

THE ALABAMA BEEMER



Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama
BMWMOA Chapter #5/ BMWRA Chapter #107



Volume XLI Issue 2

February 2012

WHERE IS MY NEWSLETTER?

by Jamie Jackson - Vice President

This is exactly what some members, that were not at the January meeting in Montevallo, may be asking next month. Those that were there know that this is the last paper copy of the club newsletter. Future copies of the newsletter will be available on the club's web site. If you must have a paper copy you may print one from there, and in color I might add.

The requirement for a newsletter was established by the founding fathers of the club. They felt a newsletter was necessary for the officers to communicate with the membership. A lot has happened in the field of communications during the forty years the club has existed, thanks to electronic technology. When the club was founded Ma Bell was the only telephone provider, the personal computer had not been developed, a computer as powerful as a laptop was as big house, and of course Al Gore had not even thought of the internet.

Now that electronic communication is lightning fast and truly portable, as evidenced by the modern cell phones with data capability, and the influx of laptop computers, I-pads, Nooks, Kindles, etc., the club has voted to provide future copies only in an electronic format.

Since the club maintains a very sophisticated web site already, then it seems appropriate that the newsletter be found there. In fact, a copy of the monthly newsletters have been available there for several years. The web site copies are in color and all back copies are available. So, what is changing is the paper copies are no longer going to be mailed to your home.

Some other advantages of an electronic newsletter are:

Quicker delivery of club information to you;

Extreme expense reduction for the club. The paper copy that you have received in the past cost essentially what your dues generated, and left very, very little to fund club activities;

The editor will not be "locked" to one location for several days each month while the information for the newsletter is being compiled, edited, and published;

And finally, if information in the newsletter absolutely needed to be corrected due to errors or incorrect information that could cause someone a hardship, or jeopardize their safety, it could be corrected immediately. This will not be available for normal typos, misspellings, etc, but only for very serious situations

The club is fortunate to have Steve Schuckman as our web site manager. Steve does an outstanding job keeping spam and clutter from the site, updating information in a timely fashion, and programming things so that we have a very user friendly site. I know that Steve will make posting of the newsletter a priority.

As of this writing, it is planned for an electronic message to be sent to each members e-mail, as it appears on file, to notify the membership that the newsletter is ready for viewing. If you don't remember what address you have provided then please refer to your information listed in the "Blue Members Book" that is mailed to your home address at the end of February. If your information is in error in the 2012 Edition, that you will soon receive, then please provide corrected info to Martha Warren, Membership Director. Her official e-mail address is on the web site and her personal address and phone is in the Members Book.

I know that change is often painful and frustrating but I believe we will have a seamless transition. So, come March, please don't scream...

Where is my newsletter.

MEETING MINUTES

January 29, 2012

Montevallo, AL

Presidents, Vance Harrelson and Don Little presiding

Vance opened the meeting with a warm welcome and a Thank You to Connie Reaves for arranging this morning's breakfast and helping with Saturday night's pizza. Thanks too, to Amelia Bauman for the King Cakes, and to Darlene Massey for the other snacks we all enjoyed Saturday afternoon.

Connie gave a financial report and made an appeal to everyone to take and sell raffle tickets. Because ticket sales went well at the Barbers Vintage Festival last fall, we are somewhat ahead of last year **BUT we still need everyone to try to sell tickets.**

Bob Steber, when asked to report on Ron Shea, said that Ron was doing great, able to drive and do pretty much everything he wants; A minor miracle considering the terrific accident Ron had in December.

Ron and Carolyn appreciate all the cards, calls, and prayers during Ron's recovery. It was great to hear that both Ron and Eric Bahl are making excellent recoveries after such devastating accidents last year. According to information found at the Safety Center, there were 1729 motorcycle crashes, resulting in 1319 injuries and 86 fatalities here in Alabama in 2010. Scary statistics!!

