

THE ALABAMA BEEMER



Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

BMWMOA Chapter #5/ BMWRA Chapter #107



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April 2009

A NAUVOO REUNION

Jamie Jackson

If you get tired of the rat race and pressures of work, or just need to escape the hustle and bustle of life in the city, then I have good news for you. Awaiting just a few miles away is the wonderful little town of Nauvoo Alabama where you can just step back in time and enjoy things the way they were meant to be. No traffic lights, no horns blowing, no smog, and free parking anywhere. Why, you can even park your car in the middle of the street if you wish. When anyone else drives by they will just steer around you and wave.

The BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama held our second club campout and meeting in Nauvoo. Why Nauvoo for a motorcycle rally? The relaxed lifestyle for sure, but more importantly, the cheerful and hospitable attitudes of Gene and Earlene McDaniel, owners of the Harbin Hotel.

The Old Harbin is pretty much original on the outside, but the inside has been transformed into a beautiful bed-and-breakfast with modernized rooms that are furnished with all the conveniences yet have many, many antiques that are in keep-

ing with the nostalgia of the entire town.

As threatening weather approached on Friday night, Gene and Earlene became concerned that all the motorcycles may get blown over or damaged, so Gene opened Gump's Old Garage across the street, the Union Hall behind the hotel, and the Post

ton caboose as a place of shelter.

Another reason to rally in Nauvoo is because of all the scenic "motorcycle" roads available in northwestern Alabama and the many interesting places to visit. Two organized club rides were enjoyed by many on both Friday and Saturday and some just struck out on their own to explore the back roads of Walker and Winston counties.

A very special thanks goes to Miss Earlene and all the other ladies that worked in the kitchen to make sure we had delicious hot meals to sustain us during the weekend. The breakfasts of egg casserole, bacon, hot biscuits and gravy, complimented with sliced melon were well appreciated. Gene even made sure that an urn of coffee was carried to the campground each morning to accommodate the campers. Breakfast was included for the campers but the coffee that was delivered before breakfast was certainly considerate.

You do not have to wait for another club meeting at Nauvoo; you can go anytime and enjoy some quiet time with Gene, Earlene, the townspeople, and the Nauvoo historical Society. In fact, why don't you make it a point to do so soon. I promise you will remember the visit for a long time.



Gene and Earlene McDaniel

Office for us to put our bikes inside and out of the weather. He also made sure the campers had shelter from the storms by allowing them to sleep inside the train depot or in the caboose that is on display. Some opted for the forty

MEETING MINUTES

March 29, 2009
Old Harbin Hotel
Nauvoo, Alabama
Mari Harrelson, Acting Secretary

The meeting was opened by our president Ron Riggins giving a big thanks to Gene and Earlene McDaniel for the great job again this year and the hospitality they've shown us this week-end. Another big thanks went out to Darlene and Gary for all of the planning, t-shirts, snacks, movie and other entertainment that will go unmentioned for those that didn't get to see it firsthand. Gary gave the credit to Darlene. She and Gary were excellent meeting hosts.

Ron welcomed our guest Fletcher Clark from Mississippi club who in turn invited us all to come to the "Dogwood Rally" next week end. New members Chris Patterson and "just Jill" were recognized as first time to attend a meeting..

Ron mentioned that a couple of members had brought it to his attention that they would like to see us swap the Ft. Tolouse and Cruso week ends due to the timing of the MOA National Rally. Discussion was held regarding the need to talk to Phillip first and a motion was made to make the change if it works for Phillip and it was seconded and it was voted that the meetings would be switched. Ron will check with Phillip and communicate the change if it works out.

Ron would like to see all members wear name tags so that it will be easier for new members to identify us and each other, maybe make it easier to go up and start a conversation. He is working with a group that makes them and has talked to them about using our logo that we use on the club shirt, getting pricing, etc so we can get them made with what ever you would want printed on them. He would like to increase the dues to new members with like an initiation fee so it covers the name tag in the new member packet possibly. The pricing he has so far is around \$7.00.

He is also having new member cards made with the same logo to pass out to people that may be interested in joining the club. This too has the new logo and will be a way to get acquainted with potential members.

