



ESTABLISHED 1992

## 2012 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Jay Whyte  
Vice President: Neil Talbert  
Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Farmer  
Newsletter Editor: Ron Aikins  
Webmaster: Mike Clark  
Social Coordinator: Denny Adkins  
Pillion Princess Emeritus:  
Dale Whyte

## 2013 Directors:

James Kmetovic  
Chuck Adkins  
Haran Talbert  
Ron Aikins

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

I think legislative assaults on motorcyclists are totally emotional, disproportionate and totally unfair... They are instigated and implemented by people who know nothing about motorcycling, but have a prejudice. It's easy to curb the freedoms of others when you see no immediate impact on your own.

Malcolm Forbes (1919-1990)

Ride to Eat, Eat to Ride



# THE MONTEREY BAY WATCH

WWW.MBBR.ORG

MOA CHARTER #217 BMW RA #3

DECEMBER 2013

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year and Happy Holidays!

We have entered the winter season here on the central coast of California. I mention it because you might not have noticed it due to the fine warm weather we have been having. It's great street motorcycle riding weather, don't you agree?



JAY WHYTE

I like to take some time at the end of the year to reflect on the past and generally take it all in. My employer is helping me out this year by providing, insisting actually, by shutting down the plant for two weeks. This plan gives me some time to reflect on the past year's events and contemplate the future. I think I will make like one of Santa's elves between the holidays and get busy in my workshop. I have a long To Do List to complete. It's all the things I have neglected because I was busy out riding.

The club had a pretty good year, such as it was. We survived another year, and that's always a good thing. A couple of members had crashes; I was one of them. I think we both are fine. We have some dedicated individuals working behind the scenes keeping things going like the website and

newsletter. Thank you Mike, Ron and Donna, and all the others who have chipped in. Sorry I can't remember everyone

We had some rides, maybe not well attended, but rides none the less.

We had a Christmas party this year. I wasn't sure was going to happen, whew. Thank you, Dale, for stepping up and making it happen. This is a very important social event for many people in the club. I am thankful for what we have and don't lament what we miss.

Now to contemplate what the future of the club. Hmm, what does the future hold? This is another opportunity to plan a new year. Officer elections are on the horizon. This is a good time to step up and be counted. Many hands make light work. I like to say everything is negotiable and you get out what you put in. You decide. I'm hoping that this is as important to others as it has been to me and are willing to step up and carry on. A new board of directors is primed to do this. This is your time to shine.

See you on the road.

Ride, Eat & Repeat!  
Jay Whyte

RIDE TO EAT, EAT TO RIDE



*Happy times at the club Christmas party*



*More smiling faces...*



## Thoughts from the Nursing Home

### *The Herd Instinct*



JIM MARTIN

A flock of seagulls, a gang of thugs, a herd of cattle, a plague of lawyers... these are expressions we use to describe a group of similar organisms. Many animals, including our own species, seem to prefer associating with others like themselves. During the pleistocene, when I was in school (a school of smelt...), I learned that prey animals did this to confuse their predators. A simple-minded lion, when confronted with an entire landscape of stripes instead of just one, juicy zebra, just walks away with a dull headache, having lost his appetite (for about four minutes). "Ah, what's that I smell? Elephant? Oh well, maybe I'll find some shade and take a nap." If lions could only talk.

Cagers, too, exhibit the classic characteristics of prey animals. They often negotiate dangerous landscapes (the freeways) in herds of various sizes, i.e., a "jam" of traffic, they all look alike in their silver or white SUV's, they bunch up when they see a predator ("Chippy at two o'clock, now everybody slam on your brakes!"). There are times when I, the noble, individualistic motorcyclist that I am, feel like the young impala, lost among wildebeest, looking for his mother.

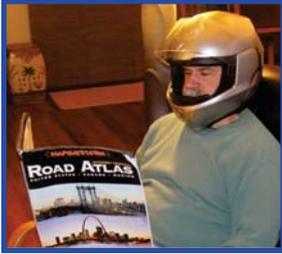
"I could probably see her if all these gnu (gnus? news?) would just get out of the way," I'd say. That's the downside, you see, of being in a herd. It spoils the view, unless, of course, you are leading the herd. But then you would be the first one the cheetah sees. Maybe that's why only the biggest, baddest wildebeest is always the leader. In SUV terms, that

would be the pearl white Escalade with the Mitt Romney sticker on the rear bumper. If you think I'm kidding, well, okay I am, but when was the last time you saw one of those pulled over to the side of the road?

To continue (or belabor) the analogy, look at many of our fellow riders. You know, the ones who refuse to ride anything but "AMERICAN V-twins." They, too, like to ride in large groups (just stay off the twisty mountain roads, please!), strive desperately to achieve a uniformity of appearance, i.e., black leather vest with a skull on the back and no protective gear (better for the rest of the public to view their pumped-up arms), minimum (or no, depending on what state they're in) helmet, acres and acres of chrome plating and candy paint and, naturally, that inimitable sound that carries over the distance spanning three counties... When I talk to some of these guys (the ones who will talk to me), they frequently express that these trappings are ways to express their "individuality." Trying to stifle a chuckle, I have to agree. At least they don't look too much like the cager crowd (at least until they go home, change their clothes, hop into their SUV's with their families and head out for Disneyland).

