bars and the throttle twist motion. The children were especially excited.

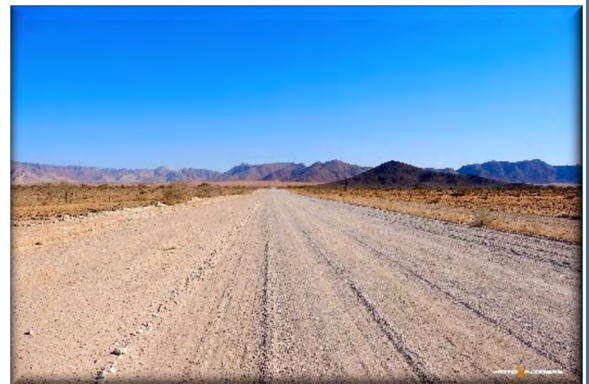


The roads in South Africa

where in pretty good shape, both paved and gravel/silt. We saw road construction one time, which consisted of 50 or so workers using pickaxes and

shovels, no excavators or heavy equipment. The paved roads in Namibia are

smooth asphalt that looked brand new. They don't use culverts, so the road dips down and back up over the hill then dips down again, it was fun. The gravel/silt roads were in good shape like in South Africa.



Botswana on the other hand, not so good. Paved roads frequently had potholes and missing sections of concrete with exposed gravel base, resulting in lots of uneven pavement contacts running in all sorts of directions. The gravel roads were corrugated with 2-3 inches of piled gravel between tire tracks. You can guess what happened to me. I came upon a rider who was moving slower. I didn't want to slam the breaks so I attempted to cross over to another tire track. There were only 20 miles left of gravel and the rest of the ride would be paved. As I started crossing, I was doing about 40 MPH. The bike started acting like an agitated snake, you know the feeling. I should have powered through but I backed off the throttle and tapped the front brake. Mistake! In a split second, I high-sided and was plowing gravel with my shoulder and helmet in a plume of dust. The guy riding tail (Andre), came up on me as I was taking inventory of all moving parts. They all moved. He helped me up. There were a few bent parts besides my ego. We loaded up the bike onto the trailer. We were only about 50 miles from the hotel, so I finished the day in the van. However, when we got to the pavement everyone was waiting and wanted to know if I was ok. I got out of the van, walked over to the paved road, got down on my hands and knees, and kissed the pavement. Several others came over and joined me. Roads in Botswana, not so good.



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Africa - David Fishbaugh - (continued)

The locals who don't own land, raise cattle, horses, and goats along the edges of the road. There are lots of baboons and warthogs. They are mean animals. Stay clear. Also along the sides of the road on one section road in Botswana, I counted 22 elephants over a 60 mile stretch. When you encounter an elephant, you treat them like you would a bison along the road in YNP. They will charge if spooked, especially when young are nearby. If it rains, puddles form in the road depressions and animals come out to drink. The locals don't drive the highways at night because



elephants are hard to see in the dark.

Each night we stayed in four-star resorts out in the middle of nowhere. Let me repeat that, "the middle of nowhere". Each room had its own building, bathroom and shower. One shower was located outside so could take our showers in an enclosed space open to the stars above. One of our places had a bed on the roof so we could sleep under the stars and see the Southern Cross. About a third of the resorts did not have potable water. We could shower, but to brush our teeth (assuming you do) and drink we were given bottled water. Some had swimming pools. We felt guilty staying in these places knowing how the locals live, but the resorts employ locals and support the local economy.

The food was great. There was a variety of meats. I ate ostridge, oryx, kudu, impala, and beef. There were numerous vegetables, and traditional African dishes that I have no idea what was in them or what they were called, but they were good. We all sat at the same table and generally outside. If we were inside, large windows in the dining halls were open. There were no bugs, no flies and no mosquitos. I assumed that was because of the draught, there wasn't enough moisture to support them.