Another idea Ron has to inspire people is to have a

photo of the month contest. Send in your photos to Jamie for the Newsletter and we will select a photo of the month and then a photo of the year from the collection of the photo of the months.

I reminded everyone that I had books of tickets here to hand out to anyone that needed more or had not gotten theirs yet so don't leave without them. Vance reminded everyone that we had decided on a more expensive bike this year so it is even more important that everyone help to sell tickets and not wait until the rally and depend on us selling the balance there.

Vance gave an update on the Chicken rally - basically every thing is on schedule, the food is ordered, the music is scheduled the same as usual, and someone with a pressure washer has been hired to do the cookers instead of our workers this year. Yeah! All is good on all fronts for the Chicken Rally!

Vance gave an update on the MOA National Rally and gave a big thanks to all of the hard work on the part of Chairpersons Phillip Warren and Don Norwood in setting the field for a great 2009 rally. These guys and several others in our club are going to need your help in making this the best national rally ever. We need to show these folks what southern hospitality is all about so be sure to let us know what you can do to help. We can use your assistance in any capacity. If you have never been to a national rally now is the time to go. See Don Norwood for a volunteer position or Vance, Connie or Mari and we will find a place that will make you feel like you have been a part of a major event.

Remember to save your soda tabs for the charity at the National Rally and turn them in at the monthly meeting or you can save them up until the national and turn them in then but the more we can accumulate by July 19 the more we will put toward the donation to Ronald McDonald House.

Vance recommended that some one that had never written a newsletter story write up this month's story about Nauvoo week end and Jamie suggested maybe Reece Mullins might be a good prospect. Reece kindly volunteered to write up an article for us this month.

50/50 was won by no other than Jim Kalahan again - \$73.00

Meeting adjourned

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Be sure to e-mail Darlene Massey with wishes for a speedy recovery of her broken wrist and broken nose. She has had surgery for both and is back at work but is still very uncomfortable.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Butch Banks	Jasper, AL	Sponsor: Ron Riggins
Christopher Patterson & Jill Van der Westhuizen	Sterrett, AL	Sponsor: Joan Ware
Joe Champion	Sterrett, AL	Sponsor: Terry Ware
Steve & Susan Shirley	Hoover, AL 35242	Sponsor: Terry Ware

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 Kimberly Bonner	12 Jenny McRoy	16 Tyler McCary
3 Russell Kruse	13 Holle Johnson	17 Jimmy Morgan
3 Terese Stevens	15 Joyce Dabbs	18 Michael Harvill
4 Ernie Jacobsen		19 Gail Thorne
4 Doug Tremblay		20 Malvene Jackson
5 Art Goddard		21 Frances Perret
5 Don Norwood		22 William Barnes
10 Eddie Lindsey		22 Beverly Hughson
10 Sam Monte		24 Linda Cain
10 Andrea Pedigo		26 Tom Kimbrell
10 Clinton Pittman		27 Steve Hebert
11 Woods McRoy		30 Pinkie Brown
11 Gail Reynolds		30 Janice Seaman



ITEMS FOR SALE

1993 K75 28.5K miles, Silk Blue, BMW Hard bags, Engine Guards, Metzlers, BMW Battery Charger, Cover. Excellent condition. Always garaged. Serviced @ Bogart's Birmingham. \$4,995 Contact; Sam Kemp (662) 287-1646

02

NON-MEETING GET-TOGETHERS AROUND THE STATE

Birmingham

Diplomat Deli - Each Thursday evening the Birmingham folks are meeting at a new location called the Diplomat Deli which is located at 1413 Montgomery Highway, Vestavia Hills which is in the same shopping center as Pier 1 near the Bruster's Ice Cream. The food is excellent, the service is unsurpassed and they have the largest selection of beer of any place in the state. They also boast of over 500 different wines. Arrivals begin from about 5 to 5:30 PM and stay till about 7:30 to 8 PM.

Huntsville

The Huntsville crowd currently meets at 6:00 pm each Friday night at West End Grill off of Madison Pike just east of Research Park Blvd (This change is due to the recent closing of the Green Hills Grill). Stop by for food and conversation.

