

THE MONTEREY BAY WATCH



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Newsletter Editor: Dale Whyte Social Coordinator: Denny Adkins
Club Postmaster: Jay Whyte web site: www.mbr.org

Submissions for the newsletter are due to the editor by the 15th of each month.



President's Message

You can't tell me we aren't living in the best time to be a motorcycle rider. Well, maybe you can try; I love hearing your great stories of the "old days".

So here's how I see it. We have such a huge selection of bikes to choose from today. Every genre you can think of has a bike made for that purpose. Many manufacturers around the world are making and importing bikes for every need you may have. Pick your favorite. Be it street riding, custom cruisers, dual sport or off road riding and racing. Have you seen the vintage and retro models to choose from? Not to mention all the standard bikes that "do it all" fairly well. "I can't decide!"

How about the racing bikes for the street! Really! And I don't mean a standard bike that's been stripped down for racing in your garage, I mean bikes built by the major manufacturers for the road race track or the single track and at the same time street legal for your favorite back road.

You can go touring to far off places on a two wheeled Cadillac pulling a trailer or adventure riding around the world on a bike designed for that. Adventure bikes allow you to keep going when the pavement ends.

And after all that, you can ride the same bike to a far off Rally or to a local café to meet your friends and then ride it to work on Monday.

Did I mention side cars and three wheelers? **OMG**, I'll never have to put my feet down again. "I think my head is going to explode!"

The Monterey Bay BMW Riders meet Saturdays at 9am (when a ride is not scheduled) for breakfast and conversation. See website for current location.

I haven't even mentioned the plethora of bolt on accessories you can add to make you comfortable while doing it. Have you see the navigation devices out there? GPS anyone? Your wallet may be the only limiting factor in this category.

There is so much motorcycling specific clothing to choose from too. "This is not your fathers' leather jacket". Full racing leathers are available and reasonably priced and high tech textile garments with ventilation for riding on hot days. Can you say heated electric clothing?

I have some of those high tech garments myself. Matter of fact, I sometimes can't decide what combination to wear, "Hmm,... is it going to be hot or cold out there today? I don't know!" But I digress.

There are groups and clubs available all over the place too. You can join a group on line and meet up. And you don't even have to get a tattoo to ride with some of them. There is rider training available out there; some of it is free or at low cost. Google Doc Wong on your computer. It's all there if you just go and get it.

Now you may say to me "this is not new, it's been around for a long time now."
All I can say to you is "I don't want a pickle; I just want to ride my motor-sickle."

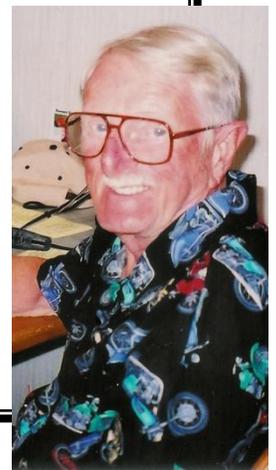
Remember to always keep the rubber side down and the shinny side up.
Jay W

Lee Stillman Memorial SERVICE

Saturday, June 13th 11am

Santa Cruz Seventh-day Adventist Church
1024 Cayuga St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
831-429-1442

Lee was a charter member of the Monterey Bay BMW Riders Club. He passed away late last year. His daughter has organized this memorial service for family and friends in the Santa Cruz/Northern California area to attend.



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MOA Anonymous to the Rescue!

Ron Aikins

Sunday of the first weekend of May I was out taking my morning constitutional when my cell phone rang. I didn't recognize the number on the display but at least it didn't read "Restricted" so I answered. The caller had found my number in the BMW MOA Anonymous book and was calling from a nearby service station. He and his wife were from Tucson, Arizona, on their 80's-vintage K75S and had spent the night in Pacific Grove near Asilomar. Unfortunately he feared he was either losing a great deal of oil or "cooking" it in an overheated engine, so he was looking for a place where he might at least better assess the situation. I gave him directions to our house and they showed up in a few minutes.

The first thing I found out was that these folks were not afraid of putting significant miles behind them on a weekend ride. Robert and Jamie had ridden 800 miles their first day out and their only complaint was that the wind had really beaten them up. I don't know the details of the rest of their itinerary, but they had begun this particular Sunday morning with the intention of riding down Highway 1 all the way to San Luis Obispo and thence all the way home to Tucson that night!

To get a clearer picture of his oil situation, Robert drained the crankcase. The color of the oil was definitely unusual and supported his suspicion that antifreeze was finding its way into the crankcase. This did not bode well for their return to Tucson that night. Having only my limited diagnostic skills besides his own, we determined that a likely cause was a head gasket failure. This was not something which could be fixed the same day in my garage, and of course the closest shops which might help are closed Sundays and Mondays.

Fortunately Jamie's aunt lives in Dublin and her husband has a truck capable of hauling the bike back to their place so that Robert and Jamie could rest and decide what to do from there. So about three hours later Robert, Jamie's uncle, and I rolled the bike up the ramp and onto the bed of the truck. Not long after, Donna and I watched the sad sight of a crippled Beemer being carted away in a Harley-badged pickup.

But that's not the end of the story...

Although they hadn't mentioned it, the day before calling me Robert and Jamie had looked at, and considered buying, a 4-wheeled BMW product in from a party in Carmel. It was a 540it Touring model which, from my brief Web search, appears to be a station wagon-like model. And what does that have to do with the story?

Robert spent considerable time on the Web trying to diagnose his K75 problem and found it was more likely to be a problem with the seals around the water pump than the head gasket. However, not entirely certain, and still unavailed of professional assistance for a matter of days, his real desire was to get the bike and themselves *home* for further work. But, how to get it there?

The solution he finally chose was simple: they came back down to Carmel the next day, bought the 540it and returned to Dublin, dismantled the K75S far enough that it fit into the back of the wagon, and started driving home midnight Sunday. That's right – the same day! Fatigue finally caused him to stop about 6 AM in San Bernardino but I assume they made it the rest of the way to Tucson sometime Monday.

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for breakfast and conversation. See website for current location.**

June Club Ride



Ride Leader: Chuck Adkins

Destination: Half Moon Bay

Additional information will be posted soon on the club email list or give Chuck a call or email (cdtrucking@aol.com or 831-464-1061)

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..... 2010

- June 26 Chuck Adkins leads the club in a northerly direction – see inside for details
- June 27 Bikes on the Bay – 9am-4pm – Capitola Mall, 41st Avenue, Capitola (www.bikesonthebay.com)
- July 15-18 BMW MOA International Rally – Redmond, Oregon -- practically in our backyard!
- Dec. 4 Club Holiday Party at the Hurst club house.

MONTEREY BAY BMW RIDERS
629 Main Street, P.M.B. 385
Watsonville, CA 95076

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check out our web site:
<http://www.mbb.org>