We ate lunch at various places that included one fast food place in South Africa where we saw this tour bus. Look familiar? Most of the time we ate at various unique and remote restaurants in the desert. My favorite was a grocery in a small village. All the store had were a couple of varieties of cookies, two or three loaves of fresh bread, some peanut butter and a few other items. Some of us had a peanut butter and bread sandwiches. Others, like me, got a package of shortbread cookies. Across the street was a grade school, and some of the kids in uniforms started approaching us. They probably had never seen motorcycles, let alone foreigner in motorcycle gear. We started sharing our cookies with them. We were a hit. They were cute. Mary and I felt guilty about buying that food in the store, the selves were probably 85% empty.



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Africa - David Fishbaugh - (continued)



At one of the resorts in Botswana, we hiked out into the desert at night to watch Bushmen do ceremonial dances around a bonfire. This group is nomadic. They were the real thing. I think they said there were about 200 or so total in Africa. Every couple of months, they would move around in small groups, there were six in the tribe that we saw. They hunt wild game, and sometimes domestic farm animals without repercussions. They cross property boundaries and are somewhat protected as a national treasure. Their status appears to be an issue with land owners and a dilemma for the government.

African animals! Wow! Where do I start? We felt like we were riding around in a National Geographic magazine. We saw them in their natural habit. The rarest sighting was a leopard stalking two kudus. We were so close to lions; they could have leapt from where they were resting into our safari vehicles. I have included a few of the not so well-known animals. I have included a mystery photo; can you identify that "animal"? We saw so many that we stopped taking pictures. How many elephant pictures can one person take?

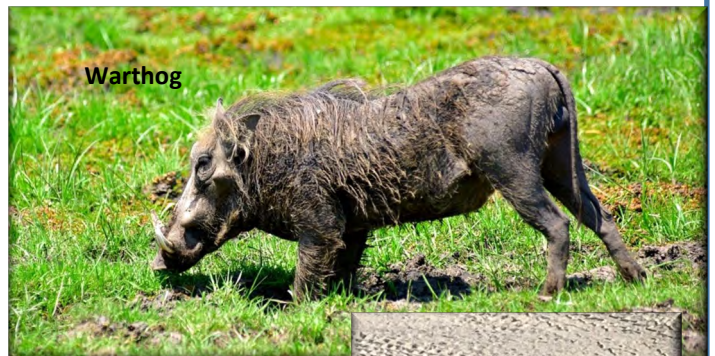
It cooled at night, but reached 40 – 44 degrees Celsius during the day. The heat did not bother me. Some people, including Mary wore wet vests which helped a lot. We all wore Camel Backs for water. It rained pretty hard one day in Botswana for about an hour. Most put on rain gear except Mary, I and the guides. We knew it wouldn't last and that we would be dry 15 minutes after it quit raining. We were feeling guilty again. That rain needs to hit the ground, not soak our jackets. But it felt wonderful!



Water Monitor Lizard



Hyena



Warthog



Mystery

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Africa - David Fishbaugh - (continued)

The company with which we like traveling is Motorexplores of Lisbon, Portugal. We pay one cost that includes four-star hotels, bike rental, dinners and breakfasts. Lunch is on your own. Everybody gasses up on the same pump. At the end, we split the bill. Like most of our trips with Motorexplores, we are the only Americans. The rest are from Portugal and Brazil. We have found that most of the Portuguese speak English, but the Brazilians only know a few words. The language barrier melts away when you buy and share a couple bottles of wine.

If you do the Africa thing, either on a motorcycle or on four wheels, you will probably find that it was of the most different and most a like place you have ever been!



If you're interested in going send me an email. (davefishbaugh@gmail.com) I can give you more detail. We also saw people vacationing in rented Toyota pickups with rental camping gear staying both at resorts and camping at national parks.

