

THE ALABAMA BEEMER



Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

BMWMOA Chapter #5/ BMWRA Chapter #107



Volume XXXVI Issue 3

March 2007

FEBRUARY LANDLUBBER MEETING MINUTES

Ft. Toulouse, Wetumpka

Connie Reaves - President - Presiding

9:00 AM Feb. 25th 2007

Minutes taken by Marcella Carroll

Connie opened the meeting with a big Thanks to Dan Thompson, his girlfriend Marcella, Bill Shanks and his girlfriend for the great fish dinner. Phillip and Leslie got thanks for running to the store at the last minute for more supplies since Dan agreed to cook for the entire group who showed up even though he had thought he could only handle 25 precious. Dan came through in record time and all was good.

She welcomed the newest member present, Jim Duffy, and Don Drasheff who stayed to attend the meeting for the first time since 1988 or so.

The treasurer's report was read and offered for anyone to peruse for details.

There was an appeal for folks to get raffle tickets and sell them or buy some.

The members were updated on the progress James Taylor is making on the new website.

Details on the March meeting at Blue Springs were gone over and it was told that we would have Don & Barbara Little's chili for

dinner.

We were told that information in Cheaha for the Xmas party was not going to work out, and Bob Steber told about his information in the Vinzini winery for Xmas party details. We are awaiting info on two other places before we will bring it to a vote. Probably at the March meeting.

Bob Steber was asked to speak on the ABEES ride challenges for this year and about Bogart's participation in coupons and an Olympia jacket for the grand prize again this year.

Bob Steber also told about the next couple of group rides for ABEES points that he has planned. John Haper, club founder will be participating in the planning and group ride on March 17th, leaving from 29 Dreams a 9:00 AM bike full, bladder empty.

Dan Thompson told of the short ride/tour he will be leading at the end of today's meeting for some ABEES points of interest in the area, and lunch at the Talisi Hotel.

Connie read three mentions we got in the RA magazine this last issue. Everyone enjoys seeing us get quoted. One was for the 1978 picture we published "remember when", one was Donna Fearing's comment about their months long trip that they did not have an ac-

cident or gain weight. And another was mentioning our club cruise and Anniversary mugs for the club's 35th anniversary. It was brought up that we should make Irv an honorary member for quoting us so often.

The International Motorcycle Show was giving out calendars and our favorite racer, Nate Kern was shown on the October page with our club decal emblazoned on the front of his bike right by his "1". Cool!!

Door prizes were drawn.

The 50/50 was \$30/\$30 and was won by Connie Reaves!



Note the Alabama Club Logo emblazoned on the fairing of Nate Kern's bike.



The cooks sample the food.

LANDLUBBERS HAD A WILD TIME!

Connie Reaves

Folks started arriving a few at a time about noon on Saturday. Dan Thompson and his girlfriend Marcella Carroll were already there, and a few others, when I arrived. The day was pretty nice with just a little wind, but the temps were comfortable.

Around 4:00 the guys that had done a ride from 29 Dreams to the meeting picking up ABEES points, arrived. One of them had a flat tire during the trip and a couple of the guys said they had learned a lot about changing a flat roadside. They were still at the campground within about 30 minutes of their planned arrival.

Ft. Toulouse looked in really good shape . It seems as if they have gotten everything nearly back to perfect after the storm damage a couple years ago. They do still have some electrical issues at the campsites but plans are in the works to continue renovations as money is available. There's a lot of good history there, an interesting movie to watch and some wonderful trails to explore.

Phillip and Leslie Johnson were there and it was great to see them for a change. This is the first winter they have been able to live in Alabama during the closing months of their campground and hopefully we will see them a lot more often each winter.

Jim Duffy, one of our newest members made his first meeting/campout, despite the dire weather warnings coming from near Mobile. I'm sure we'll see more of him at future meetings since he seemed to have a good time.

