LOCATION SELECTED FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY
Jamie Jackson

At the January meeting in Montevallo, the members present voted to have a committee determine a site for the Club Christmas Party. They also voted to have Darlene Massey to head up that committee. After much research Darlene has finalized plans to have the activity at Guntersville State Park. The facility there has just undergone a $25 million renovation and is very beautiful location for our party. Our hats are off to Darlene for her tireless efforts in arranging the event.

The Main Lodge will accommodate our group for dinner and activities (read Dirty Santa) and lodging is adjacent to, or near that building so no driving will be necessary after dinner.

Darlene has informed me that we have a Group Code of CGBMWM that must be used when making reservations. 20 rooms are available for the one night and 2 chalets are still available. Reservations can be made up to one month before the arrival date of December 13, and also can be cancelled within that same period.

If by November 13th all of the rooms and chalets are not booked, Darlene will cancel any that remain.

The number to call for reservations is 256-571-5440.

If you try to make reservations before November 13 and are told that the rooms and chalets are booked, or are told that there will be a two night minimum stay, first make sure you give the person the Group Code but if still unable to book then e-mail Darlene at dmassey@amerex-fire.com and she will call the Sales Manager to resolve the issue. Reservations after November 13 will probably require a two night minimum.

For dinner we will have a private buffet line that will be serving the following:
- Steamship Round of Beef carved on the buffet line
- Baked Chicken
- Coleslaw
- Broccoli Salad
- Tossed Salad
- Antipasto Salad
- Potatoes Au Gratin
- Italian Green Beans
- Squash Casserole
- Triple Hummingbird Cake
- Fruit Cobbler
- Coffee, tea, rolls & butter

Cost for dinner will be $12.95 each and 20% service charge and 8% sales tax for a total of $17.78 per person.

The lodge also now has a bar and drinks are priced at:
- Mixed drinks - 4.25ea.
- Domestic beer - $3.50
- Imported beer - $4.25
- Most wines are 4.75 glass, some 5.75

Hotel rooms in the lodge have two queen beds and are $98 plus tax per night The chalets sleep 1-6 people. Each is equipped with a living room with fireplace, cable TV and DVD player, kitchen, bath, and two bedrooms. One bedroom has a King bed and one has two Double beds. Cost for the chalets is $140 plus tax.

CLUB RIDES
Gary Dubois

The following club rides are scheduled for May and June:

May 10th, ride captain: Lynn Rainwater, depart time 9:30 a.m. from Chevron Station at I-20 east, exit 165 (Emery/Lincoln.) There is a Huddle House at this exit if anyone wants to catch breakfast.

June 7th, ride captain: Paul Thorne, depart time 9:00 a.m. from Natural Bridge Restaurant just south of US278. Meet early for breakfast.
MEETING MINUTES
April 29, 2008
Moundville, Alabama
President Connie Reaves presiding
Mari Harrelson, Secretary

Connie opened the meeting by thanking Linda and Bruce Cain for all of the work that they did to put the meeting/campout together and especially Linda for not only the food, fire wood, etc., but leading the ride on Saturday as well. You go girl!

A warm welcome was given to 1st time member Anna White; hope we didn’t scare her off. Chad Harrelson, son of Vance and Mari Harrelson, a new rider was a 1st time guest at the meeting also. I think he was a little surprised that these old folks weren’t as stodgy as he may have thought they would be.

Connie gave the Treasurer’s report and anyone is welcome to take a look at any time they choose. We have club pins, decals, cups, t-shirts for sale just for the asking. There are 3 xxx-large Nauvoo t-shirts left and we now have regular club t-shirts in all sizes and styles. All will be available at the rally or you can e-mail Connie or me. Connie also has the New Spring rider course schedule for anyone that is interested.

Gary Dubois spoke about some of the upcoming rides:

- May 10 – Lenn Rainwater will be leading a ride from Pell City leaving at 9:30 through the Talladega Forest. More details on the web site.
- June 7 – Paul Thorne will be leading a ride to Natural Bridge leaving at 9:00 – details on the web site.

The race for points is going to be really tough this year as Martin Benson already has 200 points and that is about what the winner had for the whole year last year.

Our June meeting will be held at Little River State Forest near Atmore. The Bonner brothers and friends will again be putting it on and we will hear from them very soon as to what they have in store for us. Watch your Newsletter and forum for what is to come in June.

