



March – April 2008

MOA Charter #217
BMW RA #300

2008 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Denny Adkins
Vice President: Chuck Adkins
Secretary/Treasurer/
Pillion Princess: Dale Whyte

Submission of advertisements/articles/product evaluations are due to the editor by the 15th of each month to the Newsletter Editor.

Director: Ron Aikins
Director: Mike Clark
Director: Red Davis
Director: Dick Dodd
Director: Rick Franke
Director: Louie Fruitsch
Newsletter Editor: Dale Whyte
Club Postmaster: Jay Whyte

Formerly President for Life
Mike also serves as club webmaster
The Monterey Bay BMW Riders meet Saturdays at 9am (when a ride is not scheduled) for breakfast and conversation
See web site for current location
Social Coordinator: Denny Adkins
web site: www.mbbbr.org

President's Message



Hi everybody, sorry you didn't have a newsletter last month, but I missed the deadline and the previous newsletter had just been completed a short time before.

I want to thank Dale for completing an updated roster for the club. As usual, Dale has done a great job! Please keep your roster so you will have the ability to directly contact members to set up spur-of-the-moment rides and stay in touch when you don't see them at breakfasts, etc. If you find any errors or additions you would like to make to the roster, email or call Dale, but we probably won't update it for a while. Chuck and I and five other bikes had the pleasure of going on Ron Aikins' ride on Saturday, March 22nd to Oakhurst. The ride had to be rescheduled because of showers the previous week. The weather was really kind to us and provided us with an absolutely beautiful, spring day. Thank you Ron, for a ride through green hills and fields of wildflowers to a restaurant that served great food and had one of the best waitresses I have been served by in a long time. Thanks also for the frequent stops that literally saved Chuck's and my tuchies!

Our 2002 1150 RT has the standard BMW seats and after our Russell seats it has been an unpleasant shock to discover how uncomfortable the standard seats are. Frequent stops gave us a chance to ward off the "butt burn" that we were experiencing and on the first week in May, if not sooner, we will be going to Redding to get custom seats built, yay!

Unfortunately, Easter Sunday I woke up with the terrible flu that has been going around Santa Cruz and developed a secondary bronchitis and have been stuck at home for the last two weeks. It has been a double whammy because Chuck caught it this week and has been "hacking up a lung" which is part of this evil virus. Sincerely hope none of you get it.

Let's talk insurance...motorcycle that is. I would appreciate some feedback from you out there as to what insurance companies you are using and why. When we purchased the RT I checked into a few companies and got some quotes. Triple A and AARP are now offering motorcycle insurance, but I know there must be other companies some of you know about so email me some info. We have

always used Progressive, but with today's economy, I am sure we are always looking for a better deal.

Red has a ride coming this month so email or call in your intention to join him for his ride.

HALF MOON BAY'S AWE-INSPIRING WORLD OF WONDER
Monster Truck Exhibition, Military Aviation Marvels, Rare Autos,
Motorcycle Trials Demo

A spectacular showcase of 2,000 magnificent machines running the gamut from super cool cars, custom motorcycles and one-of-a-kind woodie busses to tricked-out trucks, antique engines and tractors, and historic military aircraft will be among the mesmerizing displays at the **17th Annual Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show, Sunday, April 27, 2008** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at **Half Moon Bay Airport**. The show benefits the Coastside Adult Day Health Center in Half Moon Bay.

April 19 Club Ride Details from Red Davis

The April ride is still on. We'll meet at Jeffery's Resturant on Soquel Ave @ Capitola Rd. 7:30AM Saturday, April 19 for an 8:30 departure. We'll passover, he he, the Gate and re-group at the north parking lot. From there its "Keep up with Red" or ride alone to Bales Grist Mill SHP. See ya, Red. Oh ya, If it rains, fuggedaboutit! we'll do it next month.

From Gaylen Sanders



"Aye, laddie, you're bound ta get bugs on yer knees, but that's n'a the worst of it..."