Dave Fishbaugh

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2023 Riding Season Plans - Club Members

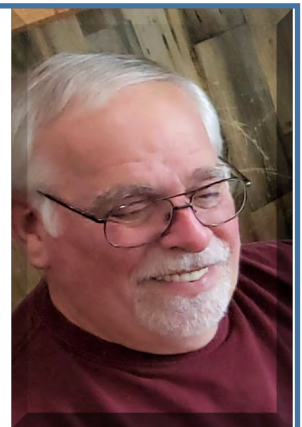
I asked the club members what was on their list of rides for the coming season. As always, the response are interesting, and sometimes surprising. **Dean Hall** has not ridden the Beartooth Highway, so that is tops on his list. **Lance Lerum**, in addition to world traveling, and maybe some BDR, is simply looking out of his back door at the Big Belt mountains, and is pointing his Kawasaki Sherpa that direction. **Greg Hinze** and **Don Deuel** are going to cover the country coast to coast and border to border. I have tried to capture some of their responses on the following pages.

Editor



I'll be making as many trips around Canyon Ferry as possible and to all the luncheons as I can just to get some miles on this baby. Ordered it from Sturgis Motorsports and waiting for delivery.

Don (Davis)



I have always liked taking a couple days off to do some motorcycle camping. *How about a list of favorite tent campsites?* I like the Camp Coeur d'Alene, on the east end of the lake. It's easy to get to, since I'm not much an off-roader.

Dan Hubing

*If you have a favorite campsite, send it to me.
- Editor*



In March I am going to Madeira (an autonomous region of Portugal, that is an archipelago comprised of four islands) and Portugal for a couple weeks. Jan (*Mrs. Lerum—editor*) is also coming so not a ride focused trip, but I do plan to rent a scooter for a bit while she is doing more cultured things. April-May is a motorbike trip to Ireland. **Mike Kreikemeier** and **Kevin Wolfe** (my Washington friend I've been riding with) will be coming along. Touring mostly west Ireland on rented Royal Enfield Interceptors or BSA Gold Star if they are out by then. I'm hoping to finally explore the Front Range this summer which has long been on my 'to ride list.' The Little Belt Ride (if I can get in). I've been invited to tag along with **Mike Meredith**, **Dan Mainwaring**, and **Chuck** (their Harley riding friend we see at lunches on occasion) on their annual haj to the Black Hills sometime late summer. Tentatively Colorado or parts of the Wyoming BDR with **Chuck Reaves** sometime this year. And...most lunches and just scooting around in the hills on the Sherpa. Hopefully this will be a better riding year for me than the last.

Lance Lerum




MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2023 Riding Season Plans - Club Members - (continued)

After very little travel, **Rojene** (*Mrs. Lemke, not the name of his motorcycle - Editor*) and I hope to see parts of Montana that we have not seen in a while, and stop at some old familiar sites on the way.


Kim Lemke





Windermere


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For Sale - Steve Sullivan

1974 BMW R60/6 Motorcycle - Great running vintage BMW 600. There are 66,988 miles on the odo but it is in excellent original condition and working order. Recently replaced & rebuilt:

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I reside in Whitefish and would consider delivering the bike to locations in or near Montana.



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2023 Riding Season Plans - Club Members - (continued)

This is on my confirmed schedule for this summer. My long time riding buddy (Bret) from Nor Calif will be meeting me at the event. Hope others from MBR can join.



Bill Jain



Maybe some Arizona riding in February, might just be the eBike. Little Belts in July, and it is a must camp out with other followers of Utube poster, **Amanda Zito** "as the magpie flies" in Stevensville August.

Working on a possible trip from Billings to Calgary, the Ice Feld Parkway, then on to Vernon BC for an ADV rally. Come back a different way. Depart mid-September.

Plan to attend Lewistown event as well.

Mike Hofferber



Phase One of the puppy sidecar training is nearing completion. The goal is to get them comfortable getting in the car without assistance and sitting there for awhile. We will repeat phase one for several days before moving to Phase Two. In that phase we will get them comfortable being in the car with the engine running.

Wish us luck.

The Huddys



From the Editor



I wonder how advanced they have to be before they are permitted in one of the BMW sidecar rigs? Editor

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2023 Riding Season Plans - Club Members - (continued)



This article should be accompanied by the song and lyrics of, "I Have Been Everywhere Man" performed by Johnny Cash, Hank Snow and others. Club members, for the last ten, or maybe eleven years, **Greg Hinze** and **Don Deuel**, have left the snowy weather of the Jocko Valley and Missoula Valley, sometime in February, with their bright red Honda Gold Wings strapped down in an enclosed trailer. The objective is to travel south until the weather is warm enough to ride, and the roads are ice free. This usually means an auto storage yard in place like Cedar City, Utah.