Montgomery

Flip's Uptown Grill

The monthly Montgomery, Alabama area breakfast (and possible ride) is the second Saturday of each month, at Flip's Uptown Grill in the Sturbridge Shopping Center at the corner of Vaughn Road and Taylor Road. We will meet for breakfast at 8am and those who choose to ride afterwards can plan to do so at that time. All brands of motorcycles and cars welcome. drive whatcha got. Flip's has a complete made-to-order breakfast menu. Bring bucks and come hungry!

Robertsdale (South Alabama)

The Oasis Truck Stop

Saturday mornings at the Oasis Truck Stop at Wilcox Rd Exit I-10 about half way between Mobile and Pensacola, every Sat. morning. Riders are usually there from about 7:30am until 9-9:30. Rides are concocted for afterwards. Contact John at johnart1@aol.com for details

BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS OF ALABAMA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Date: ____/____/2009

NEW ___ RENEW ___ UPDATE ___

Sponsored by _____

Primary Member: _____ DOB: _____

Secondary Member: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____ Apt# _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ FAX: _____

Year / Model BMW(s) : _____

Circle those that apply: MOA Member RA Member Airheads Member Oilheads Member AMA Member

Dues are \$20.00 per year for primary and \$3.00 per year for secondary members. Make check payable to:

BMW M/C Owners of Alabama. Mail application with check to: Marty Simpson, 10010 Torino Drive, Huntsville, AL 35803

THE "OUTLAWS" RETURN TO NAUVOO

Ron Riggins

Man what a Great weekend! The owners of The Harbin Hotel and most of Nauvoo, Gene and Earlene McDaniel, went out of their way to take great care of us, especially Friday night when the bad weather was approaching. Gene opened a bunch of his buildings so all the bikes were parked inside and even the campers were safe inside out of the weather...what great hosts! If you couldn't make the Nauvoo meeting you really missed a great one.

Friday night was good with one rough spot, Darlene Massey fell early in the evening and was taken to the emergency room. She came back bandaged and in a sling but trooped on with us for the rest of the weekend! Now that's what I call tough!

Also Friday night when the Sheriff's Deputy patrolled Nauvoo he noticed some of our female rowdies and stopped to check out the situation. To keep'em happy he deputized the three ladies. Later one of the "deputies" was begging to try out the handcuffs, however she declined when she found out they weren't "fur lined"! The rest of us were just glad he didn't give them guns! We all had a good laugh as it was all in fun.

Saturday we had several groups go on cool rides and then I had the pleasure of leading our parade of bikes through the streets of Nauvoo, blowing the horns and entertaining all the local citizens and ourselves! Afterwards, we had a nice dinner catered by the "Slick Lizard BBQ"...delicious. Then we watched an encore presentation of the "Wild Ones". Boy...we sure do resemble those folks!! The evening was topped off with a great big campfire!! Sunday we had a nice big breakfast after which we had our meeting and then everyone took off for home. Another great weekend!

Russ Simpson Award. It's time for you to send in your votes for the annual Russ Simpson Award. There is no ballot. Everyone sends in their vote to the membership director. Please email Tommy Arnold, your Membership Director, and give him your vote before April 30th. The award will be presented at the closing ceremonies at the Chicken Rally.

Change of dates. At the Nauvoo meeting it was voted to swap the meeting dates for Ft. Toulouse and Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground. We will go to Blue Ridge in June and Ft Toulouse in July. The dates will be updated on the website very shortly.

New Members. We had several new members come to Nauvoo for their first meeting... Chris Patterson and Jill Van der Westhuizen... Butch Banks and Norma Banks! We all enjoyed meeting them and are very pleased to have them join our club! Welcome to our group!



Two of our newest members, Chris and Jill, enjoying breakfast

Raffle Tickets. We need everyone's help with selling Raffle Tickets for the F800GS. This bike is considerably more expensive than the F650GS we given away the last two years. For this reason we need to sell all 3500 tickets. Remember... when you sell 4 books you earn a free rally admission. Also, if you sell the winning ticket you will receive a \$150 gift certificate to the motorcycle shop of your choice! Contact Vance or Mari Harrelson for raffle tickets.

