

BMWOCM NEWSLETTER



Volume 25, Issue 2

EDITOR'S NOTES

I attended my first BMWOCM meeting in October of 1995. Seems like a long time ago, though for some of you members I'm still a newcomer. For me, one pillar of our club was always Ray Nielsen. Long time club secretary (and other offices, I'm sure), activities coordinator and a Honda rider, Ray has the proper attitude, I've always thought. Doesn't matter what you ride, we're all doing what we love, just being motorcyclists. I've followed Ray to Grand Rapids, MN, for a fantastic Snowflake Run, and also to Pecatonica, IL, for the swap meet. He graciously offered his garage, time and expertise to set up the ScottOiler on my Triumph. Before this starts to sound any more like an obituary, let me point out that Ray ain't dead, but has simply decided not to continue his membership. And that makes me sad. He continues with his Saturday morning breakfast get-togethers, and many of us still see him regularly. Still, the club just isn't the same without him. Tell Ray we miss him.

I seem to recall doing some riding about this time last year. This year, the urge is intensified, as I've got a new bike! Well, a used Honda anyway. Bob (the Agitator) Cox sold me an '85 XL350R, a clean dual-sport that will free me from foolish attempts at riding that monstrous Tiger off road. Boy, does a 350cc single feel light after that thing! Can you say hill climbing? My mom owns a 40 acre gravel pit in southwestern MN, which is where I'm headed this summer to do some riding where falling off doesn't hurt as much, and my ten year old boy can start to ride as well. I'm even thinking of a bigger fuel tank, and then riding this thing to the Black Hills alongside the missus on her own '85 Honda CB450. It might take us two days to get there, but slowing down is looking good right now. (Must be the weather...)

Next club meeting is March 8th, 7:30 p.m. at Motor Oil Café!

March, 2001

President's Column

Well, it's only been a month or so as your new president, and I have learned a few new things about the BMW Club. Probably the most important is the incredible group of people making up this club. I walked into this position with some dread (yes, I realize it's premature to have that dread take a back seat) and was incredibly relieved to find that we have an extremely competent Board that you have elected to take care of the Club's business. Everyone really cares about the Club's well-being, and this has come through loud and clear in both our Board Meetings as well as the Club Meetings thus far.

We have Nate Birkholz working hard on firming up the Money Creek Rally (June 1 - 3) for us, and we are in need of volunteers, and some two-way radios. If you have any or know where we can borrow some from, please let myself (m.gilbert@ssm.pvt.k12.mn.us) or Nate know. Feel free to ambush him at the next meeting (or any other time) and let him know if you'd like to be involved in any way at the Rally (birkholz@visi.com). It's a

tremendous responsibility for the organizers, and with all of our help, it might even be an enjoyable experience for Nate! Let's hear it for the Generation X'er pickin' up the slack!!

Michelle Moe has stepped up to the plate in a big way and has volunteered on many levels above and beyond the call of duty. She is arranging a kid-care for the rally, and is getting all sorts of lists set up for us so we can be updated on how to contact each other for rides, etc. She can be contacted at sandmmoe@webtv.net. She is also forming a group to plan a "rides" calendar for the upcoming riding season - and we've instituted a plan so that every board member will host a ride. (If anyone would like to take over my particular responsibility on that one, well, you can just feel very free...) Our first planning meeting will take place after the next Board Meeting on Thurs., March 1 at 7:30 at Motor Oil.

Steffan Fay has turned out to be an extremely valuable resource for the Club - and in fact, if he doesn't show up at the next Club meeting, I'm afraid we won't have anything to talk about (kidding)! Not to say these things haven't been in place all along - these wonderful resources and people willing to volunteer their time and energies; it's just that this is my first real opportunity to see everyone step up and take action. It's a great feeling knowing you're surrounded by competent individuals who are willing to jump in and take some responsibility if needed. (I'd like to be able to say that about my PAID position!) We are lucky, folks, that we have such a dedicated group of riders who are enthusiastic about this club. My thanks go out to past presidents Dale Peterson and Bob Cox, and of course Karol Patzer, for all their help and advice (and prodding) along the way. We all need each other to make this club the best it can be.

Feel guilty yet? Volunteer!!

