

Riding Matters

MOA Charter #49

RA Charter #26



BMWMOCM announces new "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

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Upcoming Events

August 13 @ 6:00 p.m.

Annual club picnic/meeting in Afton City Park, Afton, MN
Once again the club will be firing up the grills and we'll provide the meat and buns. Please bring a beverage for yourself and a food item to share. Uff da--it's a pot luck!

August 29

BMWMOCM Ride to Grand Marais

See notice on page 6 of the newsletter.

Contact Lewie Marshall for info
mars7101@bitstream.net

Caption Contest

Submit a caption for the bearded ladies in the cover picture.

Share your humor by captioning this rare photo.

1st Place:

Win a chance to appear with them on an episode of "How I Met Your Mother"

2nd Place:

First dance with both at the Winter Banquet.

Deadline for submissions is August 31.

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Membership Coordinator

Don Sidler
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BMWMOA Ambassadors:

Charlie Coons
Karol Patzer

Hiawatha Rally Chairs:

2010 Rally Chairs
Tim Cusick, Jane (Jill) Norman
Nina Boonacker

Mileage Coordinator:

Jack Weidenbach



Leaning
Towards
Joining?

Hey, we won't countersteer you wrong! The BMW Motorcycle Owners Club of Minnesota is a great resource. In the past, we have sponsored Experienced Rider Courses and Track Days at reduced club rates. Frequently, guest speakers at our monthly meetings present in depth information designed to make you a better rider. Best of all are the friendly and knowledgeable people who make up the club. Join us at our monthly meeting or contact one of the people listed above. Membership is only \$20 a year! The BMWMOCM Membership Coordinator is Don Sidler. He can be reached at 612-720-0231 or dsid@comcast.net

MEET YOUR CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

Patrick Corrigan



Born when Harry Truman was president, I quickly found that all things mechanical were interesting to me. Through my youth, I was into bicycle racing and jumping as well as tearing the lawn mower down to see how that motor worked and getting it back together only to be surprised that it would start and indeed run. My first exposure to motorcycles was to the big Indians that my dad rode and the Electra Glides. Not a big turn on. Then came the Sportsters. I loved the lines and the sounds but never was impressed enough to really want one. My first riding experience came when I was about 10, and that was on a neighbor's powered bicycle. What I guess you would call a Moped. Then I rode a buddy's Honda 50. Fun but no real grunt. Because my folks would not allow me having any motorcycle of any kind until I was "old enough", the day I turned 18, I pulled my savings and bought a brand new Kawasaki 250 Samurai. Man that was a screamer. It was a scrambler type so I not only ravaged the streets but attempted to ride off road as well. This is all early spring when the temps still were in the high 20s. I rode that bike through 3 years of college until I partied too hard, lost my student deferment and got drafted and sent to VietNam as a

Medic. I survived, got out of the Army and immediately bought the new 350 Kawasaki screamer, then the 500 triple rocket. These went way too fast for cruising the streets and helped me lose my license for a short time.

Then I got serious. lol. I got married, graduated from Physician Assistant school, and bought more bikes. I really liked off road riding and over the next several years had a 100 Kawasaki moto x bike, a 125 Bultaco Pursang moto xer, and then a Kawasaki 125 Enduro. I raced Moto X, Hare scrambles, and Enduros for several years. Then the girls came and the bikes went. I got into Bass Fishing and tournaments, something I could at least take the family out in the boat with me.

Years passed oh too quickly with high school and college graduations, marriages, and now grandchildren. It was 2000. The year of the new century, and I decided that It had been way too long since I had ridden. I had always kind of liked the BMWs, especially for their quietness and reliability although they never were as fast as my Kawasakis, so I decided to look around in trade magazines and the like and see what was out there. Boom! Right here in Maplewood, a 1982 R 65 Sport that looked, sounded, and ran great. I picked it up in my pickup and brought it home. What is that saying?" tis easier to ask for forgiveness than permission". Definitely true but she got over it and saw how happy I was to be riding again. I joined BMWMOA and rode that thing everywhere. Problem was, I found it to be not enough. Not enough speed, comfort (for these aging bones), and size. I soon found myself at Moon Motors buying a 2 year old R1150RT (my present ride) with only 6K miles and at almost half off new list price. This bike has been wonderful! Since 2004 when I bought this bike, I have ridden to all the MOA international rallies and pretty much daily to work from spring into the deep fall. I joined the Minnesota BMW club about 5 years ago to do more group rides and fellow with other local Beemer riders. I joined the board this year to meet even more people and see what I could add to the club even though I really wasn't elected. I look forward to meeting and riding with more.

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Afton Picnic

When?

August 13th from around 5:30 to sunset

Will I know anyone?

Maybe. Around 40 - 50 people usually attend. If you don't know any of them, rest assured that they are nice enough people. You might even meet a new riding partner.

I don't know how to cook. Will I go hungry?

Someone (usually Don Sidler) will get there early and set up the grills and stoke the charcoal. The club will be providing charcoal, hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, buns, ketchup, mustard, plates, forks and napkins. You are encouraged to bring something to share which compliments those items. The park has a shelter in case of rain, picnic tables and plenty of parking.

Will those guys who like to wear dresses be there?

