



THE MONTEREY BAY WATCH

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MOA CHARTER #217 BMW RA #3

SEPTEMBER 2013

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The Monterey Bay BMW Riders
meet Saturdays at 9AM
at the Red Apple Café
in Watsonville
for breakfast & conversation.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that Labor Day weekend is over and school is back in session I hear people talking about how the summer is over. Actually I heard people at work complaining about summer being over about mid-July. I found this funny because summer was still going strong. I know that Labor Day is considered the unofficial end of summer, but it's not really over until September 21st and the vernal equinox, then autumn begins. It's not over until Vern says it's over! Let's face it, fall and winter still have many good riding days.



JAY WHYTE

I guess I have to concede the summer is over and the fall season is upon us. Actually I'm kind of glad this summer is over. After my episode of bumper tag with a car on Memorial Day weekend, the unofficial start of summer, the phrase "Holiday weekend" has had a different connotation for me.

I think autumn is a great time to ride here on the central coast. Just plan for the cooler mornings and shorter days. There is a whole slew of things to look forward to. The tourists have gone home and the weekend traffic is back to a more regular pattern.

If you like to plan ahead you should

know that the Halloween store is open in the Capitola Mall and K-Mart is advertising the lay-a-way plan. Is it time to plan your costume and make up your Christmas shopping list?

In September the new TV season starts. In October we've got the International Motorcycle Show, the SLO vintage motorcycle show and my wife Dale's birthday. In November is the Marine Corps Birthday, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and my birthday. And of course in December is Christmas and New Year's Day holidays. I usually have a week off between Christmas and New Year's.

Don't forget fall and winter is dirt bike riding season. Hollister Hills anyone?

We've got club officers elections and the holiday party to plan. Any suggestions? I want to hear from you. See? There is a lot of things to look forward to.

FYI: After New Year's Day, January 1st starts the tax season. Bummer.

Ride, Eat & Repeat!
Jay Whyte



Neil, Ken, & Jim enjoy the races at Miller Motorsports



Body of missing handicapped man found in 4 states (Jim Martin takes it easy at Four Corners during his recent summertime desert tour)



Neil admires a speed specimen

We understand the interests and expectations of the BMW enthusiast.

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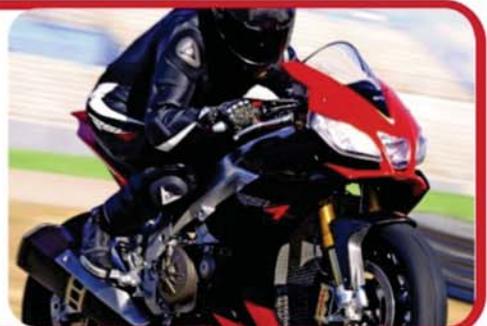
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Dark Night Rising

Part 2



ROGER VANDEVERT

On 9/11/2012, the 12th anniversary of the attack on our Twin Towers along with that day's embassy bombing in Benghazi. Something sinister about those dates and the commemoration of them, paralleling the beginning of a dark personal attack by another governmental agency. Five months after 9/11/2012 had passed and since the Del Rey Oaks police chief had come to my workplace to look at my 2011 BMW RTP 1200. There had been no response to a letter of invitation to discuss the incident in which he formerly ranted and appeared angry about. An open letter and hand delivered with contact details including my intention to replace the LED lights had brought no response from Langford or the City of Del Rey Oaks. No response, no big deal, the incident had vanished from the Del Rey Oaks Police Department's memory as well as mine. As I was preparing to go into a meeting at my office, the Assistant General Manager needed to speak to me in the conference room. I was led down the corridor into a room and found awaiting me policemen, officiated by the Chief Himself, Ron Langford. The mood was anxious and yet confusing as they were about to arrest me and take me to jail. I had received no citation, no warning, no date to appear, no warrant and no indication that I had done anything wrong. I was told they had a warrant to arrest me for impersonating an officer. I asked if this was a joke and the answer was no while being approached with handcuffs, Miranda Rights read then marched out to a waiting squad car in front of horrified co-workers. My reputation was ruined, my dignity relinquished. What was happening?

I'd seen enough TV to know that you don't resist and

so they raced me off to the tiny police headquarters on Canyon Del Rey Blvd. I was grilled about what I was doing that day (returning from lunch), whom I knew, where did I buy the bike and an endless barrage of silly questions. When the sergeant was satisfied I was indeed a hardened criminal they returned the handcuffs to my now red wrists and two uniformed cops sped me off to the Monterey County Jail in Salinas. I was booked and placed in a tiny, solitary and concrete cell. It had a stainless steel toilet, similar sink and a very bright overhead light. I was dazed for hours and wondering what the hell just happened here. I was familiar with Paul and Silas who once found themselves in jail, singing praises to God until midnight but I had hoped I was out by then. A guard informed me that nothing happens quickly in jail and so don't get my hopes up. I didn't sing songs, but my prayers were answered just before midnight.

My son had found a bondsman who put up \$15,000 for my release. I was discharged into the night out a side door with no instructions as to where I was. I simply walked until I saw something vaguely familiar. My son found me wandering in a parking lot and drove me back to Monterey but not before being pulled over by... you guessed it, the Del Rey Oaks Police! This was a nightmare that wouldn't go away. Seems he thought Nick was speeding but after an explanation the cop let us go.

I knew I had to secure an attorney and take this Flaky Cop to court. Months of sleepless nights, worry and money I did not have finally got me a court date, followed by months of cancellations, hearings, a pre-trial hearing and then an actual trial which lasted FIVE days!

Langford had gathered firemen, policemen, off-duty cops and of course himself, the prosecuting

Continuation

witness. He had statements which appeared coerced and photos of the crime scene taken AFTER I had passed by it. He mocked up photos showing blocked entrances, cones, placed fire and police equipment in ways to show a jury I had "entered a fire scene." Most of the statements given by his witnesses showed some memory losses and appeared to be weak.

The district attorney had to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that I had intentionally and fraudulently impersonated a police officer by riding my BMW next to an accident scene. The judge and jury disagreed. The verdict handed down was "not guilty." Later, a juror disclosed that they kept listening and waiting for who was hurt, who was pulled over, and just why were we here?

All this effort and taxpayer money spent, wasted on one bully cop's vendetta. Why? Only speculation

will answer that. In my opinion, Chief Langford showed poor judgment and bad character by even pursuing this at all, let alone with such vengeance.

While we like to believe that cops are for our benefit, that sadly is not always the case. Bully personality disorders, incompetence and something to prove to the world plague every profession. Big Government or Little Government are not excluded.

My verdict was not guilty yet I still suffer punishment by the process. The system left me to prove innocence. Punished emotionally and fiscally, left with a \$12,000 lawyer bill which continues to haunt me.

A motorcycle from a film, purchased only to provide pleasure, ultimately turned into a Dark Night Rising with Batman nowhere in sight.



*What a haul!
Good thing Monroe Bonfoey brought a second car to transport
all the riding equipment donations for the Nicaraguans*

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Oct 19 - Leader: Dick Dodd
Destination: TBA

Nov 16 - Leader: James Kmetovic
Destination: TBA

Dec 7- (Tentative)
Christmas Party

Jan 2014 - Leader: Ron Aikins
Destination: TBA

Late-breaking news...Dick Dodd will lead the Umpteenth Ride to The Apple Farm in SLO. Saturday, October 19.
Ride departs from the Shell station in Salinas, corner of Blanco and North Main at 9:00am.

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

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