



The *SKYLANDER*

Skylands BMW Riders (Est 1991)

Host Club for BMW's Miracle Ride East
BMW MOA #215 - BMW RA #87

June 1998

Club Officers

President: Max Monaco
Vice-President: Karl Kretschmer
Secretary: Ivan Sobel
Treasurer: Jody Villa
Past President: Doug Ochwat

Committees

Adopt-A-Highway: Jeff Roberts
Good & Welfare: Ellen Cushing
Membership: Karl Kretschmer
Newsletter: Tom Coradeschi
Ride Coordinator: Matt Fretague

WWW: <http://skylands.ibmwr.org/sbr/>

Info Line: 908.852.2482

EDITOR'S CORNER

Riding season is here. LONG DISTANCE riding season is here! Let's see what's happened recently:

Our own John Flaherty and David Cooke nailed a SaddleSore 1000 - 1000 miles in 24 hours.

The inaugural Capitol 1000 was run.

A new 24 hour endurance record was set at 2140 miles.

At this writing, Ron Ayres (author of "Against the Wind") is in the process of trying to beat the existing record for visiting all 48 lower states (set at 6:12:21 by Mike Kneebone and Fran Crane nearly 10 years ago) and to establish a new, sub 7-day, record for all 49 continental states.

I had the opportunity to witness Ron's checkpoints in New Jersey and Delaware and to ride with him between the two. He'd been on the road nearly 10 hours at that point (4 AM Monday) and seemed as fresh as I, maybe even more so. Definitely a different breed, this long distance rider. By the time he's done, his K1100LT will have more than doubled its mileage - it had 6532 miles on the clock as of the Delaware checkpoint, and the entire run is expected to be over 8000 miles.

Anyone planning a SaddleSore 1000 (or a Bun-Burner 1500 - 1500 miles in 36 hours; or a Bun-Burner Gold - 1500 miles in 24 hours) to or from Missoula? Check the Ironbutt website <http://www.ironbutt.com/> for details on how to document them, long distance riding tips and so forth!

Ride far, eat bananas...

Tom Coradeschi

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - MAY 1998

Membership (Karl Kretschmer): No new members this month. A prospective member, Chip Maxwell, attended the meeting.

Secretary (Ivan Sobel): Our BMW RA charter for 1998 has

been received. The state has sent us their request for our Annual Report (due for all entities incorporated in NJ).

Treasury (Jody Villa): Our current assets, as of May 31st are \$654.70. Outlays for the month of May were \$122.54.

Rides: 12 club members came out for Jim Brown's Bucks County Tour in May. A good riding day.

Karl Kretschmer will lead our June ride to Rhinebeck Aerodrome on the 14th. Meet at the last rest stop on the Garden State Parkway (between the 171 & 172 mile markers). Departure is 9AM. The show at Rhinebeck is at 2 PM and admission is 10 bucks. There will be reserved parking for our group!

Gooch's Garlic Run (Tom Coradeschi): June 17th this year, departing from Rockaway Mall, I-80, exit 35. Plan to meet (if you can get there that early) at the Picatinny Arsenal visitor's center (NJ Rt 15, I-80 Exit 34, first exit on Rt 15), leaving at 4 PM. Otherwise, look for the yellow K-Bike at Rockaway. I'll have directions to the restaurant, etc. Bikes roll at 6:30 PM.

Our July ride, for those not going to the MOA national rally in Missoula, will be the Ramapo 500, held on the 18th & 19th. Contact Dennis Daunia if you'd like a pre-registration form or more info.

The August ride will probably be to Cherry Hill airport. We ran this a couple of years back and it was a good tour of the upper Delaware River valley.

Club Overnite: Ed Jankowsky is planning our trip to Lake George. The weekend of October 2, 3 & 4 has been chosen. Lodging and other info will be firmed up by the "July" meeting. Mark your calendars now for what promises to be a great weekend in the Adirondacks!

Ice Cream Rides: Schedule is in this month's Skylander.

Adopt-A-Highway (Jeff Roberts): Our second cleanup of the year will be on June 6th. Meet at 9 AM at Touch of Class. See writeup in this Skylander.

Good & Welfare (Ellen Cushing): Fruit baskets were sent to Tony Loria and Doug Ochwat. A thank you was received from Tony (see below for Doug's).