Martin Benson, outgoing Travel Director, passed out certificates to 37 participants in the 2011 mileage contest. Members reported more than 404,000 miles exceeding the 250,000 mile goal that was set at the beginning of the year. Paul Thorne took top honors with a total of 29,246 miles. Taking a cue from BMWMOA Martin averaged total miles and named Michael Waybright Average Rider of the year.

Vance expressed the Club's appreciation to Martin for a job well done as Travel Director.

Jim Kalahan was the only member who attended all 10 meetings last year, and I presented him with a perfect attendance certificate for his accomplishment.

Terry Ware asked for a few minutes to let members know what is going on at Terry's Two Wheel these days. This year they will be offering members a 10% discount on most products (too many to mention here). They will be doing monthly seminars, running specials and are available for consultations. They have an updated website, and that is the best place to keep up with what is happening with them.

Vance said that he is trying to get Thursday night meetings going again for those folks who live in the Birmingham area. They are now meeting at Riff Burger not far from Terry's Two Wheel.

Vance reported that our 40th year had been a very good one, including a fantastic 40th birthday celebration in Nauvoo, with plenty of fireworks. We now have 374 regular members and 14 FOB's in about 14 states.

It was time to elect officers for 2012. As there were 2 positions in contention, we took a short break while the ballots were counted. Afterwards, Vance introduced the new slate of officers, including newly elected CFO Tommy Arnold and Club photographer Jim Kalahan. Then he turned the floor over to new president, Don Little for the rest of the meeting which included some problem solving and the selection of meeting places for the rest of the year.

Before the break Vance had announced that Robin would no longer be able to be newsletter editor, and that was actually the first order of business for the new officers.

Jamie Jackson, our new VP, took the floor to address this situation. In prior years, when Jamie was newsletter editor, he tried to persuade members to go to electronic delivery of newsletters. Because

members were reluctant to do that, the matter was dropped. But now with no editor and no one volunteering to fill the position, the matter was brought up again. After some discussion a motion was made and seconded to do away with a printed, mailed copy. The motion carried with only two votes against. One more copy will be compiled and mailed explaining the reasons behind the decision. Any information that needs to be included in the newsletter needs be sent to newsletter@bmwmoal.org . It will be compiled and posted to the website for members to access. A motion was then made to elect Malvene Jackson to the position of Newsletter Editor. The motion carried.

Michael Johnston, the Alabama RA representative, took the floor to explain advantages to our club in RA affiliation. He also presented our affiliation certificate and an RA membership for use as the Club designates. This was later presented to Jim Kalahan in appreciation for his attendance last year.

Following that we moved on to meeting places for the year. After the typical lively discussions, we came up with two new and six previous locations. They are as follows:

February	25-26	Blue Springs State Park Clio, Al	for some Little Chili Don and Barbara hosting
March	31-Apr 1	Ft. Blakely State Park Spanish Fort, AL	Michael Johnston hosting
April	28-29	Cajun Chaos Zachary, LA	Mike & Amelia Bauman hosting
May	24-26	Ditto Landing Park Huntsville, AL	The Great Chicken Rally everybody working!
June	23-24	Courtyard 25(formerly 29 Dreams) Vandiver, AL	Rodger Williamson hosting
July	28-29	Blue Ridge MC Camp Cruso, NC	
August	25-26	Kinderfest Enterprise, AL	Jim & Sheila Kalahan hosting
September	29-30	Nauvoo, AL	Gary and Darlene hosting
October	27-28	Laurel Trails Campground Monteagle, TN	Tommy & Jeannine Arnold hosting
December		Christmas Party	Hampton Inn - Eagle Point

More information on these meetings will be posted on the website throughout the year.

Mike Bauman won \$89.50 in the 50/50 pot, after which the new president dismissed the meeting with a prayer for safe travels home.

