



TOUR CAPTAIN'S REPORT

by Ted Crum

The weather favored us for the November/December 2014 ride from the Huckleberry restaurant in Benicia to the Jellystone Park resort in Cobb; the forecast 2-day break in heavy rain arrived just as we met at the restaurant. Huckleberry gave us a private room and good service. Buddy and Mini stopped by on their way to Kona to deliver the new T-shirts and polos to us. They look nice!

The group of 9 riders included the returning non-member Jerry McHugh (who could only ride part way) and Justin Adams who recently fled Michigan weather on his F800GS. Again, John Ellis did sweep for us, and escorted a straggler to the meet point at Lower Lake.

The route took Pleasants Valley Road to Sonoma Lake Park. There may have been a couple riders who haven't ridden that favorite road, and the park could make a nice close-in camping spot. On Berryessa-Knoxville we were blessed with just enough overflow in 3 of the stream crossings; a nice splash but nothing slippery. We took a lunch break in Lower Lake, split between Danny's BBQ and Foster's Freeze, then across the ridge to the campsite.

We were joined by Don Allison in his Miata, and by Robin Matsumoto and Pepe. Three of us took cabins, but I was prepared to sleep with the troops if it rained. Dinner was pizza (meat and vegetarian) from Cobb. Z chaired the meeting, at which Ed Perry gave a historian's report detailing the life of the eponymous John Cobb and his influence on the area. The staff left as we were arriving, so I was unable to buy firewood. The on-site rooster started crowing about 2AM.

The January 24, 2015 meeting and ride will be a Delta Tour. It starts with a ride up the challenging, but motorcycle-friendly, Morgan Territory Road, then over

The January 24, 2015 meeting and ride will be a Delta Tour. It starts with a ride up the challenging, but motorcycle-friendly, Morgan Territory Road, then over land borrowed from the Sacramento River (and on a free ferry!), and finally along the flank of the impressive Sutter Buttes to a classic delta sportsman's marina, where we will have grass camping and a covered area for the meeting. The marina has a restaurant and bar with a view of the river. If you are using your GPS, be sure that ferries aren't excluded, and you may have to unblock unpaved roads to route through Morgan Territory (it IS paved.)

The start is at the Railroad Café (833 E Stanley Blvd, Livermore; 925-447-0235), breakfast at 8 AM, leaving at 9. The meeting will be at 4 PM at Lovey's Landing (3474 N Meridian Rd, Meridian; 530-696-2449). Check the web page and Meetup for weather-related updates.

On February 21 the meeting is at Morro Bay. March 28 is Death Valley, where we have reservations for Friday, Saturday and Sunday night. On April 25 we will go to Bothe SP in the Napa Valley. May is reserved for the 49'er rally. The June 27 Election Meeting will be at Finnon Lake.

The board has moved the date of the July, 2015 meeting to the 18th, to avoid conflict with the MOA National in Billings. It will be held somewhere in the Eastern Sierra so that it can be a jumping-off for the national.

Enjoy the Ride!

-- Ted Crum -- Tour Captain

tedcrum@berkeley.edu

BMW Motorcycle Club
of Northern California



a touring and camping club
bmwnorcal.org

Charter No. 9, BMW Motorcycle Owners of America
Charter No. 210, BMW Riders' Association

PRESIDENT*

Z. Ortiz 650/952 5296
president@bmwnorcal.org

VICE-PRESIDENT*

Dan Rowe
vp@bmwnorcal.org

SECRETARY*

Joyce Sampson
secretary@bmwnorcal.org

TREASURER*

John Vashon
treasurer@bmwnorcal.org

TOUR CAPTAIN*

Ted Crum
tourcaptain@bmwnorcal.org

SAFETY/TECH DIRECTOR*

Buddy Scauzzo
safety@bmwnorcal.org

HISTORIAN*

Ed Perry
historian@bmwnorcal.org

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Warren Barnes 408/348 7999
wildguineapig@hotmail.com

MEMBER DIRECTOR

Z. Ortiz 650/952 5296

ADVERTISING

Pat Potter 650/593 6009

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Cliff Dunn 408/338 5948

*Board Member



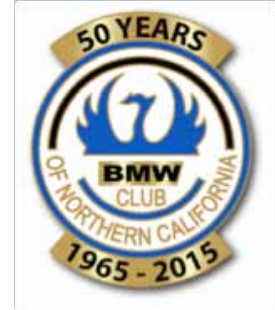
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS: 1965-2015

articles, photos, events, etc.
for the newsletter are due on the
SECOND SUNDAY of each month.



PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

by Z Ortiz



Happy New Year!