Chicken Rally...It's time to start getting our volunteers lined up! Please go to the website and follow the instructions to let Vance and Connie know where you'd like to volunteer. **Our rally is dependent upon everyone pitching in and helping a shift or two. So step up to the plate...It's really a lot of fun!**

Club Cruise 2010 The dates for signing up for the cruise have been extended. **You can still sign up to go on the cruise!**

Call Vanessa Gamble at AAA
205-978-7030 or 800-521-8124

or e-mail to: vgamble@aaaalabama.com

The “Ides of March” descend on Nauvoo Alabama

Reece Mullins

Adventure, drama, and high anxiety... it was all available on the last weekend of March 2009 for a small group of Beemer riders, that converged on the quaint, not so quite town of Nauvoo Alabama.

Let me tell you a story...

For those without drama in their life, or have left it for the solace of retirement let me share the events of Friday morning in Enterprise, Alabama. The day started with the usual tornado and flood warnings. After an all night rain, the local TV weather forecasters were drawing the overtime that the network affiliates must factor into their annual budget for the “**Ides of March**”.

Battling the storms, I got in the truck and headed to the post office just as it opened at eight-thirty a.m. sharp in an unsuccessful early attempt to pick up my mail for the day. In my mail were the much-anticipated five torx screws sent to me by the BMW dealer that left them out of “Ursala” (my R1200RT) the weekend past. I had to visit the dealership for some unscheduled maintenance, and when I got home and started cleaning her up I noticed five screws missing.

So here I am now, a day off from work, tornados inbound, and Ursala’s precious screws are being held by the nefarious postal workers scheming to ruin my wonderful weekend in Nauvoo Alabama. Enter-Jim Kalahan BMW motorcycle mentor, and super hero. Jim and I had planned to ride together to Nauvoo, and now that opportunity was diminishing by the minute. Jim recommended a hardware specialty store here in Enterprise... “FASTENAL”. So, after much measuring and two trips, I didn’t get the proper replacement screws but I did get something that worked. Rush home, pouring rain, get out the ¼ inch drive, put the screws in, say bye to the teenage daughter as she rushes out of the garage late for school... oh yes, the drama oozes through every nook and cranny of the brown and blue house that sits on the corner lot of Candlewood Dr.

Those of you reading this that have given up this wonderful life for retirement are probably smiling wickedly right now, some are probably out and out belly laughing. Packed up, teenage son on the bike, proper riding attire, (I hope) and a phone call to Mom who’s driving down to Nauvoo from Tennessee, and we’re off to Jim’s house. Jim, Reece, and

Cody, take off on two beautiful beamers from a waving Shelia and a yard full of blooming azaleas at 11:20 a.m., four hours to Nauvoo. A far cry from the 8:00 a.m. departure we had planned for. I was secretly thanking Jim for his acceptance of my drama filled life, but what I didn’t realize was Jim always has a contingency for young riders with drama in their life... ride faster, ride harder. Riding north through the “Brizzel” (an aviation term for heavy mist, annotated on weather reports as “BR” a.k.a. “baby rain”) we finally find that “heat tab” in the sky somewhere around Montgomery.

Leaving the drama of ordinary life in Enterprise Alabama behind, I settle in behind Ursala’s fairing, and start concentrating on “lead,” the traffic, and the road conditions, this is my longest ride yet in my short two-wheel career, (nine months since my BRC in Hawaii) and I have precious cargo on board, my only son. Concentration and safety are key. We arrive in Nauvoo four hours later, and as we pull in, who’s standing by the road at the Harbin hotel waiting for me... my mom, Elizabeth Mullins, who I haven’t seen in a year, and only once since I’ve been back from Iraq. It’s the first time she’s ever seen me, or my son for that matter on a bike. Jim pulls left into the campground and I ease up next to my mom on the right side of the road and give her a hug. The sun was shining, and things were shaping up for a wonderful weekend.

Tent and campsite operations commenced shortly after “mom reunion” in the campsite, Jim had set up shop in one of the pavilions and was cooking jambalaya on one of the picnic tables. After a quick jaunt to a seafood restaurant down the road with mom, Cody and I went to work erecting the REI two-man wonder between two concrete slabs using a local politician’s election campaign sign as a ground tarp. No sooner was the tent in good standing filled with the appropriate sleeping gear, Gene McDaniel (Owner and Operator of the Harbin Hotel) and Mom drove up to inform all of us would-be-campers that a second line of tornados was out west somewhere moving east and hail and damnation was following close behind. So with the efficiency of an Indy Pit Crew on amphetamines in short order the tent that was oh-so-recently erected, was now back in it’s stuff sack along with all our camping supplies. Those with the desire to experience the full effect of hobo life by the rails occupied the Caboose and Train Museum. Luckily, the tornados and hailstorms were diverted around the beautiful town of Nauvoo, a moderate rain came that night instead, cleansing the roads and the forest and rivers for the lovely day of riding and exploring to follow in the morning.