As it has been every year, the objective is Daytona Bike week, this year March 3-12 at Daytona Beach, Florida. They always allow enough time to take in a little baseball spring practice in Phoenix, Arizona. Covering the 2,100 plus miles to Daytona is a simple matter, at 600 plus miles per day.

In addition to hanging out at the local motorcycle dealers and visiting the numerous accessory vendors at the different venues, around Dayton, they will do one or two Iron Butt events—the 1,000 miles in 24 hour variety. After Daytona, they will split up and each will visit friends and family, along the east coast for Greg, and Don in Kansas.

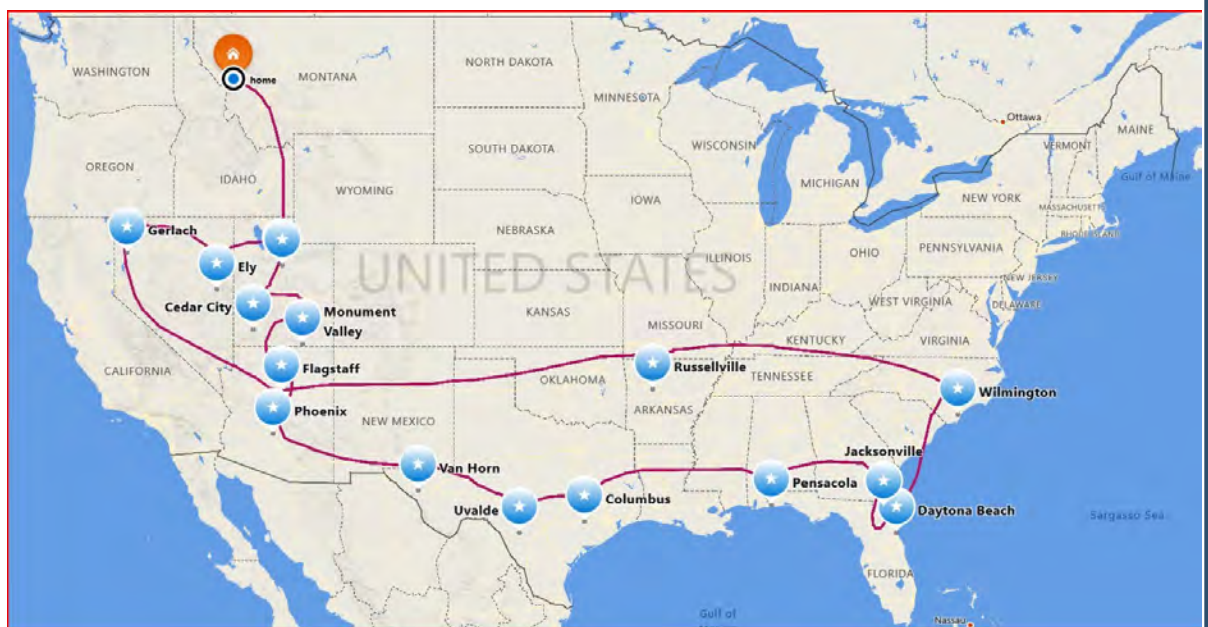
The return trip will probably include a stop at Honda of Russellville (Arkansas) to swap out Greg's 170,000 mile Gold Wing for a new model. We look forward to seeing that one on the road this summer.

A special highlight of this year's venture is a stop at Gerlach, Nevada, made famous as the base camp for the British team of the Trust SSC Supersonic jet powered car which set the land speed record in 1997. Their specific objective is a memorial site to drivers and riders who have died in land speed record attempts and in Iron Butt competition. The location of the memorial is given only by coordinates, not signs. The expect to return to Montana about April 1st.