In October of 2015, The BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern California will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Members have already started receiving their Anniversary Membership badges and the new Club Anniversary Pins have arrived. Members in attendance at the GPS Workshop and the January Second Sunday Breakfast ride have received theirs.

Holiday Party:

The Holiday Party was once again held at the Fish Market and despite the drop in attendance compared to last year it went fairly well. We had to share the area that we had to ourselves last year and then we had to wait until a fairly large party left in order to rearrange the seating. Motorcyclists are resilient and we rose to the occasion in the face of delays. There were some nifty gifts presented at the Gift Exchange but the infamous "Tool Box complete with T-shirt" was once again missing. Chris Weld has sent me a menu from a restaurant he frequents so I get the hint, time to move.

Christmas Ride:

For the first time in recent memory we had a Third Sunday Breakfast Ride in December. Our inimitable Second Sunday Breakfast Chairman, Cliff Dunn, was asked to provide a ride in December and he did not disappoint. In California we usually skip the bad weather in the winter but this year we got hammered by a huge storm AND a cold front. Luckily we only had a gentle rainfall during our ride but that did not dampen the mood of the fifteen riders. We were greeted by freshly washed roads free of debris and laced with the fragrances of winter. Damp soil, wet grass and pine trees along with a brisk still air complete with the crystal clear vistas. By the time we reached Alice's (we started in Half Moon Bay) the sun had come out as PG&E crews were repairing fallen power lines.

GPS Workshop:

We started the New Year with a bang by providing our members and guests with a well-presented GPS Workshop brought to you by our inimitable Cliff Dunn, Rick Klain and Dan Rowe. Adventure Designs provided the location and if the standing room only crowd was any indication, it was a huge success. Read the article elsewhere in the newsletter.

PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS

by Z Ortiz

Second Sunday Breakfast Ride:

Our most popular monthly ride continues to attract those of you that can get away for a short ride. 22 riders took part in the January SSBR with first timer Jimmy Tang riding sweep. Mines Road was in good shape all the way to the junction and we only encountered some sand on the way to the observatory. A good mixture of new guests with some of the regulars as Meetup continues to draw riders to our events.

Meetup:

We now have 227 riders on our Club Meetup site. Meetup has become a valuable tool for dissemination of club information and offers a number of features that we have yet to explore. We will be expanding on those features as we bring the club forward to the digital age.



photos: Cliff Dunn leads the third sunday breakfast ride.
First timer - Jimmy Tang.

BMW Motorrad USA
Authorized Dealer



A&S BMW Motorcycles

www.ascycles.com or 1-800-689-9893
Thousands of BMW and Aftermarket Parts & Accessories!

Popular brands of Motorcycle Apparel, Luggage, Bar Backs, Footpegs, Gadets, Tools and more!

Check out our new and improved BMW Illustrated Parts Catalog!
And if you need help finding anything, just click our new Live Chat button! 



A&S BMW Motorcycles - 1125 Orlando Ave., Roseville CA 95661



SINCE 1985
WILBERS
Suspension Manufaktur

YACUGAR
SUSPENSION

TFX
SUSPENSION TECHNOLOGY

TRACTIVE
suspension

YSS
SUSPENSION

OHLINS

The Bay Area's best source!

for after market
Suspension

- Sales
- Service
- Installation

ESA Shock Experts!



831.438.1100 www.beemershop.com
5100 Scotts Valley Drive - Scotts Valley - California

Ted Porter's
BeemerShop

Scan your bike *with wifi*



Imagine browsing your bike's electrical systems like any website. The GS-911 wifi plugs into your bike and is accessed over wifi.

This means it works on your phone, tablet or PC.

GS-911wifi  **Anytime.
Anywhere.**

Diagnostic Tool for BMW Motorcycles

now for iphone & ipad!

WWW.GS911USA.COM 831.438.1100

2014-2015 MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

NOVEMBER/

DECEMBER 2014

Greg Gibson 25 Years

JANUARY 2015

Bruce Swantson 5 Years

FEBRUARY

Dale Rich 5 Years

MARCH

Steve Kessinger 20 Years

APRIL

Buddy Scauzzo 5 Years

MAY

Terry Burnes 25 Years

Suresh
Chandrasekaran 5 Years

Don Condon 5 Years

Bill Hall 10 Years

Wendy Kessler 5 Years

David LaPoint 5 Years

Ed Perry 10 Years

Roger Rapp 5 Years

Ron Suydam 5 Years

Laurent Vailly 5 Years

Roger Vandevent 5 Years

JUNE – None

JULY

Steven Palmer 15 Years

AUGUST

Bruce Buxton 35 Years

Fred Pravda 30 Years

Neil Talbert 10 Years

SEPTEMBER

Brian Goetz 5 Years

Linda Opp 20 Years

Wayne Opp 20 Years

OCTOBER

Don Alexson 5 Years

Carmen Vailly 5 Yeras

NOVEMBER/

DECEMBER

Lee Damico 5 Years

Marc Dubresson 15 Years

Doug Hubbard 40 years



Jim Lucas and his new 2015 BMWGS, Congratulations Jim.

