



Die Zeitung

Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Club
of Hampton Roads, VA

<http://www.bmwchr.org>

July, 2007

President's Corner

By Gerry Schulte

Summer is now upon us, and the riding season is in full swing. I heard of at least six people, in various groups, that made it down to the National RA Rally at the Biltmore. I heard the weather was great, and they had a good time. I'm sure a report from one of them is coming.

Tony Patelunas and I made it over to VIR last weekend to see Nate's return to the track. He is still stiff and sore, but seeing all his supporters made him forget all about it. The place was crawling with Beemers all weekend. He surprised himself, and everyone else. In short, He's Back! Tony will give you the details.

The MOA National is coming up fast. I want to get a list together of those going, cell numbers, etc., to maybe get a little more organized this year, or at least be able to look each other up while we're there. It should be a good one, Wisconsin is a pretty state. In case anyone is interested, Nate will be racing at Road America a week before the rally. It's a beautiful, famous track not far from the rally, in Wisconsin. He is also planning to go to the rally.

Now for some tragic news. I got an e-mail from Jeff Munn last weekend. His 18 year-old stepdaughter, who lived in Northern Virginia, was killed in a car accident June 22nd. He immediately came home from China to be with his family. She was a very active and outgoing young lady, and lived with him and her mother for five years, traveling all over Europe while he was stationed over there. She would have started at Va. Tech in the fall. Per the family request, I would like to take a collection at the next meeting to make a club donation to her high school scholarship fund in her memory.

Ride safe, and see you Sunday,

Gerry

Editor's Ramblings

By Kyle Arnett

Into July and thus, over halfway through the year, where does the time go? I am hoping that you are all healthy and getting a lot of riding in this summer. I have been to the RA rally, to a Blue Ridge Parkway Rally, and spent a week riding with a friend in North Carolina. My trips would not have been enjoyable without an understanding wife, so I would like to take a few lines of text and tell her how much I appreciate her understanding of my love for travel, my motorcycle, and above all else, her. In line with that, I would like to thank all wives (or husbands) for their understanding and support, especially the non-riding spouses, as they are not normally included in ride reports, nor appreciated enough.

As Colin and I were preparing to return from the RA rally in Asheville, we decided to keep the fun riding going and opted to ride the parkway to Martinsville. We are not very good at estimating time though as this added a great deal of time to our ride, got us into rainstorms, and generally made for a fun but long day. I had not been keeping track of how much parkway I have ridden but it seems that I have very little more to explore, yet reminded me that I have only three state parks on my "done" list. A challenge that seemed so easy at first seems like it may go unfilled, so keep planning for those rides and get it done!

Our rally is fast approaching and Carol will be set to request even more volunteers to commit time to aid in yet another flawless execution of the rally, please keep this in mind as you manage your schedule for the upcoming months.

This month will be a busy one for all of us. We have the MOA, which will no doubt allow many of you to watch numbers which do not often turn on the odometer to gain a bit more shade. I hope you all have safe journeys and capture many memories. I will be missing the MOA this year and have instead opted to take a trip back to Alaska as a get away for my wife and I, nothing big planned, just touring the mainland for a week.

I am still looking for items for a classified section, technical section, and a "my ride" section. These sections will add more value and hopefully be a way to serve the club better. If you have anything, please send it to me and I'll include it.

Rally Update

By Carol Beals

Plans for our rally are moving along. By our next meeting we will have started contacting the local shops to distribute flyers and request for door prizes. If you would like to assist in this effort please contact either me (Carol Beals) or Wendy Tyer and we will get the letters and fliers to you. As far as people staying in RV sites, cottages or cabins the cabin camp ground are handling those reservations and the fees are separate. If you are planning on staying in the RV sites, cottages or cabins reference the BMW club when making reservations to receive the discount rate \$29 for RV sites, \$35 for cabins and \$60 for cottages all plus tax. We will reduce your rally fee by the \$5 per night that we would be charged if you were tent camping. I distributed some rally flyer at the RA national rally at the Biltmore. So when you hit other rallies this summer remember to pack a few flyers and post or distribute them there. Only you can make our rally a success.

Please note the following door prizes receive to date. Please make you thank them for contributing when doing business with them.

Organization name

AKA Motorcycle Accessories
AKA Motorcycle Accessories
Avon Tyres
Beach Motorcycle Adventures
Bing Agency
Cramp Buster
DelTran Corporation
DelTran Corporation
Ehlert Publishing Group
Ehlert Publishing Group
Ehlert Publishing Group
Held USA
Held USA
Helen Two Wheels

email or website

www.akamotorcycleaccessorie
www.akamotorcycleaccessorie

www.beachs-mca.com

www.crampbuster.com

www.heldusa.com
www.heldusa.com
www.helen2wheels.com

Gift

3XL Black and red rain suit
med Black and GREY rain
Avon Ball Bap
\$250 Gift Certificate for
30% off any gasket kit or 3ft (x3)
Cramp Buster (x12)
Battery Tender Dual 12V
Battery Tender Junior
1 year subscription to Rider
1 year subscription to Rider
1 year subscription to Rider
Held XL T shirt
Held L T-shirt
Packing Straps

Summer Club Rides

By Greg Cutter, Ride Coordinator

Our monthly club rides (usually 3rd Saturday of the month) are supposed to be led by YOU, not me, so where do you want to ride? I missed May because I was putting 3000 miles on my F650GS in Baja, Mexico, and 4 southeastern states – California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. In June I also took it to a F650 rally in West Virginia...lots of off-road fun (mud, rocks, and lots of creek crossings!). I hope that many of you went to the RA rally in North Carolina while I was getting my bike dirty 200 miles to the north. Okay, so what's in store for the rest of the summer?