Around that time Dan, Marcella, and Bill shanks, got set up to start on frying fish for dinner. Within a few minutes of getting some grease heating a LARGE Wild Hog arrived from the trees trotting towards the pavilion. Imagine our surprise. Folks started grabbing sticks and waving hands and trying to run it off. A lady from the park office came running out and hollering that it was okay, that it came to the campground all the time, and that there was no danger. SORRY, but when we got a couple gallons of hot oil in a pot precariously atop a burner, we didn't need a 400 pound Wild Hog trotting around unless she wanted us to have pork for

dinner along with our fish.

After having several members stationed around the side of the pavilion where the cooking was going on to keep Mr. Hog from getting near it, someone finally got a bright idea to turn two picnic tables on their sides to essentially block off the cooking area. That worked since the Hog didn't think he could get back there. I bet he doesn't know that at about 400 pounds he could probably push a picnic table out of the way if he wanted. But all was more relaxed after that, and some of the children started running around and chasing it throwing it handfuls of Ritz crackers, bread and anything else they could find to feed it. that was a Hog definitely in Hog Heaven. I still wasn't too sure about all that, I mean after all the thing was a wild animal and they are unpredictable.

As we started to take a head count about 4:30 it was apparent we had about 12 more folks than we had planned on. Lots of folks came without letting us know ahead of time. so I went to Dan and asked if we could get some more fish and beans would he cook for a few extra. Of course our Danny agreed and Phillip and Leslie went rushing off to the store and brought back another 8 or 10 pounds of fish and some more beans.



Dan and Bill got it all cooked in record time and dinner was served hot, fresh and SMOKIN good. the mini moon pies Dan brought for dessert were just the right touch. I think we ended up serving

nearly 40 because we did invite the park manager and his kids to join us as we often do when they are very accommodating to our needs and it seems to help when we want to come back to certain places.

After dinner and clean up we all headed back over to the campsite area and got us a good fire going and had the ole' swapping stories, swilling beer, good old Saturday night fun ! It always helps to have a new person or two there to re-tell the old stories to, and a few new ones to keep it fresh.

The rain held off until after everyone had packed it in for the night. there was never too much rain or wind, but the Thunder that night (about 2:30 AM) was some of the loudest ever. Of course there was enough rain to get things wet and there was one couple who threw their tent in the trash the next

(continued page 5)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tom Barnett
- 1 Eric Stinson
- 5 Randy Blair
- 5 Sandra Owen
- 6 Norman Heath
- 8 Tim McGee
- 9 Sherri Stanford
- 11 Rouglas Datcher
- 11 Susan Goertz
- 14 Jim Baker
- 14 Tom Binford
- 16 Mark Rowse
- 17 Perry Aaron
- 18 Glenn Baird
- 19 Caroline Ball
- 18 Jack Goertz
- 19 Cary McCormick
- 21 Suz'anne Hebert
- 22 Robby Atchison
- 23 Lenn Rainwater
- 25 Walter Daniel
- 26 Tammy Baker
- 28 Debra Keller
- 29 Don Hamblin
- 30 Susan Clodfelter



THOUGHTS / PRAYERS AND TIDBITS

Connie Reaves

Donna Fearing - Came through her cataract surgery fine.

Norman Heath - Some of his tumors decreased about 60% and the main one in his abdomen shrunk a bit. About three small ones in his liver grew slightly. He's on a reduced dosage of the drug for now.

Bo Abernethry - Lost his Father on Feb. 13th. Our thoughts are with you Bo.

Larry Camp - Lost his Father Feb. 22, just 5 months after losing his Mother.

Glenda Cockrell's cancer is back on her face. They will have to go all the way to the bone this time and her surgery is scheduled for March 9th. Let's pray for Glenda and John as they go through this ordeal.

Dennis Hallman's father is through his surgery with removal of his spleen, and part of his pancreas, and a portion of his stomach. He has been diagnosed with Lymphoma. Dennis also needs your support right now. He just lost his Mother 7 months ago also.

Don Hamblin is recovering quickly and is already managing some short rides. He plans to go to the Dogwood Trail rally as his first longish trip.

Greg Sumrall is getting better one day at a time. There is still no word on who the perpetrators are in the death of his Mother. He is staying in touch with the Ft. Payne police hoping for news.

Rhonda Allred is taking it one day at a time after losing Rob. A call, note or e-mail would help to cheer her. She still has bikes for sale, so get in touch with her if you know anyone who might like to have one of them.