Club Gear: License plate frames are in stock! Contact Jody Villa if you want one. 10 bucks each.

Michael Kimm has had a batch of club T-shirts made up.

Club logo on the back, the “moto man” and “Skylands BMW Riders” on the left breast. They look GREAT! 20 bucks a copy and available from Michael.

Miracle Ride (Tom Coradeschi): The Miracle Ride is definitely a “go!”. The date is set for October 11th.

The Art of the Motorcycle (Tom Coradeschi): August 2nd has been set as our date for a group visit to the Guggenheim Museum for motorcycle exhibition. This will be joint event with the NJ Shore BMW Riders and possibly BMW BMW. Firm details regarding cost (there are group discounts available), parking and so forth will be available at the “July” meeting.

“Ride for Kids” (Joe Christie): We will be riding to the Matheny School on June 24th. This is a school for kids with disabilities of various sorts. Joe & Betty have arranged with the administration to have us come by with the bikes to visit with the students, many of whom are wheelchair-bound. We will meet at the Chester Diner on Rt 206 in Chester at 6 PM, arriving at the school (in Peapack) at 6:30. Afterwards, there’s an Ice Cream Run (I’ve swapped dates on the schedule Dave put together) to Taylor’s, also in Chester.

Programs (Drew Gibbon): We had two presentations this month. Juergen Kohlmeier and Linda Arnold talked a bit about, and showed us, the very impressive ARMEC sidecars. They are importing them from Switzerland and had an R1100RT sidecar rig with them. If only I had \$20k burning a hole in my pocket!

Tony Loria presented a great deal of information on things to do, places to see and so forth in the Missoula area for those travelling to the BMW MOA National Rally. Highlights are presented in this month’s Skylander.

At the next few meetings:

July: Matt Fretague & Michael Kimm discuss BMW’s 75th anniversary celebration in Germany. Court Fisher will discuss “bike sharing” with folks from overseas.

August: Ed Kollin, from Exxon Research & Engineering on lubricants and fuels

September: Bob Wrubelvski who will talk about his motorcycle racing experiences.

If you have an idea for a program, please contact Drew Gibbon!

Our July meeting will be on June 29th to accommodate the July 4th holiday and those travelling to Missoula.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

June 8, 1998

I recently read an article in Car and Driver magazine relating to a term I had not seen before - Traffic Calming. The article related traffic calming to how traffic engineers for years worked on removing traffic bottlenecks and are now at the task of creating them to impede the flow of traffic and to make it “Calmer”.?????

In case you haven’t figured it out they are discussing the “aggressive” drivers. I have heard many discussions among fellow members/riders about incidents with aggressive drivers. Fortunately for us we have survived these drivers by applying the skills learned in the MSF courses and drive in a defensive manner.

Now to get to the point. New Jersey has topped the list by

raising the speed limit to 65 mph on major toll roads and interstate highways in the state. Good news? I don’t think so. By raising the speed limit to 65 we are now legal, give or take 10 mph. Then by doubling the fines in these areas NJ has actually slowed traffic on these major roads. Is this intimation? I am sure these increased revenues are being returned in the form of better roads. Yeah, sure!. Is it calmer out there?

It looks as though the R1100RT is fast becoming the bike of choice with the Skylands BMW Riders, especially if it is black. Congratulations to Billy, Skip and Tony on their new wheels. The current issue of Cycle World validated their choice by selecting the RT as “Best Touring Bike”. In fact they stated the “RT is truly la creme de la creme”. I guess they talked to our members.

I would like to pat Jeff Roberts on the back for executing another highway cleanup last Saturday. We managed to complete the cleanup in record time. Less than an hour. This did not include the time kicking tires and telling lies which is really what this event is about. In attendance was Dave and Karen Cushing, Jack Flaherty, Don Gordon, Bob Hoffman, Karl Kretschmer, Len Parkin, Ivan Pelech, Don Riggs, Jeff Roberts, Dave Unangst and Jody Villa. Hope I didn’t miss anyone. Cindy, thanks for fresh coffee and bagels. The next cleanup is scheduled for August 8th. Hopefully we will see some new faces.

This is a short quiz. What do you get when you have a Harley, Honda, Triumph, Ducati and numerous BMW motorcycles? Jim Brown’s May leisure ride through Bucks County. PoPs provided a side trip to a neat airport in Bucks County. Sorry don’t remember the name.