"Adventure before Dementia"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SboCAsNUU7Q>

Some people will tell you that slow is good-and it may be, on some days...but I'm here to tell you that fast is better. I've always believed this, in spite of the trouble it's caused me. Being shot out of a cannon will always be better than being squeezed out of a tube. That is why God made fast motorcycles ... Hunter S. Thompson

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Ride to Oakhurst Reported by Ron Aikins

It was a longish ride, but I'll be brief in the telling of it. For starters, my decision to postpone the ride one weekend to the 22nd was exactly the right thing to do. The weather was positively gorgeous and the first wildflowers covered many of the hillsides. It was sunny and beautiful and now that Daylight Savings Time has kicked in, we had plenty of daylight to get us all the way back home.

A great thing about this ride was seeing new faces. Sam and Judy, from Marina and Aptos, respectively, rode with us on a K1200LT. David came all the way down from San Jose to join us, riding a beautiful 1978 R100RS which he said he has owned, and obviously lovingly maintained, for 29 years.



Great to see the old and the very new machines navigating the roads together!

There were nine of us altogether leaving San Juan Bautista at 9 AM. We negotiated Pacheco Pass to the first stop in Santa Nella, then took Henry Miller, Hutchins, Indiana, and Washington Roads to Chowchilla. A little bit of 99 took us to Madera, then 145 east, around Friant Dam and Millerton Lake, through Auberry, North Fork (the "Exact Center of California"), and around Bass Lake to finally arrive in Oakhurst.

We had plenty of rest stops, which was part of the reason we did not arrive at the Three Sisters Café until about 1:45. That was one hungry bunch of riders, but all seemed in good spirits, especially after digging into their entrees.

Another nice thing was being greeted and served by Andrea, our lovely hostess/waitress who was actually born and raised in Pacific Grove! Our thanks to her and Chef Richard Beyerl for a warm welcome and great food.

Gaylen Sanders led us back home on an interesting route via Raymond Road out of Coarsegold.

I would promise to do a better job next time of trimming the

ride to get us to lunch earlier, but everybody except the new folks would know I was lying.



Andrea and Ron

ON THE ROAD TO BLISS

By your Traveling Club Correspondent, Tom Brazier

While some of the club members were on Ron's ride in the land of "Milk and Honey", cruising across the 70 degree Central Valley, the temperature read 27 degrees in Boise. It read 27 on The Weather Channel, the outdoor thermometer and the thermometer on the car. It wasn't changing much and the idea of an early departure on *The Road to Bliss* was not looking good. It was time for Plan B, a delicious breakfast at the Sunrise Café and a reconsideration of an early departure. Homemade blueberry pancakes, biscuits the size of a hamburger and country gravy fueled our sense of adventure again.

I had come up on Friday to see my old friend, Bob Hoppie, pick up my trusty Kawasaki ZRX1220R at the shop and get in a couple days of Spring riding. There are many differences between Idaho and California and one is the price of service. A full service on the Kawi and all parts including a valve service is \$300. Registration for two years is \$44. Things like that!

At any rate we were talking about *The Road to Bliss*. Now you may know that most of the access to southeastern Idaho from Boise is along Interstate 84. At least in the winter when some of the wonderful side roads are snow covered or where black ice abounds. There are not many other roads to get to Bliss and we all hate the interstate. In fact the interstate is known as 84/20/21/26/30 and there may be more numbers attached to it along the way to Bliss. But the temperature was

27 and when corrected for the 75 mph wind created by the posted speed limit on the interstate, and the 20 mph head-wind, the wind chill was down to 2 degrees. Perfect for a Spring ride! Electrics worked well but darn I wish I had a windshield on that bike. Or even hand warmers. But us IronBrainers thought this was a fine day to Spring ride.

The day's ride called for a trip to Shoshone Falls, which were reputed to be spectacular this time of year. I thought anything covered by ice would be spectacular and surely no liquid water could exist at this temperature. Bliss is located right where Highway 26 departs the interstate, and is about 15 miles east of Paradise, Paradise Valley that is. I suspect that it gets its name from the fact that you can get off the interstate there. It was interesting passing tractors with triples moving at 80 down the interstate. The road from Bliss to Shoshone was 20 miles or so of ideally slow moving two lane country road. There was plenty of time to look at the massive snowpack at Sun Valley off to our left. While



everything around us was snow capped with lacy snow remainders, Sun Valley was a massive pack of ice and snow that seem to go up forever. It was spectacularly beautiful.