NORCAL TECH SESSION:

by Z Ortiz & Russ Drake

During the winter months the weather can be iffy and the predictability of rain lingers on any given day. Here in California we don't get the severe weather that the Midwest and the East get but we do get some rain, wind and fog.

We were lucky that on a brisk morning in November the sun came out just in time for our Club Tech Session. Kevin Livesly and Lorna graciously provided the venue for our R1200 valve adjustment Tech Session. Kevin is a popular guy and you can always count on his neighbors showing up along with his former co-workers Tim O'Connell and Chris Valverde. Our instructor was BMW certified Master Mechanic Sean McMichael and the motorcycle we worked on was an R1200RT.

After the work area was setup and the bike was on the lift with the help of a battery operated screw gun, the assorted fairing parts were removed from the RT and the engine was exposed. The spark plugs were removed to allow the engine to be turned more easily plus they were going to be replaced anyway. During this procedure, Shaun was a wealth of information pointing out short cuts and things to look for while you are "under the hood". One thing that I found interesting was a method he pointed out (specific to the RT) regarding the removal of screws and the way to keep from dropping them on to the ground or worse into the caverns and cubby holes of the engine, never to be found again. While this was going on, the engine oil was being drained and two fans were blowing on the front of the engine to help cool it down.

Once the engine had cooled down the business of valve adjustment was addressed. This model RT has the screw type valve adjustment as opposed to the bucket and shim type of the newer models. Once the valves were adjusted (they were tight) Shaun allowed everyone to "feel" the correct drag on the feeler gauge of a properly adjusted valve lash. A lot of head nodding and moments later, Sean was looking specifications up in his laptop regarding torque values and such and the bike went back together as quickly as it was disassembled.



The popularity of the F-Series motorcycles prompted us to address chain adjustment, sprocket replacement and general chain maintenance. Russ Drake did the honors in this arena. While there are plenty of videos on the web as well as articles on proper chain maintenance there is never a substitute for experience. Everyone has a favorite chain lube and some swear by the spray wax method (smells bad and builds up) but no one disagrees that as long as you keep the chain lubed you are ahead of the game. It's worth noting that chain longevity is dependent on how well you take care of it and that sprockets should be replaced along with the chain. While we didn't actually replace a chain during the Tech Session an opportunity presented itself to help out Justin Adams' bike. The rear sprocket has "Christmas Tree" and the chain had tight spots. By the time we got to change the chain/sprockets the rear sprocket teeth had started bending over.

We met at Russ Drake's house (Justin lives in Oakland) and in a couple of hours we had Justin on the road with a new set of sprockets and a new chain. Of course, once you start poking around your bike you will find something else wrong. In this instance, Justin also needed brakes but that is another article.

Kevin and Lorna thank you for the hospitality and for providing the venue as well as lunch. Also, thanks to Jacob Galina for working the grill and Master Mechanic Sean McMichael for sharing his knowledge and short cuts. Russ Drake has spent a lifetime around motorcycles and he is no stranger to their maintenance and thankfully he is always at the ready to help out a fellow motorcyclist. Thank you, Russ.



GPS WORKSHOP: *by Z Ortiz*

The most difficult thing about a workshop is simplifying the curriculum. What we hope to learn in a GPS workshop is the magic word that gives you access all the knowledge regarding GPS Units, Software, Routes, Waypoints and downloading these things into your GPS Unit, glitch free . . . ha, ha, ha.

After the Christmas Ride while we were having lunch at Alice's, Cliff Dunn and I talked about a different way to present the GPS Workshop information and we formulated a list of topics on a napkin. You know the drill; once something is written down it inevitably formulates a plan. We enlisted the help of Rick Klain (he has a projector and has been a presenter at the '49er) Dan Rowe for tech support (and a laptop) and Adventure Designs for the venue. Throw in New Year's and we had emails and phone calls exchanged at spam rate. We had an impromptu meeting to op-check the laptop/projector setup and finalizing the agenda. Cliff and I met for Breakfast and a ride (of course) and we met with Rick in the afternoon to check out his projector.