Please check the calendar in this month’s newsletter for the numerous planned activities. I am sure there is one for you. Ice Cream rides, thanks to Dave, start Wednesday June 10. See you there.

“Retro eatery gives 50’s a longer shelf life”, Star Ledger June 7, 1998. For some of the younger members that weren’t driving in the 50’s and 60’s and did not get to “hang out” at the car hops, we now have Sonny’s Drive-in in Sussex County. It is right out of the 50’s and already is a big hit. Wednesday and Saturday nites are to be the “big” nites to attract “kool” cars and bikes. If anyone is interested in trying Sonny’s on a Wednesday nite give me a call. If it looks “kool” we could possibly schedule a club ride on the alternate, to ice cream rides, Wednesday. KOOOOOOOOOOL!!!!

Ask Karl about the big, real big, black bear that crossed in his path on Rt 519 in Beemerville. That’s right - Beemerville. And some people worry about deer.

Note: This newsletter is open for articles by members of Skylands BMW Riders. Talk to Tom C. if you want to post something.

Max Monaco

Ideas are a dime a dozen. People who put them into action are priceless.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

We had an excellent turnout, with 12 club members supporting the efforts to enrich the scenic beauty along N.J. State Rt. 57 through Stewartsville today. The following club members deserve recognition for their devotion to the cause: Dave Cushing, Karen Cushing, John Flaherty, Don Gordon, Bob Hoffman, Karl Kretschmer, Max Monaco, Len Parkin, Don Riggs, Jeff Roberts, Dave Unangst, and Jody Villa.

The entire cleanup was completed in under an hour, this shows how if enough people support the activity, it doesn't take long, and need not be a burden. It is an excellent excuse to get out on the bike and go for a ride, support your dealer and explore some new roads on the way home.

Unfortunately, the Antique M/C swap meet and show at the Warren County Fairgrounds was not this week, but next. This will provide another excuse to go for a ride. See you out there.

Jeff Roberts

THANK YOU

First, thanks to the Skylanders for the nice fruit basket I received last week. Secondly, thanks to those of you who phoned and/or stopped by to say hello. It's been really appreciated.

Doug Ochwat

TECH: OILHEAD SERVICE MANUALS

At long last, Haynes has released their service manual for the oilhead boxers. If using the 2-valve K manual is a yardstick, I'd suggest that this is a must-have for any oilhead owner, even if you don't do your own maintenance. At \$23.95, with the information they contain (actually UNDERSTAND what your mechanic is telling you!), they're a steal!

None of the online bookstores I checked (amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com) list it yet. For now, you can order it direct from Haynes - hopefully TOC will stock it soon!

Haynes #3466 - BMW R850 & R1100 Twins, 848 & 1085 cc. (Covers: R850R - '96 thru '97, R1100R - '95 thru '97, R1100RS - '94 thru '97, R1100RT - '96 thru '97, R1100GS - '95 thru '97)

Ordering info: Cost is \$23.95 plus \$4 shipping and handling. Allow 7-10 days for delivery.

Haynes Publications Inc.
861 Lawrence Drive
Newbury Park, CA 91320
Fax: (805) 498-2867
or
1299 Bridgestone Parkway
LaVergne, TN 37086
Fax: (615) 793-5325

<http://www.haynes.com/naordin.html>

BIKE CLEANING - #1 IN A SERIES

How To Keep Your Beemer Clean
a step-by-step guide for the anal retentive
by Bill Shaw (bmwbobs2@aol.com)

I have dedicated the majority of my adult life and all my waking hours for the past 22 years in pursuit of keeping motorcycles looking new. I have a doctorate in Automotive Detailing, and I am the founder and President/CEO of a nondenominational group of BMW motorcycle cleaning enthusiasts. We do not discriminate based on make, model or displacement, and are incorporated as the Anal Retentive Internet BMW Riders (ARIBMWR). It is our goal to proselytize the fundamental principals by which we live our life: Keep It Clean, or Park It!

If you have any additional input, comments, suggestions or recommendations (you'll be wrong...but let me know anyway, I'm always up for a good laugh), please let me know. Toodles.

[For those who believe that a clean bike is a sign of one not ridden, Bill Shaw has ridden an immaculate bike through more states in the last few years than I have visited in my entire life ... ed.]