When we arrived at Shoshone, there were no signs directing us to the Falls. The nice lady at the Gas station explained that was because Shoshone Falls was 20 miles south of us, in Twin Falls.

That didn't make a lot of sense but the coffee was hot and we warmed up a bit there while we contemplated our pathetic navigational skills. We met a biker heading for Sun Valley, two-up, on a new Road King, He explained the road was clear and that there were 40 foot snow drifts to see on both sides of the road on the way up into town of Sun Valley. Great for a day ride. We declined to go north with him and headed south in search of Shoshone Falls on Highway 93, and warmth.



Highway 93 crosses the Snake River at a beautiful suspension bridge as you enter Twin Falls. The view from the lot at the side of the bridge is spectacular as you look down the Snake River Canyon to the west. A retired truck driver was showing us the area, including the jump ramp located just north of the bridge that Evel Knievel used to try to jump the Snake River Canyon, when a parachute floated by heading for the River below. That caught our attention! It seems like this is one of the few legal places to do base jumping off a bridge. We watched people who appeared reasonably sane jumping off the bridge and popping their chutes to land on the ledge beside the river below. They then climbed up the vertical wall of the canyon and calmly went to a little park area to repack the chutes and do it again. I thought about doing that. Then I figured if the shock from jumping off the bridge did not kill me, the climb up the canyons wall would certainly finish me off. Hunger set in about that point and a little fifties style diner in Twin Falls took care of that. Steak sandwiches with a mound of French fries and more hot coffee were the order of the day.



We then shivered our way to the falls, which are rather spectacular. Seems water does not freeze in Idaho. They are, at 212 feet, higher than Niagara. They were well attended that day including a group of what appeared to be young Mennonite folks. They looked straight out of the 18th Century and gave Bob and me in our leathers a wide berth. By now the temp was way up to about 40, with a freezing wind off the mountains to the north of us. God save the electrics and what about electric gloves? Or a nice neck warmer for that matter. Next time.

Then it was off to see Hollister . . . Hollister, Idaho that is. It is located about 25 miles south of Twin Falls and was not a bustling community. We went through it several times looking for a good photo op sign or for that matter even a town. In

fact, the only sign we could find with the “Hollister” name on it was the one seen here. Bob asked why we went there. I explained that it is mandatory when you live in Hollister to visit any place called Hollister if it is within a day’s ride. He seemed skeptical. As we headed north out of Hollister, one of the mileages signs was interesting. It indicated that Sun Valley was 102 miles north of us. Yet, we could clearly see that massive mountain to the north over a hundred miles ahead. And we could see similar brilliant white peaks in any other direction we looked. Cool.

With a fond farewell to Hollister, we started north again into the wind which had now maliciously switched from the southeast to the north so we had a headwind both ways. Backtracking on Highway 93 we came to Highway 30, another perfect two lane country road that this time took us up the beautiful Hagerman Valley. The trip was along the south side of the Snake and crossed it half a dozen times. There were hot springs bubbling steam up into the frigid air, fishing camps and parks for camping and to swim in, probably for warmer weather. Or Polar Bears. Then it was 120 miles or so beating it back to Boise on the interstate where we got in just after 8:00. The sun was just going down and it had been a great day.



The next day we were thawed out pretty well, and temps were up to 33, so we decided to cycle Highway 55 up toward McCall and stopped at Horseshoe Bend. That takes you over a little summit at about 6,000 feet with snow on both sides of a dry road. We stopped for pictures at the Horseshoe Bend sign, when another “only in Idaho” moment occurred. An Idaho State Police cruiser stopped on the road by us and an officer asked if we would like pictures of both of us in front of the sign. He parked, came down and introduced himself as “Justin”, and chatted for a while. We posed; he took pictures, then gave us some road advice and wished us a great day. Can you see the CHP doing that? Coffee at the Standard Station got us moving again down the Emmet loop trail. It was a spectacular ride with snow capped mountains to the east and the Black Canyon road down to Emmett. It parallels a beautiful reservoir on the left and the mountains to the north and west.

In Emmett we came upon another relic, a full service drive-in restaurant, complete with carhops on roller skates. She couldn’t attach the trays to our bikes so we had a chance to sit and visit at the picnic tables. She explained that they were trying to get all the servers to go to roller skates to bring back the ambiance of the good old days. A foot long chili cheese dog and more scalding coffee got us moving toward Boise. (Note to self – no chili cheese dogs with onions on a freezing day when you need to keep the face mask on a full face helmet completely closed so your eyes don’t freeze over.)