Our July meeting has been moved in Guntersville State Park – not in the Main Park but in what is called Town Creek, which is on the edge of the park and has a pavilion and nice showers and restrooms, etc. We voted to have dinner catered by Pig Feathers in the pavilion. Gary says it is a must that you visit the lodge and check out the view from same. They have a marina with canoe and pontoon rentals for those that want to try some water sports. You can find out more details about this location and the meeting on the website and later in this newsletter.

Raffle tickets for the bike!!!! TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO SELL THE TICKETS—THE RALLY IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER--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 need the tickets and money back to me by May 15 to get everything recorded. We don’t want to trust to US Post Office too much after that date so get your tickets and sell, sell, sell.

Darlene told us more about the Christmas party: Guntersville State Park – they have Chalets for $140.00 that sleep 6 and cabins that sleep 6 and rooms for $98 The dinner is $ 14.95 and consists of everything you would want for Christmas dinner. The date is December 14th. (More details are on the front page of this publication.)

Last but not least Connie has a very special surprise for everyone for the Rally. She has been trying to put together a tasting party with Jack Daniels for several years and it has finally come to fruition with a bonus. All the credit goes to Tate Calvert of Lanza’s Beverages right across the highway from the road to Ditto Landing. Tate did all the work in negotiating with the JD people for her. For our Chicken Rally’s 20th Anniversary the Jack Daniels organization will be creating a medallion for each bottle to celebrate our 20th Chicken Rally. This will be hand bottled 750 ml decanters of their single barrel whiskey.

It will be identified as being from one individual barrel number, the rick from which it was taken in the barrelhouse and the date when the whiskey was bottled. The bottle itself will be an elegant decanter that bears Mr. Jack’s signature in raised glass. The unveiling for this special tribute to our Chicken Rally will be at Lanza’s Beverages on Friday afternoon of the rally, and the time is still to be determined. There will only be 220 bottles available for purchase with this special label on a 1st come, 1st serve basis. This has never been done for a motorcycle club so we are making history with this Single Barrel Label. Don’t miss out on this exciting event, and a chance at a very special Collector’s item.

(Continued Bottom Page 7)
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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THOUGHTS, PRAYERS, AND TIDBITS

Please keep Larry Camp in your prayers as he continues to heal from Carpal Tunnel Surgery in both hands. His recovery may be slow so remember to give him a call to cheer him up.

Steve Irwin is having to do dialysis every Monday, Wednesday and Friday which is limiting his ability to get out and join his friends.

Pray for Phillip Warren’s mother who is suffering from brain hemorrhage.

Don Stover - congratulations on his marriage to Serita.

Celebrate with Vance and Mari Harrelson on the marriage of their daughter Nikki to Ben.

Good luck Don & Paula Hamblin with their move to their new home in the mid-west.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

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IT'S RALLY TIME!!
Connie Reaves

I am so geared up for the rally this year! It's our 20th and it's going to have some really special events and some new things that we haven't done before to freshen it up a bit. Now all we need is the people to show up.

The first thing I'm excited about is the Jack Daniels commemorative bottle that we are being able to offer. It's in the meeting minutes but it bears repeating here because it's a huge deal and I have some new information. I was trying to put together a tasting party with Jack Daniels for the last couple of years, when a couple months ago, Tate Calvert of Lanza's beverages (across the highway from the road to the rally) contacted me about having them do a special commemorative bottle. What has come about is that for our Chicken Rally's 20th Anniversary the Jack Daniels organization will be creating a medallion for each of these bottles to celebrate our 20th Chicken Rally. This will be hand bottled 750 ml decorative decanters of their single barrel whiskey. It will be identified as being from one individual barrel number, the rick from which it was taken in the barrelhouse and the date when the whiskey was bottled. The bottle itself will be an elegant decanter that bears Mr. Jack's signature in raised glass.

The unveiling for this special tribute to our Chicken Rally will be at Lanza's Beverages on Friday afternoon of the rally, and the time is still to be determined. There will only be 220 bottles available for purchase. After the meeting this past weekend I asked Vance if he saw any problem in letting club members pre-reserve a bottle and he agrees that this would be okay. So starting about two weeks before the rally I will put out an E-News alerting you that I will be taking pre-reservations to purchase one of these bottles of JD whiskey. This will be for club members only. These bottles are going to be $50 each. Not a bad price for single barrel and the special commemoration will make it a collector piece. This has never been done for a motorcycle club so we are making history with this event. Everyone, please also patronize Lanza's beverages while you are at the rally for your other beverage needs, and show him thanks for bringing to fruition this exciting event for our club.

Linda Cain really put on a show of her own this past weekend single handedly, bringing in our load of firewood, leading our ride, bringing in and feed-
Connie sez “Ya gotta take some flares with you in case ya have a flat”.