Paul & Rhonda Wharton's son is still on dialysis three times a week after his near death experience. He is diagnosed with Lupus and is hoping for a recovery and comeback in the near future.

Randy Mitchell is still bound to the bed. He may have to have a skin graft on his right leg, and after that a bone graft on his leg. They will take the bone from his good hip. The right leg is now three inches shorter due to bone loss from being broken in several places. He will next have to have a hip replacement after the pelvis grows back together. These operations will go on for many months.



ALABAMA BACKROADS

Bob Steber

Good riding weather is just around the corner and I am really looking forward to getting on my bike and doing more exploring in this beautiful State of ours. I am also looking forward to attending the MOA and RA Rallies, as well as riding many of the fantastic roads in North Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee and NW Arkansas. Good Cajun food and music is also on my agenda for 2007. Lesse le bon temp rouler.

Last year, while exploring Alabama, I was very surprised by the great number of fantastic and interesting places and good eats that many of us that rode together found. This year, we encourage every BMWMOAL member to take advantage of your ABEES Touring Guide and go exploring on your own, and also join us for hopefully several Club ABEES ride/tours that I and others will lead. Our first BMWMOAL ABEES ride/tour will be on March 17th departing 29 Dreams Motorcycle Resort in Vincent, Alabama at 9am. All of the details are in this month's newsletter, [Alabama Beemers' Exploring and Epicurean Society News and Events](#) column and on our website. We will have the pleasure and honor to have John Harper lead us on the ride/tour from Mt. Cheaha to the Janney Furnace. For those of you that do not know John, he is the founder of our club, Club # 5 and also a founding member of the MOA. His MOA number is five. John has a great knowledge of the history of the places that we will visit and has a wonderful ability to tell us about it.

I especially encourage our members who do not usually attend the monthly campout/meetings and or otherwise do not participate in other Club events to join your fellow Club members on our ride/tours. This would give you an opportunity to see some surprisingly interesting places in Alabama and enjoy some great food to boot, as well as meeting some really good, fun loving folks. We would like very much to meet you too. This would also give you the opportunity to pass along your thoughts and comments to some of your Club officers and directors.

This is a good time for me to talk about group riding habits in that many of us will be joining each other this year on our Club ride/tours. Please be sure to read Jim Baker's safety article, "[Riding In A Group](#)" in this month's newsletter. His advice to read David Hough's article about Group Riding is also excellent and I encourage every one to read it too.

My experiences from riding with other BMW riders lead me to think differently about placing the less experienced riders behind the ride leader as men-

tioned in Mr. Hough's book and Jim's safety article. I say this because on my first attempt to lead a 20 plus motorcycle group ride at "The Pocket" meeting several years ago, I rode much more slowly than I normally would have because there were some new riders with us, and I did not want to cause them to over-ride their skills. When we returned to the campground, I found out that many of the experienced riders didn't enjoy the ride because we went so slowly.

On subsequent rides, I asked the riders wanting to ride more sportingly to ride behind me, and asked moderate riders to ride behind them, then the riders that enjoy going slower to take up the rear. By stopping at every turn to allow all riders to regroup and having a sweep rider, seemed to make every one happy and we didn't loose a soul. When we stopped to wait for the slower riders, the wait time was less than two minutes, not bad at all. The most important thing to remember is to always ride your own ride, no matter what, and if you are not comfortable with riding with a particular group, then let someone know you are leaving the group and go your own way.

Most of the BMW riders that I know and love cringe at the thought of riding in a large group with whom they are not familiar and you can count me with them. However, there are times when rides to fun and interesting places on great motorcycling roads and sharing experiences and enjoying the company of fellow riders make it acceptable, even fun to ride in a group. Every rider can help make the group ride more enjoyable by being more considerate of our fellow riders than ourselves.

An example: for safety and visibility reasons, it is important, when possible, to ride in a staggered formation. That is to say, the rider behind the leader takes the right side of the "oil line" if the leader takes the left tire track. Then each following rider staggers his or her position there after. All should know that it is very disconcerting for the riders riding behind the bike that continually wanders from tire track to tire track causing loss of separation and visibility. I call the wandering rider "Wandering Willie". Please don't be a "Wandering Willie".