Respectfully submitted by
Barbara Little, Secretary

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2	Larry Byrd	15	Rickie Bonner	16	Don Drasheff
2	Mary Etta Palmer	15	Frank Fisher	19	Lila Bonner
4	Rob Harrelson			19	Rhonda Simon
4	Ray McAlevy			21	Tony Allison
4	Steven Wantling			21	Joe Rogers
5	Greg Turp			13	Margaret Rogers
7	Walls Aaron			24	Jerry Hyche
7	David Woodburn			26	Barry Land
8	Norman Thomas			27	Paul Thorne
9	Linda Goodin			29	John Cockrell
12	John Gregory			29	Mike Scott
12	Billy Newell			30	Shep Brown
13	Sharon Bryan				



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Carlos Calero and Monica Orejuela	Helena, AL	2007 F800S	Sponsor: Vance Harrelson
H. Michael Smith	Vienna, VA	2007 K1200S	Sponsor: Connie Reaves

BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS OF ALABAMA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Date: ____/____/2012

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 \$25.00 per year for primary and \$5.00 per year for secondary members. Make check payable to:

BMW M/C Owners of Alabama. Mail application with check to: Tommy Arnold, 471 Plantation Pt. Rd., Scottsboro, AL 35768

Results of the 2011 BMWMOAL Mileage Contest

Martin Benson

We had a total of 36 members participate in this year's contest. These 36 reported a total of 421,487 miles ridden. Congratulations to Paul Thorne for riding the most with 29,246 miles.

Our sincere thanks goes to the following for donating prizes:

Maurice Green	Catoma Two Up Tent	Tom Sherrill	Kermit Camping Chair
Pandora BMW	Sweat shirt, tee shirt	Bloodworth BMW	Two tee shirts
Terry's Two Wheel	ROK Straps	Rick Jones	Powerlet

	Name	2011 Miles
1	Paul Thorne	29,246
2	Greg Turp	23,757
3	Mike Greenwood	22,770
4	Paul McBrayer	21,983
5	Tommy Zeringue	21,432
6	Gail Thorne	21,123
7	Rodger Williamson	19,380
8	Don Norwood	18,732
9	Bob Daigle	17,854
10	Martin Benson	16,533
11	Vance Harrelson	16,046
12	Paul McClain	15,271
13	Mike Bauman	14,990
14	Steve Hudson	14,841
15	Russ Kruse	13,294
16	Charlie Parsons	12,959
17	Deborah Parsons	12,142
18	Reece Mullins	11,366
19	Michael Waybright	11,294
20	Bob Steber	11,051
21	Jim Dubick	10,987
22	Terry Ware	9,023
23	Tony Ridgeway	7,215
24	Tom Barnett	7,107
25	Tim Flynn	6,406
26	Vernon Headrick	6,189
27	Eric Bahl	4,566
28	Wanda Hudson	4,343
29	Bill Shanks	4,121
30	Joan Ware	3,046
31	Joe Rogers	2,909
32	Don Little	2,741
33	Jeff Pesnell	2,689
34	Kay Headrick	2,240
35	Connie Reeves	1,771
36	Susan Dubick	70
	Total	421,487

MOA News...

Vance Harrelson

Many of our MOAL members are also MOA members. For those who are not, the MOA is the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America. This is an international club BMW motorcycle owners based in St. Louis, MO. The BMW AL club is chartered club of the MOA and works closely on items of interest to BMW motorcycle owners. It provides an avenue for local club members to communicate internationally with BMW and other riders around the world with common interests. Through the MOA members have access to a magazine published monthly the BMW ON, a complete website with forums and a free "Flea Market" to buy and sell motorcycle related items. In addition members get access to the "Anonymous" book which lists other members around the country and around the world that are willing to lend a hand to riders as they travel on their motorcycles.

If you are not currently a member of the MOA or if you have been previously but have let your membership lapse, I hope you will reconsider joining today! I invite you to visit the MOA website www.bmwmoa.org and take a look for yourself at the club. You can join right there for the first time or renew your membership! After reading the news below, if you are not a member, I think you will want to be!