Drink holders must come in a hundred different styles and shapes.
MOUNDVILLE MEETING AND CAMPOUT
Gary Dubois

There was once an Alabama city that was the largest city in America north of Mexico. National Geographic called this city the “Big Apple of the 14th century.” I am speaking of Moundville, the site of our April club meeting. Moundville was occupied by Native Americans of the Mississippian period. Their last names may have been “the Thornes.” I am sure this is right because these Indians had noble classes of which I am sure Paul was the chief wigwam and lived on the highest mound in Moundville. He did this in consideration of Gail so she could see as far on the horizon as the regular Indians.

The Moundville Archaeological (yes I had to look it up) Park is a unique place in our state with its 28 mounds, museum, Indian village and campground, all located adjacent to the Black Warrior River south of Tuscaloosa.

This was my first trip to Moundville and although it is about 175 miles from home, I rode a meandering 250 miles route through Decatur, Hartselle, Falkville, Natural Bridge, Brilliant, Fayette and Tuscaloosa to get there. You know I’ve got to chase a few ABEES points to try and keep ol’ Martin on his toes. The most interesting places I stopped along the way were the Methodist Church at Brilliant and the Paul Bryant Museum at UA (just don’t let my Auburn daughters know that I temporarily went astray.)

Bruce and Linda Cain hosted the club meeting and did an excellent job. Additionally, Linda led the Saturday ride. Our ride went to Greensboro to see the Hale county courthouse and the Magnolia Grove antebellum plantation home. From Greensboro enroute to Eutaw, Gary Williams saw a bald eagle sitting in the swamp as we approached the Black Warrior River. In Eutaw we stopped by the Green county courthouse and the Kirkwood antebellum mansion. While at Kirkwood we had one of those hiccup moments.

As this mansion is open for tours everyone thought it was just a commercial show place, so Gary Williams and Bruce Wheatley demonstrating their best landowner style, removed their jackets (piling them on the porch) and proceeded to make themselves at home on the front porch rockers. We were taking photos of these clowns when the real owners opened the front door and announced that the house was their residence. After some slick talking, we were invited to tour the home and to return for lunch at $40 a head. The group politely declined on both accounts with the excuse we had an appointment in Aliceville at the POW Museum.

Aliceville was the site of a German POW camp during WWII. Most of the internees were Rommel’s Afrika Corps troops. The citizens of Aliceville have developed a nice museum to honor both the POWs and the workers who ran the camp. We were welcomed to the POW museum by Mr. J.T. Junkins. The POW portion of museum has several art pieces made by the POWs along with German war artifacts.

In addition to the POW portion there are two other sections of the museum. One honors local military veterans with several of their uniforms and photographs on display. The other section is the recreation of the Coca-Cola bottling operation that originally occupied the building housing the museums. This visit was certainly the highlight of our ride.

From Aliceville, we went to Carrollton to see the Pickens County courthouse and to try our luck at seeing the face in the window. The face was supposed burned into the window by a lightning strike while Henry Wells, a Freedman, was observing his lynching mob down below. I’ll be the first to admit I think things like this are a bunch of hokum, but the fact is I did see the image in the window. I think all seven on the ride said they saw the image. Bob said he had been there before and had not seen the image until this time. Just another one of those funky places and things you can find wandering around Alabama.

From Carrollton, most of the riders raced back to Moundville to get into line for the catered dinner. But on the way to Aliceville, I had noticed a sign designating the resting place of George Washington’s bodyguard. This was to good of an opportunity to pass up; and if true, I could add it as an ABEES point and gain one on Martin. Well ol’ Martin is a sly fox himself and saw through my secretive plan, and he announced he was riding with me. We did find the resting place of James McCrory, Revolu-
tionary War soldier at Brandywine and a couple of other places, but most notable he was George’s personal Life Guard during Valley Forge.

Gary Williams and I made plans to ride home together on Sunday. At a fuel stop in Tuscaloosa, a gentleman told me my rear tire was low. After placing the bike on the center stand and spinning the tire, I saw the screw that was embedded in my one week old tire. It took me about ten minutes to plug the puncture (at least seven of those finding the plugging kit and airing the tire) and get back on the road.