Another example of a rider not being considerate of his fellow riders is to slow down from the pace in order to ride more aggressively through the curves. This causes an exaggerated bungee effect all the way to the end of the line of bikes. I have a name for the slow down rider too: "Yo Yo Joe". It's not fun to ride in a bungee effect, so please don't be a "Yo Yo Joe". Possibly, the most inconsiderate habit that a rider can have is to not wait at a (cont. next page)

turn for a following rider. If the following rider misses the turn, then he or she and all of the other following riders will be lost and can not regroup with the leading riders, which causes much delay until the lost riders are found. When a person leads a ride, hopefully he or she will remind everyone in the group that they are responsible for the rider behind them.

2007 is going to be a great year for riding exceptional motorcycling roads, discovering new and interesting places, and enjoying good food with good friends. I am looking forward to seeing you down the road.

(continued from page 2)

morning. Of course it was a many many years old tent and Michael said it was time to get a new one and he had just been putting it off. I've thrown away sleeping bags and stuff before myself. Sometimes it just ain't worth packing up and taking home, ya know.....

Rain was gone by the time for morning coffee and pastries, so it never really interfered with the weekend very much.

We had the meeting at 9 AM as usual and it was good to hear about the new ABEES plans and other information Bob Steber had for us.

I'd like to thank Marcella Carroll for standing in as Secretary and taking the minutes while Mari was of cruzin', and I want to thank Martha Warren for walking around about 30 minutes before the meeting and selling the 50/50 tickets in place of Vance and his ticket machine off cruzin' too. She got us a \$60 pot and I won the half this time! Whoo hoo !

After the meeting Dan took us on a short ride to pick up a couple points of interest in the area for the ABEES tour, and we ended up at the Hotel Talisi for their excellent buffet for lunch. We all split off after that to head in our various directions home.

I'm looking forward to next month at Blue Springs and getting a taste of Don and Barbara's famous chili. See y'all there!

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 The Green Hills Grill on Wynn Drive near the intersection with University Drive. If you are in the area stop in and join the fun.

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



Some of the Huntsville folks ready for the Captain's Dinner aboard the *Holiday*.



**MEETING MINUTES,
Carnival Cruise Lines-At Sea**

February 25, 2007

Vice President Vance Harrelson presiding
Mari Harrelson, Secretary

Our vice-president, Vance Harrelson, opened the meeting by thanking everyone aboard in our group for joining us for the 2007 Alabeemer Blue Water Cruise. There will be no 50/50 and no door prizes at this meeting. Everyone was awarded a special Blue Water Cruise T-shirt on the first evening of the cruise so everyone on the ship knows we are here.

A warm welcome was given to our newest members Bob "Gator" and Wanda Daigle and to Ken and Andrea Pedigo for their first meeting. Other guests to the meeting were Carol, wife of Ted Thompson and Dot, wife of John Penn and of course "mom" was there too. Some of you found out mom's name is Naomi, after all of this time, but mom works just fine for her.

Bo Abernathy and Larry Camp have lost their fathers recently so keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Vance gave an update on the Website and the forum is in; it is being tested and it should be up and running in a couple of weeks. He again gave a plea for everyone to use it and tell people about it so we get maximum benefits from it.

The next meeting will be chili by Don and Barbara Little in Blue Springs and maybe it will not be as chilly as it normally is since we are doing it a month later than normal. Dessert is s'mores over the fire in washer tub. This is a great camp out so don't miss it.

ABEES- Books are almost ready for reprint and there will be new challenges for the upcoming year. Bryson has agreed to add coupons for the booklet. A coupon for 10 % off in general and then a 25% off if you complete Extremely Alabama. He is also providing a jacket for the grand prize again this year. So get excited and get involved.