We have the Aerostich Bus Trip to Duluth coming up soon: Sat., March 24th the bus leaves at 8:30 sharp from Motor Oil. We'll be bringing volunteer signup sheets for the Hiawatha Rally then, so get your pens out! In short, you have motivated me to be the best communicator I can be, and to encourage and create further channels of communication. I pledge to glad-hand and spread info. as best I can, so let's keep it coming, and by all means, let's spread the word about our meetings! The more members, the merrier!

Molly Gilbert, President

Secretary's Minutes

The BMWMOCM meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by our new president, Molly Gilbert. The meeting began with a Pretenders' song and then the new board members were introduced. Welcome all new and prospective members: Adam Taylor, Brooklyn Park 1987 K100RS; Gary Thom, '75 R90S and a '72 R65/5; John Deininger, R1200C; Tom Lupica, '85 K100RT and soon to acquire a '73 R60/5; Tom Compo, Brooklyn Center, an '82 R65LS (Molly will trade with you). Tom was a Hiawatha Co-Chair from the 6th and 7th annual (welcome back!); Jim, an '82 R100RS and a continuous member since 1977 (!); and Jeff Feldmeier had a '78 R100/7 and is looking for a K-triple or an Airhead.

The treasurer's report found the rally fund at \$4,034.12 and our operating fund at 852.88. Thanks, Jeff Oden. Our Winter Banquet had 80 people in attendance, and the cake and hors d'oeuvres were contributed by the club. Thank you Karol and Jerry for all the hard work - it was very enjoyable.

At the swap table Bob Cox (what a surprise) has an '84 R80ST for sale with 19K miles, asking \$3,495. It's "the best handling Airhead" and "the cleanest bike Bob has ever tried to sell." Dave Porter has a new K75S windshield (stock) for sale, so clean Bob could have owned it. Tom Compo is looking for a tank bag. Jerry Dubrall brought in some old MOA mags (free) and old catalogs. Adam Taylor is looking for an owner's manual for his '87 K100RS.

At the last board meeting it was decided to keep an updated roster, available to members, so that they can contact one another. Please check the roster to make sure all of your information is current. If you do not wish to be included, please indicate this on the new roster. There is a plea for renewal of membership - there are 40-50 people who need to renew. Welcome packets, including a current newsletter, application and welcome letter from the president will be sent to all prospective members. Dale Peterson has agreed to take on this task. The March 1st board meeting will be the first annual ride planning meeting. All members are encouraged to pick a date and a meeting place to host a ride for club members. The list will be made available to all members, and we will also reinstate the "Meet to Eat" rides once a week. Just pick a favorite restaurant and a date and people will show up. This is a wonderful way to meet people, says Dale Peterson. Sheldon Moe will put reach week's destination on the club hotline.

The Rally at Money Creek is fast approaching. Contracts with Bud at Money Creek Haven have been taken care of, the band City Mouse is expected to play again, and Dave Porter has agreed to be the Master of Ceremonies. There will be a women's ride, kiddie games and all of the usual fanfare. Volunteers are encouraged

to sign up for a shift.

A trip to the Aerostich factory has been organized. Same as last year, a bus wo;; take everyone, and places fill up fast so get your money in. The date is March 24th, departing at 8:30 a.m., with a stop for eats each way, with 2-3 hours at Aerostich. Departure is from Motor Oil Café, the cost is \$20, and remember – 10% discount on all purchases when there.

New from other clubs : the Norton Owner's Club meets every first Thursday at Dulono's at Lyndale and Lake Streets, for all bike enthusiasts. The Two-Stroke Owner's Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Triple Rock Club, Cedar Ave at I-94. [See inside for info about the Rolling Thunder ride as well.]

The Motorcycle Show, according to Adam Taylor, was very cool. The Roadster is now cheaper and the R1100RS is in limited production. Nate talked with a Yamaha rep who says the FJR1300 will be coming to the US.

You can now download current and previous newsletters. Postage is one of our biggest expenses so if you choose to download only you can save us some money. At our web site the password is BOXER (non-cap sensitive). Bart reminded us that the newsletter deadline is the 21st of the month, and offered his job to anyone willing to take over.

Motor Oil Café personnel were introduced, Rick, Mark and Zach – thank you for everything. Tom Roe has volunteered to coordinate the mileage contest this year – thanks, Tom. A new category was added last year, closest to goal, which will be continued. Mileage is accumulated through the riding season on BMW motorcycles. Kevin Kocur proposed a MN State Parks contest similar to the Team Strange "I've Been Everywhere" contest of last year.