We rode the Muddy Creek run to Smith’s Camp. When leaving I lost my footing in the loose gravel and promptly pitched the GS over onto her handlebars. After picking it up and adjusting the mirrors we were ready to go (that’s why I like GS’s, they are tough and forgiving of idiots like me.) My immediate thought was when was the third leg going to drop. The rest of my ride home was basically uneventful. At Hartselle I ran into a light drizzle, but I thinking it’s not enough to stop and put on rain gear. When I passed the Priceville exit, I ran into a deluge where I could barely see the road crossing the Tennessee River. So this is the third leg to drop. Getting wetter than I wanted, I pulled under the I-565 overpass and put on my upper rain gear. Sure enough it stopped raining as soon as I boarded the beast. All total my weekend covered just short of 800 miles and $75 worth of gasoline.

(Continued from MINUTES, Page 2)
Vance also has a 20th Anniversary special thing happening at the rally but he’s chosen to keep his a surprise. You must come to the rally to find out what that is.

50/50 drawing won by Dave Wergowske in the amount of $56.00.

Does anybody know where to catch that train?

The landed gentry at Kirkwood.

These people were really paying attention at the meeting. It was probably when Connie was announcing the Jack Daniels single barrel deal.
I was awakened early by the rumble of thunder and the sound of rain on the roof and was wondering if rain gear was the uniform of the day. However, when I hit the road at 0630 the sky was a beautiful clear blue and the roads were almost dry.

By the time I reached the All Steak parking lot in Cullman I could tell it was going to be one of those perfect spring riding days. Bob Steber, Gary Williams and I had a great breakfast at the All Steak and, of course, Bob ordered a dozen of their fabulous orange rolls. Gary ate one and when Bob started shaking after eating two I graciously declined to join them. I was enjoying the adrenaline rush of getting to ride on such a beautiful day that I didn’t need the sugar shock as well.

We left there, circled the Cullman County Court House to pick up another ABEES check off, and sped to the Exxon station at I-65 and Highway 157 to meet our intrepid Travel Director Gary Dubois and crew. The 11 of us set out for our first stop at the Indian Mound in Moulton. We toured the Museum there and were impressed to see so many arrow heads in one place. The attendant was very gracious and filled us in on the history of the area.

From there it was a short sprint (pun intended) to the Jesse Owens museum. We were a bit behind schedule so Bob Steber was a little disappointed that we didn’t get to check out the broad jump area. After those orange rolls he must have wanted to see how far he could get airborne.

Next was the beautiful Highway 33 down through the Bankhead Forest with its much welcomed sweeping curves. There were a couple side-steps for ABEES check offs with 100-year-old churches, then into Double Springs and the Dual Destiny Statue at the Winston County Courthouse.

After finding out that our planned lunch stop at a catfish house in Houston was not open, we opted for Mexican food in Double Springs on the recommendation of a local deputy sheriff. We were in front of the Dual Destiny Statue when he drove up and Gary Dubois immediately assumed the “Dixie Outlaw” position on the side of his vehicle. The deputy told Gary to empty his pockets and drop his drawers at which point I fled the scene for my bike. Fortunately, he was only kidding so we sped to the restaurant and filled up with mucho gusto.

We did make it to Houston, even though the catfish was not available, to check out the oldest jailhouse in the state. It was constructed of very heavy timbers and had a hole on the back of each cell that vented to the outside, which were the sanitary facilities. Several folks backed up to the holes trying to imagine what it was like to be incarcerated there. Now that was really a sight to behold.

Our last stop was the Clarkson covered bridge in Cullman County constructed in 1904. So I collected 10 ABEES check offs today and am half way to the required 20 for a chance to win that coveted Olympia jacket. It’s a great way to have fun and learn the history of this great State of Alabama.
PACKING UP!
Don Hamblin

After over a decade in Alabama we are packing up and moving back to Midwest. Yep; snow, ice, tornados, and the famous Interstate Highway 70 will be in our new back yard.

But while we pack there are a lot of things we are taking with us, besides the normal household goods and the Beemer. What kinds of things am I talking about? Well, let’s look at the list:

The most important things will be the memories that we will be packing up to take along. Memories of riding to the Oregon and Michigan BMW MOA International Rallies with Jim Lear and North Georgia mountain roads with “Broke Leg Bob” leading the way will be packed near to my heart. Memories of Daytona Bike Week with Bob Shar, and “chasing” Susan Galpin through seriously technical curves in Tennessee will always remain a challenge to be met in the back of my riding mind. Friday nights at the Peanut, and knowing that I could always expect to find an Alabeemer at any rally, has been a comfort that we will never forget.

From that very first time I ran into the “Alabama Crowd” at the Morganton BMW MOA International Rally, I knew that there was something special about our club and the people in it. That is something else I am packing up to take along. Packing all these things, and more, will be the lightest load to carry and the most valuable. These memories will warm those cold winter nights, give me something to look forward to as I shovel the snow from my driveway.