After a restful night sleep in more spacious and luxurious digs, the team of Beemer explorers gathered in the lobby for coffee, and orange juice, followed by the hearty breakfast of biscuits, gravy, and centuple slices prepared with the utmost of care by Earline, Gene's wife and co-owner of the Harbin hotel, and her team of hard-working ladies. The "*Slick Lizard Lounge*" was truly a wonderful dining experience. My mom thought the cantaloupe was most excellent, and coming from a fine connoisseur of cantaloupe like my mom, that truly is a five-star rating from a most distinguished food critique.

With our bellies full, the team of adventurous BMW riders planned for the day's adventures. Most of the club riders who attended last year's event were off to Smith Lake to visit, I thought I heard them say, "the largest earthen dam in the United States". For those of us who missed last year's meeting, but peruse the website and were awed by the photos of the club visiting Dismal Canyons, we were given some quick GPS directions from Martin, and off we went. Such is the nature of the Alabeemers, Fun, safety, and adventure, with the autonomy afforded to its members in that pursuit.

Dismal canyons were a little out of the way but well worth the trip, a beautiful hike in some of the most splendid scenery I've ever come across in Alabama. A find, I'm sure, I would have never discovered on my own; so much to see in Alabama, so little time. Lot's of photos were taken, and Cody, got some excellent footage of his grandmother crossing the creek barefooted... priceless.

One event that did occur on our trip to the canyons that I would be remiss in not sharing... my excursion across the double yellow line on a tight ninety degree turn on the route there. I was designated lead, as Martin had given me the GPS coordinates. A little intimidating of course, as my motorcycle mentor, Jim was "chalk two" as we say in the lingo of aviation. Well things were going just fine, we were on a beautiful two lane road and encountering some wonderful twisties; as I entered the turn I realized that the radius of the turn was sharper than I expected, already at my comfort zone in the bank angle, I elected to decrease the bank angle and strayed "significantly" across the double yellow line.

After the turn, and the frustration subsided I started immediately analyzing what went wrong, and determined I made the same mistake my helicopter students often make, I allowed myself to become task saturated at the most inopportune time, and neglected to concentrate on the task at hand. When I realized the turn radius was sharper than the speed I had planned going into the turn, I looked in my side view mirror to determine Jim's

proximity to me. Of course, I had plenty of room. Jim flies formation and knows the rules about giving the lead aircraft room to maneuver. Jim also being a fellow instructor pilot didn't miss the opportunity to pull up beside me and give me the proverbial "wag of the finger". So, the moral of the story; concentrate on riding. Every other task, is subordinate to this one task, i.e. GPS, mirrors, radio, gear adjustment, etc. Just keep the eye and mind on the road, especially at critical times like a beautiful twisty. After collecting some ABEES points at a nearby civil-war monument, Tim, riding his James Bond Beemer, led us back on a nice twisty two lane that allowed me to vindicate myself, at least in my own mind. Humility... always an attribute when riding.

Upon our return to Nauvoo, we all prepared for our "parade through town". But before we could all mount our lovely steeds, what I assume was a local young lady elected to pull up beside us all with her red un-muffled Ford Mustang and then floor it. Yes, the immediate depression of the accelerator did produce the desired acceleration forward and high decibel output, however, the quiet laughter from the group, probably wasn't the reaction she was going for. Mustang show over, the BRMC a.k.a Beemer-Riders-Mildly-Chaotic, mounted up and introduced ourselves to the lovely community of Nauvoo Alabama.