To ensure they get their 25,000 miles in this year, they are already registered for the Southern California Motorcycle Associations 2023 Three Flags Rally, which will be a three day event starting in Puerto Penasco, Mexico to Calgary, Alberta.

The best way I could depict this annual adventure is to attempt to highlight some of the spots along their route in the map shown.

Editor



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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Historian - Kim Lemke



I came across this museum on my return from the 2007 BMW MOA Rally in Milwaukee. Located in eastern Iowa in the small town of Anamosa, the National Motorcycle Museum has been home to over 500 motorcycles, a great bicycle collection and thousands of pieces of memorabilia. It is a non-profit or-

ganization and after 22 years in this location, it has decided to close the Museum later this year because of declining revenue. The Museum is one of about six motorcycle museums in America operated as a non-profit. Tentative closing date is September 5, 2023 giving visitors to Sturgis and the Blackhawk MC meet in Davenport a chance to stop by. If you are planning destinations for your 2023 riding season, this could be on your list.



Kim Lemke - Historian

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Downsizing, motorcycle-wise - Carol and Gary Graham

Carol and I did have one momentous event in 2022. After one last wonderful ride in Canada, we watched our last bikes ride away with riders other than us astride. We still have eBikes which take us on adventures where reaction time is not critical. It was great fun while it lasted! Happy trails to you and the rest of the group!!



Here we are, about to set off with the trusty Mazda loaded with our kayaks and e-Bikes for a week of paddling and cycling in the West Kootenays in British Columbia. I will still feel a tinge of a regret every time I see bikes like our last BMWs, but we are looking future adventures in this modified format.



Carol and Gary Graham



Riding With Carol and Gary Graham



We will miss the Grahams at so many of our Club functions, above at Trixi's and on the right, Echo Lake Café. They were avid history buffs, and pursued the Park-to-Park and One-Room-School competition with a passion. They also were 'adventurous' riders, as evidenced by their tour of Central



Carol's BMW F700GS has an aftermarket 'man-u-el' reverse gear. Very helpful when backing out of a downhill parking spot.



Asia, Turkey to the Caspian Sea. Check out their Rider Profile article in the April 2019 Newsletter. You can find it on the web, (mtbmwrider.org) and click the NEWSLETTER menu pulldown.

Editor

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Letter to the Editor

Thanks for sending the newsletter. I will take time out to read it before I go back to work on the 9th. I have been keeping an eye on your monthly publications over the year, and it's always good to see what my friends in North America are up to. With corona restrictions out of the way now there is a good chance I might get to meet some of you guys this year. I will start to make travel arrangements soon. All the best for 2023. Greetings to all.

Cheers

Klaus Lambrich (Australia)



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MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

January Meeting - Double Arrow - Seely Lake

The Double Arrow Lodge at Seely Lake is always an inviting atmosphere, especially on cold and snowy Montana days. A moderate fog settled in the Missoula and Bitterroot valleys which probably discouraged many from making the trek to Seely Lake. Those that did, fifteen in all, were rewarded with good company, good service and a warm atmosphere.



Larry Manchester held the lucky door prize ticket, and drove home with pocket sized package that unfolded into a chair for the picnic at Phillipsburg in August.

I was the stand-in for Phil Haglund and his report on Little Belt Dual Sport ride in July. Bob's Bar, Restaurant and Motel in Neihart has a block of rooms set aside for our group, and Phil is encouraging those planning to make the ride, to confirm their room needs soon. Phil will return to Montana in April and begin surveying the roads in the area to develop routes for both the 'technical' riders and the Winnebago roads for the rest. Phil will be riding one of his sidecar rigs, and anticipates several other sidecar outfits to participate. A few more details about this event in on page 26 of the Newsletter.

Dick French - Editor



Some conversation under the watchful eyes of some former inhabitants of the area.



From the left, Dean Hall, Dave McCormack and Sue McCormack.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

January Meeting - Double Arrow - Seely Lake (continued)



Kim Smolt



From the left, Karen Springer (partially hidden), Sue McCormack, Janet Webster, Sandy Knutsen, John Webster and Lynn Springer.