My point is (if there has to be one), just relax and be yourself. Don't be afraid to express what that is. If you feel more secure being part of a crowd, no problem, just don't take it too seriously. It's not a mortal sin to wear a yellow Aerostich and a full-face helmet when you ride your Dynaglide. So what if the Hell's Angels wannabes don't wave back. Just don't pull up to a real biker bar dressed like that...

## Editor's Note



RON AIKINS

### Beemer Breakdown

What? One of our longest of long-distance riders put out of commission by a (egad!) mechanical breakdown? Oh, chagrin!

The unstoppable (well, usually) Dick Dodd, a.k.a. Ricardo Dodriguez, recently spent a frustrating couple of hours out on Bitterwater Road near King City after his RT just up and quit. Communication problems of various sorts got in the way, but he did finally get a tow back to KC. As the bill for towing his bike back to his home in Salinas would have been several hundred dollars, it was good that he had been riding with Jim Martin. Fortunately Jim happened to be out on a day pass from the nursing home. He generously rode back to his home in Salinas and returned with a trailer to get Dick and the RT back home.

So that's two trailer rides, and a third one, thanks to the efforts of Neil Talbert and Jay Whyte, along with Jay's trailer, transported the bike to Ted Porter's in Scotts Valley. It's now back in Dick's garage after having its burned out exhaust valve repaired.

### Wanted: New Newsletter Editor

I will be giving up my post as newsletter editor after this year. My last issue will be next month's, January, 2014. We will soon have one of our annual meetings for such things as selection of club officers for the coming year. Perhaps it is time for a discussion about the newsletter, whether there is enough interest to keep it going. For anyone who thinks so, please consider stepping up and taking on the editor's job for a while. Otherwise, we may need to consider other methods of general club communication. An online forum is one idea, if we need to supplement the club mailing list. (A low-tech approach might be Post-it notes on the restroom walls of the Red Apple.)

If you believe strongly that the newsletter should continue, step up and help make it happen.

### Bring in the Indians. Don't bother, they're here.

It happens occasionally. People meet for breakfast at the Red Apple and a motorcycle ride breaks out. The last Saturday of this year, a few of us decided to ride to the Hollister Powersports shop to ogle some of the new offerings. There were plenty of new bikes to look at, straddle, and talk about. The shop carries the latest reincarnation of the Indian marque, and I must admit some of the models are quite handsome with their valanced fenders and gleaming, 111-cubic inch V-twin engines. The latest in Victory models were there as well, not to mention plenty of Hondas and Kawasakis.

I can look at motorcycles just so long before I develop an overwhelming urge to actually ride one. I checked whether anyone else cared to ride down Hwy. 25 for a bit but got no takers. They were interested, however, in riding another mile or so to another shop -- Corbin's. So, I putted off alone enjoying the sunshine as far south as Cienega Road on my way back to San Juan Bautista and finally home.



RT on Way to Hospital

We understand the interests and expectations of the BMW enthusiast.

Ride By Soon!



**K1600 GTL**  
Demo Rides available



Follow SJBmw on facebook!

**GREAT SELECTION**

Call Today to arrange your test ride

**We Offer Consignment Sale Service & Buy BMW's**

**W**'ed like to invite you to visit our friendly and professional shop sometime soon. Times are changing, bikes have changed, and today's enthusiast needs a trusted resource more than ever - and we appreciate the patronage of our local customers. We are happy to say our passion for motorcycles and motorcyclists remains strong and our efficient operation and excellent customer service has been good for business. Stop in soon and see. Please think of us for all of your BMW needs and interests - sales, service, parts and genuine BMW Riding Gear.

**San Jose BMW**  
The Bay Area BMW Enthusiast's Choice

See Us for :

- Routine Service
- Warranty Work
- Repairs
- Accessories
- Tires

*Great Service & Fair Prices ...always!*



**Get Your Gear Here!**  
BMW Riding Apparel  
Schuberth Charter Dealer  
Sidi Boots In Stock!



SPORT TOURING **SIDI** SUPER SPORT ADVENTURE



**San Jose BMW**

1886 West San Carlos St.  
San Jose, CA 95128

**408 295.0205**  
[www.sjbmw.com](http://www.sjbmw.com)

**San Jose BMW**

Authorized Dealer



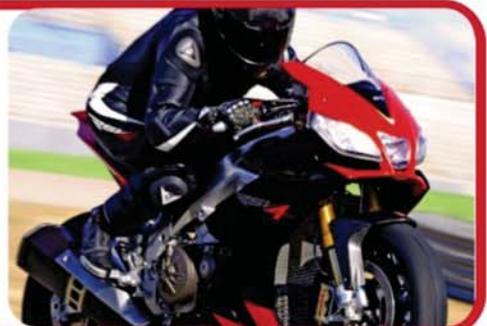
**San Jose**  
*motosport*

**aprilia**

Factory Authorized SALES • SERVICE • PARTS

**Get It ON!**

**1886 West San Carlos SAN JOSE**  
**408 295.0205 [www.sanjoseaprilia.com](http://www.sanjoseaprilia.com)**



# CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Jan 18, 2014 - Leader: Ron Aikins  
Destination: Duarte's Tavern, Pescadero  
Depart: 10AM, Red Apple Cafe



*What's wrong with this picture?*

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

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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