Raffle tickets for the bike!!!! Please send your request for tickets to weridebmw@bellsouth.net and I will get them right out to you. If you don't have access to a computer you can call 205-621-1682 and just leave a message if we aren't there. I have handed out less than 1/2 of the tickets so we have lots to sell. Remember when you sell at least 4 books of tickets you get your Rally pass free. We are coming down to the end of the line for sales....less than 3 months until the winning ticket is pulled so you as club members need to stand up and help us pay for the bike. There were only 350 books of tickets printed and that is less than 1 book per household so I find it hard to believe we can't get the job done. Remember that the excess over the cost of the bikes goes to charity so for those non-riders there is always that aspect to the sale. We all buy from co-workers when their kids have something to sell so it's time for payback. There are only 3500 tickets printed so the odds are very good. Don't wait-we are counting on you.

Jamie Jackson took the floor and asked that everyone send in articles and pictures from the cruise for the newsletter. This really goes for all newsletter articles. I just ranted about your responsibility to sell tickets; we also have a responsibility as members to help support the club with experiences to help build membership. It was brought up at our meeting on ship that our newsletter is very well known and respected in the motorcycle community, not just the BMW circle. Let's keep that reputation up and you can do your part to keep up the image. Tell us about a great ride or a bad experience you had with gear that you don't want us to waste our money on.

Until next time.....RIDE SAFE AND BE HAPPY...Mari



MARCH MEETING DETAILS

Barbara Little

Date: March 24 / 25

Place: Blue Springs State Park, Clio, AL

Hosts: Don and Barbara Little



Fed by a crystal-clear underground spring, the park's spring pool is the center of attention in this 103-acre park. Other complementing facilities include picnic shelters, tables, grills, comfort stations, playground, and modern or primitive campground.

Directions- Located six miles east of Clio in southeast Alabama. From Montgomery, take Highway 231 South to Troy, then to Brundidge, follow signs.

We will have the pavilion as in the past. Day use fee has gone up to \$3.00. Camping is the same: primitive is \$8.32, with water and electric is \$12.48, and with sewer is \$15.60. The sites on the road directly behind the pavilion are for RV use and they will cost \$15.60 since they have sewer hookups. We will collect the money and turn it in Sunday morning.

The cost of the meal will depend on how much money I spend and how many folks show up. I think it is normally about \$6 or \$7 each and that will include (instant) coffee and some sort of pastries for breakfast. I will need a head count no later than March 21 in order to be sure I have enough chili to feed everyone.

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



BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS OF ALABAMA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Date: ____/____/2006

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

ABEES NEWS AND EVENTS

Bob Steber

How many Alabeemers does it take to change a tube on an F650? Five to be exact: Phil Johnson, Tim Flynn, Michael Waybright, Bill Barnes and I. After departing 29 Dreams on our ABEES ride to Ft. Toulouse and the Great '07 Q-Quest to Alexander City's Sho'Nuff BBQ, Bill pulled over at the intersection of U.S. 280 and Airport Road in Alex City with a flat tire; a tubed tire! Some of us had tire plugging kits, but they were useless to fix the flattened tubed tire. It could have been worse though, because there was a nice BP station, a major auto parts store and a Jameson Inn close by. One of us checked the GPS for a local motorcycle shop, with no luck. Another used a telephone directory to find a repair shop, and after several unsuccessful calls, one of which the guy said "I can't help you buddy, I'm closing my doors now" and hung up. Another went to the auto parts store for a bottle of "Slime" which didn't work.



About the time another one of us pulled out his BMW unanimous book and another placed a call to Dan Thompson at Ft. Toulouse for possible help, Bill opened one of his compartments and out came two boxes containing brand new tubes and a set of tire irons. Now, things are really looking up. After a short while, Bill had his tire off and attempted to break the bead with his tire irons. No way! Then someone suggested using the weight of a motorcycle's side stand to do the job. The heaviest bike was selected and amazingly it worked on one side of the rim, but not the other. After looking at the other bikes, Tim's Harley like side stand on his R1200C worked like a champ. The new tube was installed with some nifty manipulation of the tire irons by Michael, the tire aired up at the BP, the chain properly adjusted and off we went to Sho'Nuff BBQ for lunch, then on to Ft. Toulouse for what turned out to be a fantastic weekend and some of the best catfish and trimmings that one could possibly have.