A Rally planning meeting will be held on March 15th at 8 p.m. at Motor Oil – please join us. If you are going to the National Rally (July 19-22) and do not wish to ride that far, you can load your bike on the train in Chicago and go from there. More info available on the BMWMOA web site. The BMWRA Rally will be September 20-23 in Morganton, NC. The Internet BMW Riders gathering is April 15th in Branson, MO.

Michelle Moe, Secretary

RALLY REPORT

As of February 20th, the Hiawatha Rally is coming along swimmingly! We will once again be at Money Creek Haven, of course, and Leo's South has once again graciously offered to provide demo rides for us to get our greedy hands on! City Mouse will be the band once more, and things are shaping up to be a grand old time.

Dave Porter has agreed to be the master of ceremonies at Saturday's awards, so we know everyone will laugh till the beer comes out their noses. Darrell Penning has agreed to be head of security for the rally, and I'm sure he'd appreciate a little assistance making sure things don't get out of hand. Speaking of getting out of hand, club secretary Michelle Moe and her assistant Mallory are going to be in charge of the kids' activities this year, but Michelle sure could use a hand; anyone who likes to work with kids would be welcome, even if it's only a suggestion for some activities to keep the kids entertained.

Bob Cox and his lovely assistant Mike Lipke will be leading a dual-sport ride through the surrounding area, and we will once again have the ever-popular Poker run. We also are working on other rides to show off the natural beauty of Minnesota and the man-made beauty of twisty roads!

While we have a bunch of stuff in hand, we could really use help with some more chairpersons! We need someone to run the field events, someone to head up the coffee committee (involving lots of wrestling matches to get folks to work the coffee machine), a Door Prizes leader, and, of course, we'll need plenty of volunteers to work the registration table!

Please give me a call at 612.825.0612 to volunteer. I can't believe it's already February, so June ain't far off!

Nate Birkholz, Rally Co-Chair

OTHER RALLIES

In addition to our upcoming rally, there are going to be lots of fun rallies starting in April! If you are going to a rally, let me know and I'll get you a flier to post at other rallies announcing our upcoming shindig!

IOWA RALLY - Thursday through Sunday, 7-10 June, pre-registration is \$27 & \$30 at the gate. Rally fee includes hog roast on Thursday, chili feed on Friday and steak dinner on Saturday; "traditional Iowa Rally beverages" 24 hrs. a day; field events, bands on Friday and Saturday nights; Award Ceremony Saturday - and

more to come. The Iowa folks are good neighbors and they put on one heck of a rally, so be sure to join them!

Club Rides

We all ride, we all know of places we like to ride to. Why not share? Your opportunity will start at the march 1st board meeting (or at the March 8th general meeting if you can't make that). You need not be a board member to plan a ride – you do not even have to be particularly organized yet. Pick a date and a meeting place for now – it's that easy! Then begin the planning. Not sure what to do? Ask a friend. Maybe a full ride is not what you are comfortable leading. We all eat, we all know of places we like to eat, so let's share them. A "Meet to Eat" is a very easy way to start. Let's make this a fun riding season with many opportunities to get together – that's what we're all about. If you cannot make either meeting, call Michelle Moe at 763.323.4932 and get your name on the calendar. Happy planning!

Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom XIV

I was asked to promote the annual Ride for Freedom, honoring our POW-MIA's. The event takes place Memorial Day Weekend in Washington, D.C. (May 27th), with a ride at noon through Washington to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, to pay respects to our brothers and sisters, and for the full accounting of all POW-MIA's. There will be speeches and music at the Reflecting Pool as well. Last year, over 250,000 bikes and hundreds of thousands of people attended. All veterans organizations and citizens are welcome. If you don't ride be at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at noon. Everyone must wear a helmet ("no attitudes") and no alcoholic beverages allowed in the North Pentagon parking lot.

Also, the MMRA Vets Charity Ride is Sunday, June 10, meeting at the Elk River VFW on Hwy 101 between 169 and I-94. The ride starts at noon sharp, please bring your flags.



Trip to Aerostich Factory

Blow away the late winter blues with the ever popular bus trip to the Aerostich Factory in Duluth!