Chad and Karsten Olson attention to detail is legendary and they provided a loudspeaker, chairs, snacks coffee, their store and their welcoming smile. We were shooting for around forty people but what we got was 75 plus standing room only attendees and a whole lot of positive feedback.

Yes, you still have to be an active participant with your GPS unit but Cliff made it all better. Yes, you still need to know where you are going but now you have an ally. Yes, you need to know your GPS settings (fastest way, Shortest distance) but you are not victim of some evil programmer. But just like when you first got a smart phone and didn't get what "texting" was about and now you can't let a minute go by without checking for text messages, your GPS will be your new friend.

Thanks to Chad and Karsten for welcoming us. Thanks to Rick Klain for his support and input for the workshop. Thanks to Dan Rowe for his technical assistance and input. And thanks to Cliff Dun whose succinct delivery and magical power to make us all smarter made this the most enjoyable GPS Workshop so far.



"There is no Alternative..."

Choose CalBMW and BMW of TriValley for all your BMW servicing needs.

No one else can match our reputation for delivering quality service for over 28 years.

- > Two convenient locations to serve you
- > Loaner bike with qualifying service by appointment
- > Factory trained and certified technicians
- > Genuine BMW Parts Accessories and Apparel
- > 12 month warranty on all installed BMW parts



We use only the most current tools, equipment and technical expertise to keep your BMW running at peak performance. Don't settle for anything less!



CALIFORNIA BMW

2490 Old Middlefield Way Mountain View CA 94043
650.966.1183 www.calmoto.com



952 North Canyon Parkway, Livermore CA 94551
925.583.3300 www.trivalleymoto.com



A community motorcycle garage
540 De Haro Street
San Francisco, CA 94107
(415) 552-5788
www.motoshopsf.com
www.facebook.com/motoshopsf
Wed-Fri: Noon-10PM
Sat-Sun: 10:00AM-7PM

EUROPEAN SPECIALIST **VINTAGE TO MODERN**

170 Main Street Point Arena, CA
707-882-2281 Wed - Sat: 10am - 6pm
TheZenHouse.net Sun: 10am - 1pm



- Suspension Tuning/Upgrades
- Track/Race Prep
- Repair
- Maintenance
- Parts & Accessories
- Insurance Work



BIKE OF THE MONTH:

by Steve Kesinger

In 2000 I decided I should have a GS to compliment my K-bike. I bought this 1994 R100GS as it seemed to be in good condition, and came with some accessories. I have the stock duel seat, as well as the solo one, with luggage rack extension and a large Parabellum windshield.

A valve job, with duel plugs freshened up the engine, and a pair of Denali-2 driving lights was added. It's a keeper!



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

by Warren Barnes

Would you like to see more interesting content in your club's monthly newsletter? So would your fellow club members. If you have an interesting motorcycle story to tell, please share it with us. Send text in an email or word type document to the editor before the second Sunday of each month and it will be included in the next issue. Include some awesome pictures too since us motorcyclists are a visual bunch.

Below are images from this year's Holiday Party.



We understand the interests and expectations of the BMW enthusiast.

Ride By Soon!



Follow SJBW on facebook!

GREAT SELECTION

Call Today to arrange your test ride

We Offer Consignment Sale Service & Buy BMW's

Wed 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

San Jose BMW
Authorized Dealer



**San Jose
motosport**

aprilia

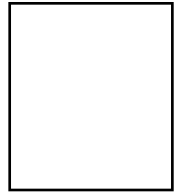
Factory Authorized SALES • SERVICE • PARTS
Get It ON!
1886 West San Carlos SAN JOSE
408 295.0205 www.sanjoseaprilia.com



BMW Motorcycle Club
of Northern California



Ride to Camp; Camp to Ride



FIRST
CLASS MAIL

BMW Club of
Northern California, Inc.
P. O. Box 2472
Santa Clara, CA 95055
www.bmwnorcal.org

A color version of the newsletter is available online at: www.bmwnorcal.org

COMING EVENTS

Information in this issue.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| January 24 | Meeting & Camping -- Lovey's Landing - Colusa |
| February 8 | 2nd Sunday Breakfast Ride -- Location T.B.D. |
| February 21 | Meeting & Camping -- Morro Bay |
| March 28 | Meeting & Camping -- Death Valley |
| April 25 | Meeting & Camping -- Bothe Napa S.P. |
| May 22 | 49er Rally -- |
| June 27 | Election Meeting & Camping -- Finnon Lake |
| July 18 | Meeting & Camping -- Location T.B.D. |

blue/bold items are Norcal events. All events in California unless otherwise stated.