On our ride to Ft. Toulouse and return home, I was able to check off nine ABEES points: 29 Dreams, the ride on Hwy. 25, enjoying BBQ at Sho'Nuff, viewing the Arched Bridge in Wetumpka, and attending the Ft. Toulouse meeting. On the way home, Dan Thomson gave several of us an excellent tour of historic Wetumpka, pointing out the unique architecture of the arched bridge, the historical significance of an early 1800s building that was an Indian fur trading post, a c1820 Calaboose (jail) and then on to the Hotel Talisi for a wonderful Sunday lunch buffet and tour of the fine old building, then to Cr.50, Hwy 49 and Horseshoe Bend Military Park on the way home.

Thank you Dan, Marcella, Phil, Leslie and Connie for the wonderful catfish dinner. Dan, thanks also for your excellent tour to the Hotel Talisi and your suggestion to return home by riding Cr.50 which is truly one of the better motorcycling roads in Alabama and will be added to our ABEES Touring Guide, Favorite Roads and Rides section along with the c 1820 calaboose in Wetumpka added to the points of interest section.



RIDING IN A GROUP

Jim Baker

Before you even consider riding in a large group, you should review David Hough's article that is posted on our club's website:

<http://www.bmwmoal.org/safetyandtravel/buddybashing.htm> The article contains a wealth of information and experience that all riders can use.

Riding with a group of friends can be a lot of fun. There are some problems associated with a large group: bathroom breaks (facilities), speed (too much or too little), bungee effect, other vehicles trying to pass, and limited space would name just a few. So what can we do?

Dividing the large group into smaller groups is certainly one solution. You can have the fast riders, intermediate riders, and the more sedate riders. Those groups can then be divided into smaller groups of riders of similar needs and styles. If you stagger your departure times by a few minutes, the groups will likely stay separated until reaching the end destination.

Oftentimes, we wind up with our least experienced folks riding at the rear of the group. As Mr. Hough stated in his article, this is where the bungee effect is most prevalent. If we have them ride toward the front of the group, the bungee effect is not as great. Additionally, having the novice riders up close to the front of a group will allow the group leader to make adjustments to accommodate them. By the way, group leaders need to set a good example for the novices to emulate.

I've jumped around a bit here, but I can tell you what I think is "the bottom line": Ride your own ride. Don't let your friends get you in over your head. Ride at a level that matches your skill and experience. Your comfort zone is important.

If anyone has a specific topic that you would like me to address, drop me an Email and I'll see what I can come up with. safetyhg@bellsouth.net is where you'll find me. Ride well!

(Jim Baker is our recently elected Director of Safety. ed.)

ITEMS FOR SALE

1980 BMW AIRHEAD - 1,000cc - 48,195 miles. 2nd Owner- Has been in storage. Green with Cream Pinstripe - Full Race Faring - Clip Ons Mikuni Carburetors - New Tires, Battery, Steering Bearings, Swing arm Bearings, Rear Main Seal, Oil Pump Seal, Air Filter, Clutch - Gearbox rebuilt. \$4,000.00 David Woodburn 770-854-9136 boxwood567@yahoo.com 01

2006 Yamaha FJR1300 touring bike, ABS, metallic blue, 1K miles, like new \$10,900 Rhonda Allred 256-776-3778 02

1994 HD FLHTC Classic, white & blue. 28K miles, trailer hitch, 2 windshields. \$9,900 Rhonda Allred 256-776-3778 02

2005 Suzuki V-Strom. Corbin seat with passenger back rest and stock seat, heated grips, Givi bags and mounts, Engine guards, BMW style acc plug, new Tourance rear tire, Hawk chain oiler, and headlight protector. Less than 8,000 miles on bike. Always dealer serviced. About a year left on unlimited milage transferrable warranty. \$4,700 E-mail me at bandbbarn@gmail.com or call 256-738-1527 03

1993 K1100 LT - Charcoal Grey - New tires, battery. 111K mi. - \$3000 obo. Larry Camp 205-655-7165 or 286-478-0367 01

1992 R100GS, red with 44K miles, bags, throttle lock, heated grips/hand guards, trailer hitch/electric connection, Olin shock, Time Out camping trailer. Opens to 14ft. Package \$7,000. Rhonda Allred 256-776-3778 02