Below you will find just some of the latest news from the MOA. If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to contact me (alabeemer@gmail.com) and I will do what I can to help!

A New Look For The MOA!

The MOA Board of Directors met for its scheduled quarterly meeting in St. Louis in mid January. A couple of new programs were approved that will help to shape the MOA going forward for many years. The results of a comprehensive branding program that was conducted last fall was presented to the board. This project included online surveys of current and prospective members as well as specific focus groups held around the country to survey members. This effort produced a clear view of the MOA from those taking part in terms of members needs, perceptions and desires for the future. In short what do members need from an enthusiast club? We heard you loud and clear!

Shortly you will see a new look and a new logo for the MOA! This year the MOA will be celebrating its 40th anniversary and the new look will be an exciting part of this! The logo will present a new, more progressive and exciting look! Stay tuned for the unveiling!!

With the explosion of digital media, the MOA is proud to announce that it has dedicated significant resources for the total upgrade of the computer systems in the office. This upgrade will support technical applications for displaying the ON magazine and the Anonymous book on popular Smart Phones and tablets! This will mean the MOA and it's key components and member benefits will soon be as close at hand as your phone! Again, Stay tuned for details coming soon!!

The Superstakes III is coming! This edition III of this popular prize giveaway is going to blow you away! Next month's ON will have full details on this exciting program designed help members celebrate the club's 40th birthday party! You think it was big before....well you ain't seen nothin' yet!!

Want to ride with other MOA members and meet some new friends? Well, here is your chance...and close to home!

2012 Weekend Getaway April 20-22, 2012 Oxford, AL

Come join us for a great *Weekend Getaway* in central Alabama. Spring is a great time of the year in deep-south. By late April the trees are green, the temperatures are warming up and the dogwood and azaleas

are in bloom! The area is covered with great roads featuring curves and elevation changes making the scenery even more spectacular!

Your *Weekend Getaway* will be based in Oxford, AL conveniently located along I-20 between Birmingham and Atlanta. Our host hotel will be the newly renovated Courtyard by Marriott conveniently located off I-20 at Exit 188 at 289 Colonial Drive in Oxford. (N33 36.724 W85 47.458) Rooms are available in both single and double configurations so bring your sweetie or your riding buddy and share a room. Room rates are \$84 / night plus tax and that includes a hot breakfast the next morning! Rooms may be booked online now here www.marriott.com/bhmaa (Be sure to use the following Group Codes: For A Room With One King Bed *BMWBMWA* And For a room with two Queen Beds *BMWBMWB*. You may contact the hotel directly at 256-831-7995)

Plan to arrive on Friday afternoon in time to meet and greet your friends and other attendees and to familiarize yourself with all there is to do in the area. We will serve appetizers and a cash bar will be available. There will be maps of planned rides and information on many attractions in the area if you prefer to strike out on your own!

And what is there to do around Oxford? ...Well there is plenty! The world famous **Barber Motorsports Museum** is a short ride away as is **Mt Cheaha** the highest point in Alabama. You can visit and tour the **Talladega Superspeedway** and **International Motorsports Hall Of Fame**. And if you have a need to go really fast...take a few laps around the track at 160 MPH with the **Dale Jarrett Racing Adventure!** They will be on track at Talladega that weekend (Of course you will need to book that directly with them if you are interested). **The Berman Museum of World History** is located in nearby Anniston and immediately adjacent to the **Anniston Museum of Natural History**. Another stop could be to tour the magnificent **Church of St. Michaels and All Angels** built in 1887. You may want to visit the **Wright Dairy** in nearby Alexandria for a taste of their fantastic ice cream or visit and tour the **White Oak Vineyards** near Anniston!

This is just a partial list of what is available in the area but gives you an idea of the many things to do!

On Saturday we will have three group riding opportunities available for you.

Ride One will depart for a scenic ride to the Barber Motorsports Museum. We will arrive early to allow plenty of time for you to browse this fantastic motorsports museum. *Make sure to obtain your special discounted admission voucher they have offered us for our event!* After the museum we will depart for a scenic and meandering ride stopping for lunch at a local eatery along the way and arriving back at the hotel mid to late afternoon.