Probably, but you don't have to talk to them.

Oh no! You don't understand, I think they are so cute! I could just eat them up.

Stick with the hamburgers, brats and hot dogs. You will have less indigestion.

Where is Afton?

Afton is located south of I-94 along the St. Croix River. GPS: N44⁰ 53.951 ' W92⁰ 46.951'

The best way to get to Afton from the north is to take Washington County Rd 21. It runs from Bayport to Afton and has the nice curvy section south of I-94. There isn't an exit for it from I-94, so if a person was coming from the east or west on the freeway, they'd have to get off at the Hwy 95 exit by the river and then come back west on the frontage road (Hudson Road) to Cty 21. I think that Cty 21 is also known as Stagecoach Trail. From the North, it's nice to start off Hwy 36 just before going down the hill into Stillwater.

From the south, County 21 runs up from Hwy 10 near Prescott. That's a nice route as well for someone coming from Hastings or anywhere south of Afton. For people who live in the Lakeville/Apple Valley area, they could take Dakota County 46 all the way to Hastings, then north on Hwy 61 to Hwy 10 east and then over to Washington County 21 to Afton.

From the Woodbury area, I think Bailey road is probably the best route. I suppose someone who takes 494 could take Bailey Road over to Afton. It intersects I-494 right by the river and that's a strange intersection. You have to take the exit for Maxwell Ave. and that becomes Bailey Road. Bailey Road runs right into Afton.

From Minneapolis it's a bit harder, but maybe the Minneapolis Parkways to West and East River Roads and then Warner Road all the way over to Hwy 61 down to Maxwell/Bailey.

AROUND THE AREA - STUFF TO DO

Rider's Workshop

Jim Ford, founder of *The Rider's Workshop*, made an appearance at the April 9 BMWMOCM meeting at Leo's South. He presented information about his Workshops and developing a smooth riding style at our meeting. In the April, 2009 issue of Motorcycle Consumer News, Jim's Rider's Workshop was noted as one of only two "excellent on road programs for experienced riders" available in the U.S. An article about *The Rider's Workshop* experience was also in the June 12, 2009 *New York Times* ©*Automobile* section.

Jim plans to conduct a series of upper Midwest Rider's Workshops in early September, 2009. The location will again be the Wisconsin Coulee country but the routes and roads will be new for this year. That's appropriate, since part of Jim's interest is in encouraging people to find "new" roads that are mainly used only by the local inhabitants. You can learn more about Jim and the Rider's Workshop at: <http://ridersworkshop.com/contact.html>

If you are interested in adding new dimensions to your enjoyment of motorcycling, the Rider's Workshop is a great place to start.

August 29 - BMWMOCM Annual Ride to & Camp-out at Grand Marais, MN

I have reserved a spot for our BMW club at the Grand Marais city campground Saturday night August 29, 2009. The cost for one night camping is \$6.00 payable to Lewie Marshall.

We will be leaving Denny's on Century Av. and Hwy 94 Sat. 9:00 a.m. We'll ride to Duluth for a stop at Aerostich and lunch. After lunch we will continue on to Grand Marais for the night. Dinner at the Angry Trout restaurant. We have enjoyed sitting around a campfire at the campground telling stories and sometimes seeing the Aurora Borealis. The next morning we will ride up the gunflint trail to the Trail Center restaurant for breakfast. From there we can choose our own way home as a group or choose your own route. Maybe spending an extra day in Grand Marais.

Lewie

mars7101@bitstream.net

September, 19-20 DAKOTA FALL CLASSIC RALLY

Sponsored by # 278, Red River Valley BMWMOA (RRVBMWMOA)

Think North Dakota is all flat prairie? Well, you ain't seen nothin' yet! Please join us on September 19-20 at Fort Ransom, ND, situated in the beautiful, rolling, wooded-hills of the Sheyenne River Valley in SE North Dakota. The rally will be held at Fort Ransom State Park, just 80 miles SW of Fargo; 34 miles south of Valley City; 20 miles -northwest of Lisbon, and 1 mile north of the town of Fort Ransom, along the Walt Hjelle Parkway. The site is accessible by paved or curvy gravel roads.

No Frills, no pre-registration, no T-shirts, no door prizes; just beautiful riding, great companionship, and a low \$15 entry fee. Tent camping Saturday night, showers on-site. Lodging also available in nearby Fort Ransom (1 mi. S.) <http://www.fortransomnd.com/vvresortbizcard.html>, or in Lisbon (20 mi. E.); or in Valley City (34 mi. N).

If you have questions, please contact Rand Rasmussen: 218.281.8555, or: rrasmuss@umn.edu

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“If I want to wear a dress, I’ll wear a dress.” - Dennis Rodman



BMWMOCM was established in 1971 to provide an opportunity for BMW riders and enthusiasts to ride together. It provided an “excuse” to gather and exchange ideas and share experiences. The common interest is BMW motorcycles, and the club has grown to approximately 200 members. The collection of motorcycles owned ranges from classic BMW’s to the latest in technology. Members own and ride sidecar rigs, Airheads, Oilheads, and K’s of all colors and engine displacement. BMWMOCM has organized and unorganized rides, spur of the moment and planned “meet to eats”, and members enjoy the companionship of folks with similar interests.