When: **Saturday, March 24, 2001**
Time: **8:30 AM sharp Leave Minneapolis**

5:30 PM approx. Arrive back

What: **We will spend a couple hours at the factory. There will be opportunities to tour the facility and see the famed motorcycle clothing being made. Anyone ordering in person at the factory receives a 10% discount.**

Meeting Place: **Motor Oil Cafe - next door to Trackstar Motorsports. 32nd and Snelling - just east of Hiawatha Ave, South Minneapolis.**

Cost: **\$20.00 Includes return travel by bus and lunch at the factory.**

Member Name(s): _____

Total \$ enclosed: _____

**Please mail check and form to: Steffan Fay, 9528 Yorkshire Lane, Eden Prairie, MN 55347
Any questions: Call Steffan @ 612-597-5320 or email sfay@odbs.com**

SPACE LIMITED. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: March 10, 2001.
ACT EARLY IF YOU WANT TO GO. THIS TRIP WILL PROBABLY SELL OUT.

NOTE: In order to stay on schedule we must leave promptly at 8:30 AM. No exceptions; no refunds if you are late. We do this to be fair to all involved.

Club Officers	
Molly Gilbert, President	612.721.0045
Kevin Kocur, Vice-president	763.566.0243
Jeff Oden, Treasurer	612.922.8258
Michelle Moe, Secretary	763.323.4932
Larry Stern, Board member	651.223.3743
Bob Ekeberg, Board member	651.690.5968
Mike Donohue, Board Member	651.633.2262
Deb Westberg, Board member	763.754.1614
Dale Peterson, Past President	651.739.4623

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Steffan Fay is our web meister. Please visit our club web site at www.bmwmocm.com to get the latest info on club events. Contact Steffan at sfay@odbs.com.

The **voice line** number is **612-534-7433**. Call the voice line to get up-to-date info about club events.

Deadline for newsletter ads and submissions is the 21st of the month. Really, it is. Contact Bart at blbakker@isd.net or phone 651.645.7796.

Sheldon Moe is our new Activities Coordinator. You can reach him @763.323.4932. Please let Sheldon know about an upcoming events that need to be publicized.

Endurance Rally Update

The rally season is at hand, and here's a little tease for some of you hardcore riders out there. Reliable sources tell me that the 2002 ButtLite III will start/end in Navasota, TX, home of the Live Oak Nudist Resort. For those of you who haven't had the chance to visit there, as I have, Jennifer and Larry are just the greatest (see www.liveoakresort.com) and that's reason enough to cast your lot with Team Strange and be a part of what promises to be another great event. The rally is rumored to be 7 days in length (again), with all of the mandatory checkpoints west of the Mississippi River (yeah!), with our own Moon Motors serving as the first mandatory checkpoint. Check out www.teamstrange.com for more details as they are released (after Daytona).

The Iron Butt Rally runs this year, and as far as I know, Karol Patzer is the only entrant (at present) representing our club. Good luck Karol! This year the IBR is rumored to feature many bonuses north of the border, and there is much discussion about the Alcan Highway, including Prudhoe Bay. (Perhaps it might be a good year to sit this one out after all!)

For those of you new or intrigued by the whole endurance rally experience, I recommend the Minnesota 1000, held June 23-24, as a good place to start. It's a terrific event and one that will become a highlight of your summer, year after year. This event does not require you to ride much more than 1000 miles in 24 hours in order to do well – just ask Sheldon or Kevin, who both received first place trophies in 1999 while riding 300 miles less than foolish me. This year your chances of doing well are even greater, as I'll be off in Utah that weekend running the 1088, trying to give Gary Eagan and the Utah boys a run for their money.

Bart Bakker

Want ads and commercial ad policies:

1. All ads should be sent to Bart Bakker, 740 Curfew Street, St Paul MN 55114-1045 or email to blbakker@isd.net
2. Any member may place a commercial or personal ad of approximately business-card size.
3. Commercial ads will be run each month without renewal (space permitting). Individual ads will be run for 2 issues and then will be deleted if not renewed.
4. If items are sold from your ad, we would appreciate notification. Deadline is the 21st of the month – after that, no guarantees.

For Sale : **1984 R80ST**, 800cc, 19,000 miles very nice,
Asking \$3495. Call Bob Cox @651.489.6467.

Wanted : a **Honda CT70** or similar mini-bike/small motorcycle suitable for a ten year old boy. Prefer something mechanically sound, cosmetics less important. Bart Bakker @651.645.7796 or blbakker@isd.net.

BMW Motorcycle Owner's Club of Minnesota
155 Faye Street
St. Paul, MN 55119