Ride Two will depart the hotel for a scenic ride over to the Talladega Superspeedway to for a track tour and to visit the International Motorsports Hall of Fame. See up close the high banks of the world's fastest speedway and visit the International Motorsports Hall of Fame and Museum packed with racing memorabilia. After visiting the museum we will depart for a great ride back stopping for lunch along the way and arriving back at the hotel mid to late afternoon.

Ride Three will be a dual sport ride that includes some great street riding and off road sections through the beautiful Talladega National Forest! This ride will be suitable for new to intermediate GS'ers and even two-up more experienced riders as these Forest Service roads are improved dirt and gravel. There will be interesting stops and sights along the way as well as a stop for lunch.

Saturday evening we will all gather back at the hotel for a catered dinner. Join us and share with all of us your stories and discoveries of the day! After dinner we will draw for some great door prizes too!

As you can see there is a lot to see and do in the area and we want you to be a part of it! The event fee for the Alabama Weekend Getaway is \$89 per person and can be booked online the club website *Events Registration* page beginning February 1.

The event fee includes appetizers on Friday night, catered dinner Saturday night, a specially designed MOA weekend getaway t-shirt and gift bag and your chance at some great door prizes! Make your plans and book today as space is limited to the first 80 participants! Don't miss the opportunity to "getaway" with your friends at the MOA!

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Don Little - President

Hello and welcome to your last printed, mailed newsletter. More about that later. First, I want to extend my sincere thanks to all of the officers and directors who served the Club so well last year. Special Thanks to Vance and Connie both of whom have served in various positions for the last few years.

I think we have a great slate of officers and directors again this year, and I want to thank each one who agreed to serve.

I think this is a wonderful club better. My primary aim is to group". You know the ones I attend most meetings, get as many members group. To achieve my goal to call those attended a meeting them that they have vite them back. After member to have as at every meeting and

Now to get back to the to our January meet-Robin could no longer editor for 2012. Vance from the floor to fill the po-deafening. So the matter of newsletter was brought times in the past. Discussion was the newsletter (\$400 per issue, more and effort it takes to compile and edit one (quite a few hours). Even with Jack Goertz taking care of the folding, sealing, and stamping, there is still a lot of work involved in producing a quality newsletter such as we have.

Also to consider is the number of pages to fill. With a printed copy, we had to fill 12 pages. There is no such restriction with electronic newsletters. We can have as many or as few pages as necessary. In the end, it was decided to send one more mailed newsletter so that every member would be aware of the decision and the reasons behind it.

It is going to be a great year, one that I am really looking forward to.



and would like to make it even serve what I consider our "core am talking about: those who those who work their fin- rally, and those who do on to do. And I want to as I can into that that, I have made it members who haven't lately. I want to tell been missed and in- that, I just want every much fun as possible event.

newsletter. Just prior ing, we learned that continue as newsletter asked for nominations sition and the silence was electronic delivery of the up...again as it had been several held, including the cost to mail out than we collect in dues), and the time

Even with Jack Goertz taking care of the folding, sealing, and stamping, there is still a lot of work involved in producing a quality newsletter such as we have.

Touring Tip: Exercising Good Riding Judgement

From RoadRUNNER Magazine

Becoming a proficient, safe rider involves the accomplishment of many skills and a reservoir of experience in applying them. But even expert riders can be involved in serious accidents. In my experience, the primary preventable reason these accidents occur is because there was a lapse in the rider's judgment. Here's an example of one such incident with fatal consequences:

A young man on a sportbike was following a heavily laden dump truck on a four-lane city street in front of my place of employment. The rider apparently became frustrated with the truck's slow rate of progress in the left lane and, in a split second, swerved into the right lane to pass. What the rider didn't realize was that the truck was slowing to make a wide cross-lane turn into a construction site on the right. It took first responders quite a while to dislodge the motorcycle and its rider from beneath the truck's rear wheels.