After the parade we were all treated to another wonderful meal and movie in the lobby; the "Wild Ones" of course, with Marlin Brando. After the movie, the "mild ones" filtered back to their rooms and cabooses, RV's, and train museums for a restful night sleep. The next morning we were greeted once again with wonderful coffee and breakfast, followed by the club's monthly meeting. The weather had turned cold, now, dipping down into the low forties, made for a brisk ride home. The ride from Nauvoo to Enterprise was infused with the splendor of spring; the forest, now after the rains, glowed deep emerald green contrasted with the cloaked royal purple blooms of wisteria and crowned with dogwoods in bloom. The azaleas adorned so many yards and roadways and storefronts... ah, the beauty of Alabama in the springtime.

Aside from the dreaded flip-flop injury, a sore knee, and my bruised pride from crossing the double yellow line, I would say that the meeting was one to be remembered. Thank you Gene and Earline for a wonderful weekend. Before I close I'd like to give a shout out to our newest members on their first meeting, Chris and Jill. I hope Nauvoo lived up to the billing, and look forward to seeing you both again.

GOOD SAMARITANS

Rickie & Lila Bonner

You know the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37. Well, I want to tell you that we have Good Samaritans in our Alabeemer Club. Friday morning, March 27, Lila and I left Mobile when the showers subsided, for a much needed weekend get-away. We were excited about visiting Nauvoo again and enjoying the great hospitality of Gene and Earlene at the Harbin Hotel. Saturday morning some of us were sitting on the porch of the old Gump's Garage across from the hotel where my bike was parked. I noticed Vance walk behind my bike and look at my rear tire. Before he had a chance to say anything I said, "What do you think?" He planted a seed by saying, "It sure has a lot of wear on the left side." I guess I was in denial and said it looked good when we left mobile Friday. I also said it only has 6500 miles on it and my 95 RS averaged 11,000 miles before changing tires.

After that Harry & Celina, and Lila & I, rode over to Trussville to see our daughter Susan and their new house construction. We were late coming back and Harry was leading, hitting 85 mph to get us back in time for the Nauvoo parade. That seed Vance planted started sprouting and my thoughts were on that rear tire. Thanks to God we made it back safely, just in time for the ride through town. When I put my bike up for the night in Gump's garage I had to look at that tire and it did look bad!

The next morning as everyone was leaving, Vance watered that seed again! He said with that concerned look he sometimes has by removing his cap and then replacing it, "You know, I didn't see that wear in the center yesterday. You need to take it easy and check that tire often". He watered it one more time and said, "You know, Terry Ware might have one of those tires." Well, we left for home and all I could think about was getting my bride of 45 years home safely! We stopped at Hardees in Tuscaloosa on the south side of I-59 and checked the tire. Man, did it look bad! The steel belts were as shiny as an old rusty plow after breaking up new ground!

I got the Terry Two Wheel card out and called the two numbers and didn't get an answer. I then got the blue membership book out and called their home phone. I was so glad to hear Joan say, "Hello". I started telling her my problem and she said, "Here is the tire man". Terry didn't hesitate and said, "I think I have your size tire in the shop. Give me a few minutes and I will call you back. Fifteen minutes later my phone rang and Terry said, "

I have the tire". He then gave me directions to the shop. We got there in about 45 minutes and they greeted us at the back door. Terry started working on removing the tire and Joan warmed us up with a good cup of fresh coffee! We learned that he had been on a men's retreat and had just walked into his home when I called. We visited and toured the nice, new shop while Terry worked replacing the tire. He said he didn't think we would have made it home on that old tire. They had us on our way in less than an hour. Man, what service! Terry and Joan took their Sunday afternoon to be good Samaritans and we are so thankful!

You know we do have a lot of Alabeemers that are good Samaritans as in Luke 10. They give their time, they plant the seeds, they give up their room for others, they work on your bikes, they show care and concern by calling and etc!

Oh, by the way, Vance called Sunday night to check on the seed that had grown and we told him the whole story. Also, Malvene called on Monday. Thanks to ALL you good Samaritans, for caring and for loving us!



Ron explains to Larry that the parade through Nauvoo has already left. They went thataway.



ALABAMA BACK ROADS

Martin Benson

Even with the wild weather in March, club members were able to get in a good many rides.

On March the 14th we enjoyed hot dogs and animal crackers at Bogart's open house. There was a good turn out for the eating but only two for our ride. The rain quit about 1:00 PM. It was a delightful ride down AL 25 to Logan Martin Dam. The mist and clouds on the mountain made you think of Blue Ridge and the Smokies.