Total mileage was about 525 and the ride was an awesome experience. The spectacular scenery overcame the cold and the friendship with Bob made the ride spirit warm and friendly. The last fun of the ride was coming home Sunday on Horizon Air to a wonderful Easter dinner with family. The flight attendants were in the spirit, as you can see. Microbrew anyone?



Can’t wait until next time. Cheers all!

Product Evaluation

Kudos for Kathy’s Bags

by Ron Aikins

I have to take an opportunity to recommend a product I have used for many years. For Christmas, 1994, Donna bought me a set of Kathy’s Bags for my K75 which I had just purchased the preceding June. They included two side case liners and a small bag for the top case.

As you probably know, these bags have seen long-term use, but especially the liner for the left-hand side case. Since I have ridden to work nearly every workday since I bought the bike, I have also used that liner as a general carry-all bag, including for trips with and without the motorcycle. It has also done hard duty being

overstuffed with camping clothing and equipment, dropped, kicked, filled to bursting and sat on to squeeze it sufficiently so it could be zipped shut.

It has only been very recently that the main zipper began to fail. I contacted Bob's BMW to ask whether it could be repaired at a reasonable price since the rest of the bag was still in excellent condition. I was informed that Kathy's Bags are sold with a lifetime guarantee and the zipper would be repaired for free if I would just send in the bag.

It was returned to me in very short order with a brand new zipper which I have no doubt will last me for another 13 years or so. There was also a note attached from Kathy herself thanking me for my words of praise for her product which I had sent in with the bag.

Need I say I highly recommend Kathy's Bags? You can buy yourself some at Bob's BMW (<http://www.bobsbmw.com/> or 800-BMW-BOBS), a retail shop I highly recommend as well.



FOR SALE



Rain Suit "Dry Bones" ProSport 2 Piece Size Large \$20

Jacket: Yellow with reflective stripes on sleeves/zippered front with flap & Velcro/corduroy collar lining with hide away zippered hood/one outside chest pocket with flap/Velcro adjuster @ sleeves with neoprene to seal out water/sealed seams

Pants: Black/zippers @ ankles with elastic heel straps to prevent riding up.

Only worn once by a little old lady on a rainy day ride home from Mtn. View

Rain Suit: Field Sheer 2 piece Size XL \$20

Jacket: Black with blue & gray accent strips on shoulders/reflective stripe across back/elastic at waist and sleeves/corduroy collar lining/2 outer cargo pockets @ waist with flaps/sealed seams/zippered front with Velcro strap

Pants: Black with elastic @ waist/zippers & elastic on legs

Bought as a spare, may not have even been worn. Forgot it at home on a rainy day ride home from Mtn. View

Contact Jay Whyte for fitting or viewing

831-247-0215

jayaldenwhyte@comcast.net

SATURDAY'S, WHEN A RIDE OR CLUB EVENT IS NOT PLANNED, THE CLUB MEETS FOR BREAKFAST at 9:00am – please see web site for current location.

Down the road..... 2008

- April 19** **Red Davis leads a ride up North – Santa Rosa (see inside)**
April 27 **Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show at the Half Moon Bay Airport –
Vintage Motorcycles, Aircraft, Tanks, Fire trucks and more.
Admission: \$20 www.miramarevents.com**
- May** **Mike Clark is cooking up a ride that will involve Mount Hamilton**
May 3 **Legend of the Motorcycle – Concours d'Elegance at the Ritz-Carlton
hotel at Half Moon Bay**
- June** **Chuck and Denny plan at ride that takes the club up the North Coast**
July **Club BBQ anyone?**
- August** **Carmel Valley – need a ride leader**
- September** **Jay Whyte leads the club on a ride to the Woolgrowers Restaurant –
in Los Banos**
- October** **San Juan Bautista -- we need a ride leader**
- November** **Annual Motorcycle Show at the San Mateo Expo Center**
- December** **Club Holiday Party – Location ???**

MONTEREY BAY BMW RIDERS
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check out our web site:
<http://www.mbr.org>