2004 R1150RS, Blue on blue, 5K miles, ABS, bags, heated grips, Uni-go trailer hitch/electrical connection. Like new \$11,500 Rhonda Allred 256-776-3778 02

1996 K1100LT. Looks Good, Runs great. Second Generation ABS. Plenty of rubber left front and rear. Comes with trailer hitch, all luggage (including extra large back rest with speakers on trunk), BMW AM/FM stereo, new Progressive rear shock, heated grips, 3 BMW acc plugs, cooling fan override kit, Corbin Dual Tour seat, and stock seat. 95,000 miles. Asking \$4,500. e-mail me at bandbbarn@gmail.com, or call Bill 256-738-1527 03

COMMENTS ON THE BLUE WATER CRUISE

Don Little - WOW! What a great time. This was our first cruise but if this wonderful group of folks ever do it again, and I think they will, I want to be included. I have found my second favorite way of travel after motorcycles. I want to thank Mari and Vance for all their work in getting this thing together and for the wonderful t-shirts. I also want to thank Jamie and Malvene for answering the 1001 questions and taking us by the hand to show us the ropes of this cruising stuff.

Bill Bedgood - I decided to put a few words together to tell everyone about my opinion of the recent cruise. I always thought that I would not like being confined to a ship for more than a day. I thought the constant rocking and not being able to leave would drive me nuts. Boy was I wrong. There was one day that there was a little rocking for most of the day. That together with the adult beverages I consumed made me feel sort of funny. I took some precautionary Dramamine and that seemed to help keep my head from spinning. The rest of the time it was hard to tell you were on a ship. The weather was wonderful and the ship was really stable.

To begin with, the facility in Mobile is really great. Everyone was friendly and it was more organized than any airport I have ever been in. The parking garage is connected to the terminal. If the weather had been bad, there would have been no need to get out in it. Once we boarded the ship, the view was beautiful even before we left the dock. I never cared much for downtown Mobile, but I never looked at it from this angle.

The first thing they tell you is where to find the buffet while they are taking your luggage to your room. Yes, you do start the trip eating. At one of the talks we were listening to they said if you take advantage of all of the meals offered, you would be eating twelve times a day. I don't know how anyone could find time to eat more than about four times a day. That's all I could fit in. You have a choice of eating in the dining room, or just eating at the buffet. Beverly and I opted to have the first two meals of the day at the buffet and have dinner in the dining room. Our people filled up four of the large tables and they had us all seated together. It was like visiting a fine restaurant with thirty three of your close friends. The food was fantastic. I can't begin to describe it, but Beverly gained three pounds if that tells you anything. I'm not going to try to guess how much I gained, but I'm working on getting rid of it.

There was always something going on. The shows were what you would expect to see in Las Vegas. There were several bars on board depending on the atmosphere you wanted along with a casino, two pools, miniature golf, shops, and many decks for sun bathing or just relaxing. I made the comment that I didn't care if we went to Cozumel. I said we could just ride around in the gulf for a few days. However, that would have been a mistake. Cozumel was a blast. The sky and water were beautiful. We chose to spend the day shopping rather than taking one of the shore excursions. I don't think you could have made a bad choice of what to do there. I believe everyone enjoyed whatever they chose to do.

We returned to port before daylight on Monday morning, but they had told us we would not be able to leave the ship until Customs cleared it. That would be around 8:00 am. That gave us time to eat breakfast before leaving. We started the cruise eating and ended it eating, but there was a lot of fun in between. I believe I ate enough to cover the cost of the cruise. I started out skeptical, but now I can't wait to go again. I know it's probably not for everyone, but if you've never been you owe it to yourself to try to go on at least one cruise.

Jamie Jackson - What do cruise ships have to do with motorcycling? Not a doggone thing; but I can tell you this, when you take a bunch of motorcyclists and put them together on a ship you had better look out. I don't think the beautiful ship *Holiday* will ever be the same. Alabeemers do know how to eat, drink, and have a good time. Although through a vow of secrecy, all that happened can never be told, but you can rest assured that the members that went did the club proud.