Leann and Lynden Clark



Brian Campbell

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

January Meeting - Double Arrow - Seely Lake (continued)



Larry Manchester



Mick Baughman

The Double Arrow Ranch

The land of the current Double Arrow was a stock ranch before it was bought in the late 1920s by Jan Boissevain and Colonel George F. Weisel, which became a continuing transition from a working cattle ranch to its current function as a resort area for golfing, outdoor activities and fine dining. Boissevain dreamed of building it into a combination horse and dude ranch. The Double Arrow Ranch, named after a brand on Boissevain's favorite horse, was established in 1929 and became the first commercial dude ranch to be located at Seeley Lake.

Boissevain was a competent horseman and had even served as a reserve officer in the Dutch Cavalry. There he had ridden an American horse with a double-edged spear brand and the animal, he found upon investigation, had come from the Spear Brothers Ranch at Drummond, Montana. The young officer later left the Cavalry to go into his family's banking business and found himself transferred from Amsterdam to Texas, then to Spokane, Washington, where he met Allen Toole, son of John H. Toole, president of the Anaconda Company's Timber Division at Bonner.

Boissevain was not favorably impressed with Montana until he accepted an invitation to visit at Toole's summer cabin at Seeley Lake. There, he met Toole's brother-in-law, George F. Weisel, and they began to talk of starting a dude ranch. They learned that Frank Scully and a man by the name of Nesbitt had planned to establish a dude ranch. However, Boissevain and Weisel bought the property and re-named it The Double Arrow because of the brand on Boissevain's favorite horse.

Building the Ranch

It took about a year to transform the Corlett Ranch into the Double Arrow "dude ranch." Boissevain and Weisel bought horses from the Flathead Indian Reservation and from the Bitterroot Valley. The ranch did not produce enough hay to keep the entire herd of horses over the winter. Most of them were driven over the Jocko Trail to winter in pastures in the Mission Valley – a custom practiced by most of the dude outfits at the time.

By 1932, the Great Depression had caught up with the recreation business and the Double Arrow was struggling to stay afloat as a 'working dude' ranch. Over the next 50 years, the ranch and its property was sold, and resold numerous times, with various ventures to stay solvent, breeding and raising horses, even including a ski run. When, the then current owners concluded the area was not suitable to raise cattle, the property began its transition to what we see today.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

January Meeting - Double Arrow - Seely Lake (continued)

Some Interesting Footnotes

Indian Camp

In the fall, the Indians came over the Jocko Pass to camp and hunt on Double Arrow land. Boissevain felt that they had a right to use the land as they always had and he welcomed them.

History of the Brand

The "Double Arrow" (←→) shown prominently at the entrance and elsewhere, is a 'registered' brand in the Montana, but in two applications. One belongs to the Double Arrow Outfitters of Seely Lake, the other by the Lodge. They differ only in the location it is placed on horses and cows.

Recent History Addendum

In 1989 the Lodge once again changed ownership. A group of six couples from the Seattle area, all with Montana roots, purchased the Lodge.

The historic Double Arrow Lodge has undergone significant improvements, while keeping intact its highly valued charm and cozy ambiance. All original cabins have been remodeled and upgraded. New lodging units were added in 1993, 1996 and 1997. A challenging golf course opened in 1994.

In 1997, the historic Hilltop Lodge underwent a complete remodel to compliment the newly constructed Blackfoot Conference Center.

In 1998, the historic Double Arrow Barn was moved to the main highway, where it became the home of the Seeley Swan Visitor Center

The above was derived from a chapter from the book Cabin Fever, a centennial collection of stories about the Seeley Lake area. Cabin Fever is available locally and all profits benefit the local Historical Society.

Editor

Things from the Past - Kim Lemke - Historian



My old R80 GS at Milltown 11 years ago New Years day Ride.

John Beyrau trailered from Helena. Rode from Missoula to Milltown and Back!

The 'wooden' car, was owned by Dave Warhank apparently with a motorcycle engine. It was a good backdrop for the photo.