Cleaning Tips, Part 1...Tools for the Trade

There are many people in Beemerdom who proscribe to the maxim that if it is nice enough to wash their bike, they would rather be riding. There is an unsaid implication in this statement that anyone with a clean motorcycle must not ride much, or would rather clean their bike than ride. Well, I'm here to tell you the two do not have to be mutually exclusive.

Cleaning your bike should be viewed as part of routine maintenance. I do it with the same commitment and regularity as a 3,000-mile oil change. The advantages to periodically cleaning your bike have been stated many times before, by people much more articulate than I. Suffice it to say that for many BMW owners who tend to be ultra-long distance tourers, identifying problems before they occur should be reason enough.

To begin with, you will need the correct tools to do the job. Purchase, borrow, steal, or otherwise procure a bucket that will be used EXCLUSIVELY for your bike(s). There will be times when harsh chemicals might accidentally be transferred into the bucket, and some of these solvents might inadvertently be transferred into the bucket. If the same bucket is used to clean the beautiful hardwood floors in your estate, and it accidentally strips the finish or stains the floor, you might have to sell your bike to help pay for the divorce. Conversely, you don't want to use a bucket to wash your bike where Top Job™ ammonia cleaner or Clorox™ was recently used.

Next, buy the softest car-wash mit available. I like the ones with a thick, plush mat/pile. These are the best since they easily lift and carry dirt and other debris away from the paint surface without scratching it. And for drying, a chamois is very effective (either synthetic or natural...both are good), and if available, buy cloth diapers, these are the best. 100% cotton cloth diapers are literally worth their weight in gold for someone who routinely cares for their vehicles. They are expensive, but are invaluable when it comes to applying wax/polish, removing wax/polish, cleaning glass/plastics, drying your bike, or simply wiping it

down.

Also buy several heavy duty cleaning rags and/or sponges for use on those areas of the motorcycle where you don't want to use a mit. And for Airheads, a stiff toothbrush/toilet bowl brush are also valuable tools. Avoid the ones sold in hardware stores with brass/metal bristles as these might scratch or gouge the cases. I try to find the heaviest, stiffest commercial toothbrush available, but a stiff Oral B™ will also work very well. Scotch-Brite Pads™ are also helpful on older bikes. In my opinion, these are superior to SOS™ pads since they don't tend to fall apart and disintegrate leaving minuscule pieces of metal slivers behind.

I usually buy the least expensive car soap when it comes time to wash any vehicle. I recommend against using whatever dishwashing liquid is in the house...unless you plan on waxing your bike after each washing. Dishwashing soaps are not "engineered" for use on a painted surface. Some of these liquid dishwashing soaps have strong detergents that can easily strip the protective finish (wax) on your bike. All wax manufacturers (Meguiars, RainDance, Turtle Wax, Zymol, etc.) sell their own brand of car wash soap, and these can be found at places like Pep Boys, Trak Auto, Wal Mart, and other auto parts outlets.

Now, go out and get your bike dirty and I'll explain how to properly wash the beast in my next installment.

MOVIN' TO MONTANA SOON...

(gonna be a dental floss tycoon)

Info on Missoula and the surrounding area, by Tony Loria

Roads and Riding:

Roads to see: Rts 2, 83, 93. "Going to the Sun" highway.

Gas: Buy it often - stations are few and distances are great (figure if you've got a half tank and you see a gas station, it's time to fill up, unless you're heading to a population center and KNOW you can make it on what you've got).

Speed Limits: "Reasonable and Prudent" by day. 65 on interstates, 55 on other roads at night. On the open road, pretty much anything under 85 is considered acceptable, over that, you need to be clear of "urban" areas (which in Montana is apparently any town over 3000 people). Triple digits will almost certainly involve at least a roadside chat with The Law, if not an actual citation. Weather, vehicle condition, traffic, etc all apply to what is considered acceptable.

Road conditions: very few interstates, lots of secondary roads. Watch for cattle grates on back roads. Also keep an eye out for cattle and other livestock on the roads.

Weather: Average high 85, average low 49. Watch for afternoon thunderstorms.

The area: Missoula is a college town, with a typical college town flavor. Montana is one of the least densely populated states in the country. At 5.8 persons/square mile, it is #4 in size and #44 in population and sits atop the Continental Divide.