There are several factors, all of them mental, which can compromise a rider's otherwise good judgment:

- **Being in A Hurry:** Busy urban streets are a high risk environment for motorcyclists, because there are so many potential risks that must be identified and mitigated. Trying to do this at warp speed is dangerous. The laws of probability suggest that sooner or later an imprudent rider will miss identifying a risk and fall victim to it. The same, also, is true on country roads.

- **Rationalizing Known Risks:** Experienced motorcyclists usually are well aware of the risks posed to them in various riding situations. But how many times have you done something and later said to yourself, "I knew better than to do that!" I know I've done it – like the time I thought I needed to outrun an approaching thunderstorm, but didn't. I well knew that driving rain and lightening posed a dangerous riding environment, but chanced it anyway because I didn't want to take time out of my trip schedule to immediately find shelter. I knew better than that.

Over Confidence: In my estimation this is a major source of accidents for the most proficient motorcyclists. It's a wonderful feeling when a rider gets to a point where he or she feels in complete command of their mount in virtually any situation. They often ride on the ragged edge of traction and safety. By leaving no margin of safety for a misjudged corner or an unexpected hazard suddenly appearing over the next hilltop, these riders are playing their own version of motorcycle roulette. Sooner or later they will need to rely on a margin for riding error that

won't be there when they need it.

Peer Pressure: How many times have you heard a highly proficient ride leader say, "Don't try to keep up with me, ride your own ride"? The problem that often develops, though, is that less adept riders, especially if they're on a powerful motorcycle that well exceeds their skill level (but not their ego), feel that they *do* have to keep up. Riding over your head is asking for trouble. And if you're the cocky ride leader, be aware of the potential peer pressure you may be placing on the less capable riders in your jet stream.

Here are my five recommendations for exercising good riding judgment:

1. Take Your Time: If you're late for a meeting or some other important appointment across town, it would be better to park your bike and take a cab, rather than pushing your limits through traffic.

Whether you're riding in the country or in an urban environment, motorcycling is supposed to be fun. Always ride at a safe speed.

2. Look Before You Leap: Don't rationalize known riding risks and always be observant and thoughtful about identifying those that aren't immediately obvious. I think there is a little voice in the back of our minds that tells us when we're doing this—listen to it and ride accordingly!

3. Leave Your Ego in the Garage: Just like in a lot of other life situations, if you have an overly active ego, you can find yourself in a predicament. Because a motorcycle provides little, if any, crash protection, a rider has to be on top of his or her safe riding game at all times. Don't take your ego along on a ride; it really *is* excess baggage that can cloud your riding judgment.

4. Stay Within Your Comfort Zone: If you're ever feeling a little unsafe on a ride, that's because you *are* unsafe. Exercise an "iron will" by always staying within your riding comfort zone. Your subconscious mind let's you know when you're outside your own personal safe riding envelope. Don't ignore it! Really *do* "ride your own ride!"

5. Learn from Your Mistakes and those of Others: It's important during and after a ride to reflect on any errors in judgment that you might have made and resolve not to repeat them. There is also much to be gained by learning from the mistakes of others so you can avoid those also.

Of course, not every random act of nature or acts of other humans can be anticipated and avoided, but riding with good judgment can go a long way in reducing your risk of an accident.

Reprinted with permission from Road Runner.
~Joan Ware

FEBRUARY MEETING DETAILS

Barbara Little

Date: February 25 / 26

Place: Blue Springs State Park, Clio, AL

Hosts: Don and Barbara Little

Y'ALL READY FOR SOME CHILI????

Yep, it will soon be time for a Little Chili. February 25th and 26th are the official dates, but some folks will be there on Friday this year. For those brave souls, Sheila has again offered to prepare something for dinner that night. At this point, she isn't sure what it will be, but it will give folks the option of not having to leave the park again.