Kim Lemke



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

The Little Belts Ride - Phil Haglund

I have been filling in for **Phil Haglund** on the Little Belts ADV ride, scheduled for July, 2023, while he basks in the sunny southwest. The information sheet below contains the names collected of those who have expressed an interest in participating. If we have missed your name, or you want to do the ride, please let me know (R_G_French@msn.com). There is a good possibility names have been missed. Phil has indicated 12 riders is a manageable number, for tracking and safety purposes, but if more wish to participate, he will designate ride leaders and split the group appropriately. So, no reason to hesitate.

Phil plans to return to Montana in April, and reconnoiter road conditions, receding snow permitting, so more information will be published in subsequent Newsletters.

Secure your room at Bob's Bar (your sleeping room, not your bar stool) by calling **Janice (314-277-7699)** soon.

Dick French

Wednesday 1 February 2023

LITTLE BELT DUAL SPORT RIDES

July 14th, 15th and 16th

The following riders have indicated they will participate:

Ken Conrad	K Bill Clark	Mike Hofferber	Larry Manchester	John DiBari
Dave Dixon	Rich Bradley	Pat Endres	Dick Smith	Phil Haglund
Lance Lerum	Dick French	Dean Hall		Dan Siddens

We will have a Rider's Meeting about 6:00 PM, Thursday 13 July at Bob's Bar in Neihart to outline the roads selected for this year's ride. Since we will have roads for about every level of interest and ability, we will group riders, with a ride leader, for each level and interest, from single track to dual track to Winnebago Class A. We may even have a squad of sidecars.

The owner, Janice, of Bob's Bar (406-236-5955) (Janice's Mobile 314-277-7699) Neihart has a block of rooms that she will hold a period for those of you who would like to stay there. Neihart will be our "Base Camp" for the rides. Although not elaborate, there are sufficient services there for eating. The time the manager will hold the block of room open depends upon the demand during the tourist season.

Therefore, if you choose to stay at Bob's Bar, you should confirm your reservations soon. Tell them you are with the Phil Haglund group, or The BMW Group – Janice recognizes both references.

Phil Haglund

Mobile Phone: 406-939-0600
Email: haglund67@gmail.com

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Classified - Phil Haglund



For Sale - 2005 BMW R1200ST. 19,105 miles. Only 580 imported in the U.S. Bike Specific Tank Bag. Nearly new tires. Low Sargent Seat. Aftermarket handlebars for a more upright seating position. PIAA Driving Lights. Recent 24,000 mile service. Service records available. **\$7,500**. If interested, call **Phil Haglund** at **406-939-0600**. Bike located near Belt, Montana .

Tents for Sale - Mike Hofferber

I have four tents, the bigger blue one (north face), I'd like to get \$100 for it. The other three are all 2-3 person tents. The Scheels model has a footprint, not sure about the other 2. I'd take \$40 or best offer for any of them.

Contact me:

- Email: mike.hofferber@gmail.com
- Telephone: **406-698-8179**



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Classified



Excellent condition, 20,800 miles, Custom pegs, grips, backrest, intercom, extras;

Asking **\$20,000 obo**. KBB is \$24,300 and NADA is \$21,259;

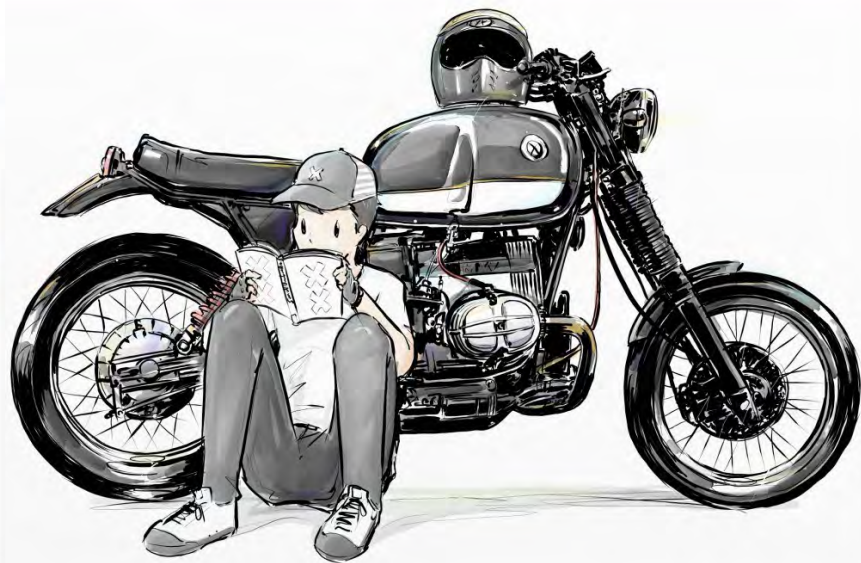
Original owner, All maintenance done at Grizzly Harley-Davidson;