Terry Ware had his grand opening on the 21st. The sun was out and there was stream of bikes all day. Again we enjoyed more hot dogs. There was no planned ride but I heard of some rides to and from Terry's.

After rain and strong winds at Nauvoo on Friday night, Saturday was a beautiful day for riding. We had four different groups out in the quest for adventure and ABEES points. Bob Steber & Phillip Warren headed to Muscle Shoals and Helen Keller's home and other points. Ranger Reece and his group found the Dismals a interesting place to explore. Vance and his following decided that Nesmith's hamburger cafe was the place to be for lunch. My group found Smith Lake dam, Natural Bridge and Nesmith's on our ride.

Our April meeting is at Sloppy Floyd State Park outside Summerville, GA. This area is full on great motorcycle roads. Our ABEES guru, Bob Steber, has planned a ride for Saturday. This ride will be a morning and afternoon ride with lunch at Jim's in Summerville.

Bob also has route laid out to Sloppy Floyd from the Cracker Barrel at I-59 at near Gadsden. This route is on good back roads that do not have a lot of traffic and one can make good time on them.

These routes will be posted on the Planned Rides thread of the forum.

See you down the road.



ABEES POINTS TO DATE

Name	Restaurants, Points of Interest and Monthly Club Gatherings	Favorite Roads & Rides	Total ABEES Check Offs	Total ABEES Tickets	Total Bonus Tickets	Total Tickets
Bob Steber	136	22	158	7.9	8	15.9
Martin Benson	117	11	128	6.4	5	11.4
Vance Harrelson	63	5	68	3.4	4	7.4
Paul McBrayer	45	5	50	2.5	3	5.5
Noah Johnson	38	5	43	2.2	1	3.2
Terry Ware	28	8	36	1.8	1	2.8
Beverly Hughston	31	4	35	1.8	2	3.8
Jimmy Lowe	30	3	33	1.7	2	3.7
Erik Bahl	32	1	33	1.7	2	3.7
Phillip Warren	27	3	30	1.5	5	6.5
Jim Dubick	26	1	27	1.4	4	5.4
Tim Flynn	18	5	23	1.2	4	5.2
Mickey Gee	14	6	20	1.0	0	1.0
Gary Williams	18		18			
Bob Daigle	16		16			

ABEES ADDENDUM

City	Rgn	Place	Code	Description
		Restaurants & POIs		
Alexander City	C	Tallapoosa Cty. Courthouse Annex	CRT	Add
Anniston	C	Ft. McClellan - Buckner Historic District	POI	Add
Brent	C	Saw Mill	EAT	Add
Cedar Bluff	NE	Fibbers	EAT	Delete
Dora	C	Mining Museum	POI	Add
Douglass	NE	Old Meeting House	EAT	Delete
Elmore County	SE	Tallapoosa Falls Historical	WFL	Delete
Elmore County	SE	Wetumpka Falls	WFL	Delete
Leeds	C	Augies	EAT	Delete
Marion	SW	Perry Lakes Park	POI	Add
Marion	SW	Marrion Military Institute	POI	Add
Marion	SW	Judson College	POI	Add
Pelham	C	Gerri's	EAT	Delete
Shorter	SW	Back Forty	EAT	Delete
Smuteye	SE	Old Store - BMW Roundell on Sign	POI	Add
Tallassee	SE	Hotel Tallassee	EAT	Delete
Tuscaloosa County	C	Historical Falls (Historical)	WFL	Delete
Tuskegee	SE	Talliaferro's	EAT	Add
Tuskegee	SE	Whispering Oaks	EAT	Delete

SLOPPY FLOYD 2009 MEETING

April 24-25-26

James H. "Sloppy" Floyd State Park – Summerville, Georgia
(706) 857-0826
Reservations (800) 864-7275
Bob Steber

The entrance to James H. "Sloppy" Floyd State Park is 2.5 miles southeast of Summerville on US 27 at Sloppy Floyd Lake Road. There are State Park direction signs there and the campground is at the south end of the Park.