Places to Go: Glacier & Yellowstone National Parks are both a good day's ride distant from the rally site. Both load up with tourists during the summer months so reservations and an early arrival (ride to near the park the day before) are crucial!

Canada is only a few hundred miles away. Remember that you'll need proof of liability insurance (Yellow Card) and proof

of citizenship (Voter's Registration Card, Birth Certificate, Passport, etc).

Good Reading: "Montana - Off the Beaten Path" & "Scenic Driving Montana" are both available from Whitehorse Press 800.531.1133.

Getting There: From NJ, it's about 750 miles to Chicago and another 1650 miles to Missoula.

Service: Smith & Jones Coachworks is the local BMW dealer.

ICE CREAM RUN SCHEDULE

Meet at all locations between 7:30 & 8:30

§ June 24: Taylor's. Just east of Rts 24 & 206 in Chester.

July 8: J.J. Scoops. On Main St in Clinton. Take Rt 173 into Clinton and turn left just after the Clinton House. Go over the bridge and park before the stop sign. On the right at the end of the block.

July 22: E. Mack & Bolio's. Take Rt 24 east into Mendham. At the traffic light just after the Black Horse Inn, turn right onto Hilltop Rd. Bolio's is 100 ft on the right.

August 5: Upstream Farms. Take Rt 22 over the bridge to the 13th St exit in Easton PA. Turn left and go to the first light. Turn left, go to the next light. Turn left onto Bushkill Dr. Upstream is 3 miles down on the right.

§ August 19: Hartman's II. Cross the Rt 22 bridge and take the 2nd exit (marked Easton). At the light, go right and up the hill. Follow this road through Stockertown. Hartman's is on the right another 1/2 mile further on (also reachable by crossing the bridge in Belvidere - consult a map for details).

§ Switched from the original schedule to accommodate the "Ride for Kids" event.

CLASSIFIED ADS

(Ads will run for 2 months)

1993 BMW K1100LT; Classic Black, 69k miles, 1100 cc - 100 HP, ABS, Excellent Condition. Electric windshield, heated grips, stereo/cassette/cb/intercom, throttle control, Corbin seat, PIAA driving lights, pinstriping, trunk running lights, bag liners, hyper brake light, Ohlins performance shock. Dealer maintained - New fork springs, bearings, tires, etc. \$7,395 OBO. Call Max Monaco @ 908-852-9321, cmmonaco@worldnet.att.net (2nd month)

Next meeting June 29th
Touch of Class: 7:30

*Meet for some pizza at Enzo's
Pizza, Rt 57, Washington
6 miles east of T.O.C., 1 mile west
of Rt 31.
Any time after 6:00*

*June Club Ride
June 14th 1998
Last rest stop
Garden State Pkwy
9:00 AM*

MOTORCYCLE RACING on TV

Jun 14	2 PM	Speedvis	Madrid 500GP
Jun 14	3 PM	Speedvis	Road America SB
Jun 14	6 PM	Fox	Road America 600SS
Jun 16	8 PM	Speedvis	Road America 750SS
Jun 19	930 PM	Speedvis	Road America 750SS
Jun 20	5 PM	Fox	Road America SB
Jun 21	3 PM	Fox	San Marino WSB
Jun 21	10 PM	Speedvis	Misano WSB
Jun 23	8 PM	Speedvis	French 250GP
Jun 23	10 PM	Speedvis	Nurburgring WSS
Jun 26	10 PM	Speedvis	French 125GP
Jun 27	10 PM	Speedvis	Dutch 500GP
Jun 30	8 PM	Speedvis	TBA 250GP
Jun 30	10 PM	Speedvis	TBA 125GP
Jul 5	9 PM	Speedvis	Sao Paolo WSB
Jul 5	10 PM	Speedvis	British 500GP
Jul 7	8 PM	Speedvis	Misano WSB
Jul 11	6 PM	Fox	Laguna Seca 600SS
Jul 12	230 PM	Speedvis	Laguna Seca WSB1
Jul 12	6 PM	Fox	Laguna Seca WSB
Jul 14	8 PM	Speedvis	Laguna Seca WSB2
Jul 14	10 PM	Speedvis	Dutch 125GP
Jul 19	6 PM	Fox	Mid-Ohio SB
Jul 26	3 PM	Fox	Mid-Ohio SB

Skylands BMW Riders
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