Terry Poland

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MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Classifieds - Lon McComas



BMW 2002 R110RT for sale. 76,000 miles; New tires (Michelin Pilot 4's) and full service 09/2021; New battery in August 2022; Has flashing tail lights and bright LED running lights. Asking **\$4,000**.

For information contact **Lon McComas** (406-388-0678) or email (lwmccomas@yahoo.com).

Classifieds - The Price is Right - Kevin Huddy



Both items are **FREE** to the first taker; may take one or both items. If the taker wishes to have them mailed, the **TAKER** must pay the postage. The first item is a phone holder that clips on handle bars. It came on a used bike I bought and I have never used it. The second item is a set of radiator guards that came off a 2017 R1200GSA. I believe they will fit any 2013-2018 R1200GS/A. They will not fit an R1250GS/A. Contact **Kevin Huddy** (huddykl@gmail.com), or (406-438-6776).

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER



Three-Wheelers



Stay tuned, the lucky owner/rider will be announced forthcoming!

 **Clinton Jackson** shared a link.
January 21 at 8:12 PM · 🌐

Check out this Senior Couple on their trek up the Alaskan Highway ! Great Read and Film footage 🤘



ALASKAHIGHWAYNEWS.CA
Three-wheelin' up the Alaska Highway
A European couple is taking a winter adventure of a lifetime, motoring up the w...

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Ride Schedule - 2023

Month	Date	Location	Divide	Venue	Day	Time
January	15 th	Seely Lake	West	Double Arrow	Sunday	1:00 PM
February	18th	Helena	East	Grubstake	Saturday	1:00 PM
March	19 th	Lincoln	West	Lambkins	Sunday	1:00 PM
April	23 rd	Wilsall	East	The Vault	Sunday	1:00 PM
May	20 th	Huddy Outpost	East	Huddy Outpost	Saturday	All Day
	21 st	Houser Lake	East	Lakeside on Hauser Lake	Sunday	1:00 PM
June	17 th	Big Fork	West	Echo Lake Café	Saturday	1:00 PM
July	13 th -16 th	Neihart	East	Little Belt Mountains	Thursday - Sunday	All Day
	16 th	White Sulphur Springs	East	Jesse Pepper's Smoke Shack	Sunday	1:00 PM
August	5 th	<i>Lewistown</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>6:00 PM</i>
	20 th	Phillipsburg	West	Picnic Lunch	Sunday	1:00 PM
September	17 th	Ennis	East	Alley Bistro???	Sunday	1:00 PM
October	15 th	Ovando	West	Trixi's	Sunday	1:00 PM
November	18 th	Basin	East	Silver Saddle	Saturday	1:00 PM
December	TBD					

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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ADVERTISING RATES 2022-2023

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

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: MARK JOHNSON

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VICE PRESIDENT: JOHN DIBARI

Email: jndibari@yahoo.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER: DAVE MCCORMACK

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Email: jllerum@gmail.com

MILEAGE CONTEST COORDINATOR: LARRY BANISTER

Email: beemermt@msn.com

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CLUB HISTORIAN & PAST PRESIDENT: KIM LEMKE

Email: lemkemt@live.com

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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 to either:

(R_G_French@msn.com) or

(RGFRENCH1937@gmail.com), or

TEXT to 406-274-0783

We're on Facebook Too:
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