We have seven campsites reserved for Friday and Saturday nights. **Please, as soon as you can**, email Ron Riggins and tell him how many nights you are going to camp so I can reserve additional sites as required. This year, I can not mark off the camp sites, so the earlier you arrive, the better site you will have. Each campsite has electricity, water, fire rings and grills, so plan to bring some cooking stuff for your Friday night dinner, or you can go to a restaurant in Summerville. Jim's Family Restaurant is across Hwy 100 from the Coach Inn and is a good place to eat.

When you arrive, go directly to an empty campsite and set up. There can be up to 6 people on each site. We will collect your camping fees Saturday prior to dinner. The camping fee is \$24.00 per day for tent camping divided by the number of people there. There is also an additional one time \$3.00 park pass for each vehicle. **If you are going in an RV**, or wish to have your own campsite, please call the Georgia Park Service central reservations desk at 1-800 864-7275 to make your reservation. The campground completely sold out early last year, so make your reservations quickly. At this writing (April 2) there are only 8 additional camp sites left and they will all be gone by the time we get there.

For those not wanting to camp, there is a nice little 24 room motel (Coach Inn) in Summerville at the junction of GA Highway 100/114 & US27. The address is 9785 Rome Blvd. Tel # 706 857-7007. If you want a room, I recommend you make your reservation as quickly as possible, because they are fully booked most of the time. Unfortunately, there is 5 day cancellation policy for room reservations. The single and double rooms are \$55.00 + Tax.

Kim and Stan Reynolds will have a Bar-B-Q feast of pork with beans, slaw, tea and sweets for \$10.00 ready for us at 5:30 - 6:00 pm Georgia time Saturday evening at their new Red Barn which is ½ mile from the campground. They will also have our breakfast of 2 biscuits (1 ham, 1 sausage), orange juice and coffee at the campground Saturday and Sunday morning at 7 am Georgia time for \$4.00.

Please email Ron Riggins to let him know which nights you want to camp and if you want dinner Saturday night, and breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings. Also, please tell him if you want to go on the Club ride which is described in the next paragraph.

Our first back roads ride will depart Saturday morning from the Sloppy Floyd campground at 9 am Georgia time. We will ride the Little River Canyon rim road to Dogtown for a fuel/restroom break (43 miles), so please be sure to have enough fuel for the first leg. From Dogtown, we will ride through Desoto State Park to Mentone via highways 176 & CR 89 stopping at the Sallie Howard Memorial Chapel for a photo-opp and continue to Mountain Cove Farms (one of the most beautiful valleys in the southeast), then to Jim's Restaurant in Summerville for lunch around noon.

After lunch, our second backroads ride departs Jim's and we will stop for fuel near the Sloppy Floyd Park entrance, then continue our ride to Johns Mountain and the Pocket Federal Park via Little Sand Mtn. Road and Everett Springs Road and then return to Sloppy Floyd via Silver Hill and Lick Skillet Roads. The morning ride is 113 miles and the afternoon ride is 87 miles totaling 200 miles over some of the most exciting roads and beautiful scenery in our part of the country.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Sloppy Floyd April 24. This one is always a lot of fun.

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

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Dedicated to safe and enjoyable motorcycling



Please visit the BMWMOAL web site at www.bmwmoal.org and register. Log on and see what members are saying about club activities. The site is user friendly and the newsletter is in color.

Club Sponsored Events With Meetings

Apr 25/26	Sloppy Floyd S.P., Summerville, GA
May 21-24	Great Chicken Rally-Huntsville, AL
June 27/28	Blue Ridge MC Camp Ground Cruso, NC
July 25/26	Ft. Toulouse Wetumpka, AL
Aug 28/29/30	Beemers, Beer, Brats Enterprise, AL
Sept 26/27	Shell Mound Campground Nickajack Dam, Jasper Tennessee
Oct 31/Nov 1	Little River State Forest Atmore, AL
Dec 5	Christmas Party Guntersville St. Park

Other Events of Interest

Apr 17-19	BMW Vintage Rally, Sturgis, MS
Apr 25	Relay for Life Ride, Smith Bros. Cropwell, AL
Jul 16-19	BMWMOA National Rally Johnson City, TN
Aug 13-16	32nd Dan'l Boone Rally Boone, NC
Oct 24-25	Waggoners RibFest, Centerville, TN