With the party atmosphere aboard the *Holiday* and all the food, it almost felt like one of our club meetings except that the ship's crew would not let us have a campfire. They insisted that even though it was still February, the weather was in the nineties and we didn't need one.





The group got a lot of attention in matching t-shirts.



John and Dot Penn set the standard for dress.



Barry and Susan Clay enjoy lunch with Ken and Andrea Pedigo.

ALABAMA BEEMER'S EXPLORING AND EPICUREAN SOCIETY

News and Events

Bob Steber

Achtung! Capt. Pecker says there is fun to be had at the Berman, so join us Saturday morning, March 17, 2007 at 29 Dreams Motorcycle Resort for the first BMWMOAL ABEES ride and tour. We will ride to the Berman Museum and other interesting places in the An-niston, Alabama area. If you want to have breakfast before the departure, 9: am sharp be there at with a full tank of fuel, and use the restroom facilities because we will be in the boonies until we get to Mt. Cheaha. Our route will take us via Steve John's favorite ride to Mt. Cheaha's highest Point in Alabama, with a stop at High Falls in Clay County for a photo opp. We will meet John Harper for lunch at the Mt.Cheaha Lodge. From there, John will lead us via back roads into Ft. McClellan to see the historically significant WWII German-Italian POW cemetery and some of the other really interesting sites on post. From there, we will visit the fantastic Berman Museum and will be treated to a special guided tour which will last an hour or so. (We will have a group rate and when I know what it is, I will post the information on our web site (www.bmwmoal.org). From the Berman, John will take us to his unbelievably beautiful Church of St. Michael's and All Angles and tell us about its history. After touring the Church, we will ride to Ohatchee, Alabama to visit the Janney Iron Furnace and Confederate Memorial which is a spectacular site to see. From the Janney Furnace we return to 29 Dreams in time for dinner. This will be a full day's ride on some of the best motorcycling roads in Alabama and I predict it will be lots of fun and very enjoyable for all.



If the weather is bad we will try again for Saturday March 31. Updates and any new information will be posted on our web site.

Our March 17th Club ride/tour to the Berman and other interesting places is hopefully the first of more Club ride/tours to come.

I look forward to seeing you at 29 Dreams on March 17 and if you plan to go on the ride/tour, email or call me so I can make the proper arrangements. (bsteberbtr@gmail.com or 205 988-4379).

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

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Dedicated to safe and enjoyable motorcycling



Club Sponsored Events With Meetings

Mar.24/25 Blue Springs State Park.....Clio, AL
Apr 28/29 SouthPort Campgrnd· Gulf Shores, AL
May 24/27 Great Chicken Rally in Rocket City
.....Huntsville, AL
Jun 23/24 Sloppy Floyd Park..... Summerville, GA
July 28/29 BlueRidge M/C camp..... Cruso,NC
Aug 25/26 Bedgood's Farm..... Grant,AL
Sep 29/30 Shell Mound Campground
.....Nickajack Dam, Jasper, TN.
Oct. 27/28 Little River St. ForestAtmore, AL
Dec.1/2 Christmas party (To be announced)
Jan.26/27 2008 Montevallo Traffic Safety Center
Montevallo, AL.

Other Events of Interest

Apr 20 - 22 Barber's Track - Honda Superbike
Classic
Apr 6 - 8 2007 Vintage Motorcycle Rally at
Bench Mark Works
April 13-15 15th Dogwood Trail Rally
BMW Miss - decoles@bellsouth.net
May 4-6 GA Mtn. Rally BMW GA club -
www.bmwmoa.info
May 18-20 European Riders Rally
Burkesville, KY - Nashville club
June 7-10 BMW RA rally Biltmore Estate, NC
Jul 12 - 15 35th BMW MOA International Rally
West Bend, WS
Aug 28 - 31 Curve Cowboy Reunion
Osage Beach, Mo
Oct. 5-7 Return to Shiloh Rally - Shiloh, TN
BMW RAMS
Oct 12-14 Falling Leaf rally - MO., BMW Gate
way Riders