Roxanne and Russ have volunteered to make pancakes for breakfast on Saturday morning and thanks to Sheila there will be hot coffee too.

Saturday at lunchtime, some of us will be heading south to Abbeville for lunch at Huggin' Molly's. Those of us who went last year really enjoyed it.

Don and I first fixed chili for the Club in 1992. The menu hasn't changed much in the years since. It's simply chili, chips, nacho cheese and maybe if you're lucky a dessert or perhaps two. Iced tea, sodas and water will be on hand to quench your thirst.

I always try to keep the cost down as much as possible but I won't know till I do my shopping what it will cost you. It's usually less than \$10 for dinner and pastries for Sunday morning breakfast. I will need a head count no later than February 22 so I will know how much stuff to buy. I want to be sure everyone gets fed.

I am going to let the park take care of collecting camping fees again this year. Camping rates are: Primitive camping \$12.00 per day; with water and electricity \$ 18.00. The sites on the road directly behind the pavilion are for RV use and are \$21.00 per day since they have sewer hookups. Hot showers are available. Free WIFI access is available near the park entrance. We will have the pavilion as in the past.

Again, **please negotiate your camping directly with the Park Attendant, not with the club.**

We are already looking forward to seeing all of our friends for a Little chili again.



MORE ABOUT BLUE SPRINGS STATE PARK

Fed by a crystal-clear underground spring, the park's spring is the center of attention in this 103-acre park. The spring pumps 3,600 gallons of water per minute and the temperature of the water is 68 degrees year round. The spring pool is crystal clear with a sandy bottom and swimming is allowed at your own risk, no lifeguard is on duty Other complementing facilities include picnic shelters, tables, grills, comfort stations, playground, and modern or primitive campgrounds.



Gasoline and supplies can be had at the small town of Clio, six miles away. As a note of interest, Clio is the birthplace of the late Gov. George C. Wallace, Don Sutton, major league hall of famer, and Elton B. Stephens which was the founder of EBSCO Industries and grandfather of Elton Stephens that owned the now defunct Bogarts BMW.

Be sure to watch your speed on Highway 10 anywhere from Brundidge to Abbeville as it seems to be well patrolled by Alabama State Troopers.

The park also has a fishing pond that is stocked with catfish and bream. An Alabama fishing license is required. (Note: Alabama residents that are over 65 do not need a license.) Once over the spillway, you can search for critters among the rocks in the shallows before it flows into the west fork of the Choctawhatchee River



If someone comes in late and the gate to the campground is closed, just open it, come on thru, and close it again behind you.

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

c/o Malvene Jackson - Editor
1308 Stonecrest Drive
Birmingham, AL 35235



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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

Feb 25/26 Blue Springs State Park - Clio, AL
Mar 31/Apr 1 Blakeley SP - Spanish Fort, AL
Apr 28/29 Cajun Chaos - Zachary, LA
May 24 - 26 Great Chicken Rally - Huntsville, AL
Jun 23/24 Courtyard 25 - Vandiver, AL
Jul 28/29 Blue Ridge MC Campground - Cruso, NC
Aug 25/26 Kinderfest - Enterprise, AL
Sep 29/30 Harbin Hotel - Nauvoo, AL
Oct 27/28 Laurel Trails Campgnd - Monteagle, TN
Dec 8 Christmas Party - Hampton Inn, Eagle Point

Other Events of Interest

Mar 31-Apr 1 MotoMadness - Tellico, TN
Apr 28 Barnsley Tech Weekend - Ephesus, GA
Jun 14 -17 RA Rally - Copper Mtn, CO
Jun 22 - 24 Barber Superbike - Birmingham, AL
Jul 19 - 22 BMWMOA - Sedalia, MO
Oct 5 - 7 Barber Vintage Days - B'ham, AL
Oct 5 - 7 Return to Shiloh - Pickwick Dam, TN
Nov 12-14 SwampScooters Rally - Carencro, LA