July. The club ride(s) will be going to the MOA Rally in West Bend, Wisconsin. If you want to join Lynda and me, we're leaving on Monday, 9 July for a 1500 mile trip to and around Lake Michigan before the Rally (*see map to right*). Our tentative route will take us along Rte. 33 for a very twisty ride across West Virginia, then switching to 18 to the Ohio River, a ferry ride across, then lots of miscellaneous highways in Ohio that keep us far away from any major cities until we get to Michigan. From here we'll take 33 and 40 north until we hit Lake Michigan and follow the shore to the Upper Peninsula and all the way to the Mackinaw Bridge. After that we'll simply follow the lake shore west then south until we get to the rally. This should be a very scenic route, so join us if you dare! I'm sure others are taking different routes, so look on the Rides section of the Club Forum part of the web site.



Featured Website: <http://www.motorcycleroads.us/wi.html>

If you are heading to Wisconsin for the MOA, check out this site before you go. With a color key specifying scenic, twisties, sweepers, and even unpaved (for Greg), you can find a ride to suit your likes!

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August. For all the adventurers in the club, I'm leading a GS ride in West Virginia on 17-19 August. I don't have it fully mapped out yet, but once we get near WV (probably via Hwy. 39), we'll stick to forest service and unpaved county roads in the Monongahela National Forest as much as possible. We'll camp along the way and have as much fun as we can stand. Now to be clear, this will be a dirt road ride, NOT single-track, technical stuff...I'm getting too old for that. However, your GS needs to be ready for the rough and potentially falling over, you need to bring spares/repair stuff, and I recommend Continental TKC-80s or equivalents for tires since they do great on the road and really make the dirt/gravel/mud/water so much easier to handle. It will be good for first timers as well as veterans because we won't be in a hurry and no one will push you into something with which you don't feel comfortable. Because this will be a first for the club, I'd like to have a meeting of all those interested on Saturday afternoon, 28 July at my house (time and directions to be provided). We can go over routes, packing lists, and riding strategies, and you can look at how my F650GS is set up for adventure riding. If you're interested at all, please email me to let me know, gcutter [AT] odu [DOT] edu; hopefully you can figure out the proper email address, but this way no web spiders can copy it.



Desierto Central of Baja California, Mexico, May 07.
photo by Greg Cutter

RA at Biltmore Summary

By Carol Beals

For those who missed the RA rally at the Biltmore you missed a great rally. The weather good a little warm a couple days but cooled off nicely in the evenings.

The rally grounds were the Biltmore grounds, what can you say. Beautiful grass fields, camping along the French Broad River, no traffic noise or other city noise, I hope they let us do again some time. The rally attendance was much larger than they planned. There were over 3,000 rally goers which I believe was a record for RA.

The roads around the rally site were great no matter what your riding style is, great curves, great GS rides very nearby, as well as the Blue Ridge parkway. The rally fee included access to the Biltmore house and many of its outlying buildings, which were great sights and a good way to cool off during the day. We saw several of our old members at the rally as well. We only ate one lunch outside of our preparation, but that lunch was great and very reasonable for what we received. I missed having a rally packet upon registering you received your waist band and a single ticket with a number. This ticket was for your door prizes and your admittance to all the Biltmore buildings. So overall it was a good value for the money. I took pictures via 35mm so maybe next issue I will have some of the pictures.



Colin and Randy (Atlanta member) ride along the Blue Ridge Parkway during the 2007 BMWRA rally. *Photo by Kyle Arnett*



The view from Chimney Rock, about 30 Miles south of the rally site. *Photo by Kyle Arnett*

To Kill an American

Written by an Australian Dentist

Editors note: While this may be treading on a political line which may be of some controversy, I feel that this is a worthy addition as we all celebrate what being an American means to us... it may be BBQ, may be Baseball, or it may be a completely different way of celebrating, but the key is that we are all Americans and should be proud.

You probably missed it in the rush of news recently, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American.

So an Australian dentist wrote an editorial the following day to let everyone know what an American is . So they would know when they found one.

"An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani or Afghan.

An American may also be a Comanche, Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, Seminole or one of the many other tribes known as native Americans.

An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan . The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses.

An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God.

An American lives in the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence , which recognizes the God given right of each person to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need, never asking a thing in return.

When Afghanistan was over-run by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country!

As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan . Americans welcome the best of everything...the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best services. But they also welcome the least.

The national symbol of America , The Statue of Liberty , welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your

teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America .

Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11, 2001 earning a better life for their families. It's been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 different countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and other blood-thirsty tyrants in the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself . Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American."



Upcoming Events:

July

- 7 **Monthly meeting**
- 12-15 **BMW MOA Rally**; West Bend WI
- 18 **Ride to work day**

August

- 16-19 **Dan'l Boone Rally**, Boone NC
- 31st—Sept 2 **Sherando Lake Rally**, Richmond VA

September

- 29 **March of Dimes ride** (Bayside Harley)
- 15 **American Diabetes Assn ride** (various locations see bikernews.com for more info)

October

- 5-7 **North of the Border Rally**
- TBD **Adventure BMW Open House**
- 13 **Mortons BMW Open House**