By the time you read this we will already be moved to our new home and packing the RT for the ride back down to the Chicken Rally. So do remember to look for my “rubber chicken” when you show up at the Kansas “Land of Oz” Rally – I will have already brought a bit of the Alabama sprit to the plains. But do not be too worried about our having to deal with I-70 in our back yard; the Ozarks will be in our “side” yard. Stop by, we’ll go for a ride!
THE BMW M/C OWNERS OF ALABAMA
PRESENTS
THE 20TH ANNUAL
“GREAT CHICKEN RALLY in ROCKET CITY”
MAY 22-25 2008
Ditto Landing, Huntsville, AL.
Hwy 231 just So. of Huntsville

4 nights Camping
Rally Pin
Rally Gift
Awards
Vintage Show
100’s Door Prizes

Self Guided Rides to:
Space Museum
Jack Daniels
Barber’s !!
Cathedral Caverns

Entertainment Nightly
Jim Parks—Thursday night
Microwave Dave and the Nukes—Friday night
Jim Parks Band—Saturday night

ALL YOU CAN EAT
SMOKED CHICKEN
ALL DAY—ALL NIGHT

Win a 2008 F650—Tickets $5.00
Drawing at Awards Ceremony Sat. night
Winner need not be present.

BMW Riders and Guests.....Day passes on Saturday only $20.00
Arm bands MUST be worn AT ALL TIMES

REGISTRATION - $40.00
7-12 years $20.00  6 yrs. Under—free

Information call 205-663-5376  Connie Reaves—President@bmwmoal.org
ABEES NEWS YOU CAN USE
Bob Steber

Be sure to check out the new ABEES pages on our excellent new website (www.BMWMOAL.org), and when you see Steve Schuckman, be sure to thank him for making this available for our use.

The ABEES Touring Guide page contains all of the ABEES Touring Guide updated information (additions and deletions). Here you can also sort information by the various categories to easily locate desired categories like wineries, covered bridges, courthouses, waterfalls etc. For GPSs users, you can download an ABEES Planning Base Map containing the key category waypoints and all of the Favorite Motorcycling Roads and Rides with waypoints.

The Favorite Roads and Rides page has all of the individual Favorite Roads and Rides routes that can be downloaded to your GPS software. Additionally, the five All Around Alabama Run routes are there for you to download.

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ABEES TOURING GUIDE ADDENDUM

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<th>Place</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aliceville</td>
<td>James McCrory Grave</td>
<td>Was George Washington’s life guard at Valley Forge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calera</td>
<td>Shelby Springs</td>
<td>Confederate Cemetery, hospital here (1863-1865).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elba</td>
<td>Juliette’s</td>
<td>Great place for breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>Sonny’s Catfish Cafe</td>
<td>Excellent Catfish and friendly people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jasper</td>
<td>Victoria’s Restaurant</td>
<td>Cafeteria, but home cooking seasoned to perfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>Civil Rights Institute</td>
<td>Memorial to Civil Rights Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pell City</td>
<td>The Porter House</td>
<td>“Best meat &amp; three in Alabama”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deletions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anniston</td>
<td>Remington Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnt Corn</td>
<td>Old General Store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Favorite Motorcycling Roads & Ride Additions

NE 7 - Guntersville State Park Run
TN 1 - Tommy Arnold’s Favorite SE Tennessee Ride
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Sponsored Events With Meetings</th>
<th>Other Events of Interest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>May 22 - 25</strong> Great Chicken Rally - Huntsville, AL</td>
<td>May 16-19 European Riders Rally Burkesville, KY BMW club of Nashville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jun 28 - 29</strong> Little River St. Forrest - Atmore, AL</td>
<td>June 20-22 Missouri State BMW Rally, Crane, MO Springfield BMW Road Riders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jul 26 - 27</strong> Guntersville Park - Guntersville, AL</td>
<td>Jul 17 - 19 BMWMOA Int’nl Rally, Gillette WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aug 30 - 31</strong> Blue Ridge MC Cmpgrnd - Cruso, NC</td>
<td>July 24-27 Top O the Rockies, Paonia, CO BMW MC of Colorado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sep 27 - 28</strong> Shell Mound Campground Nickajack Dam - Jasper, TN</td>
<td>Aug 28 - 30 Curve Cowboy Reunion Midway, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oct 25 - 26</strong> Waggoners RibFest - Centerville, TN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dec 6</strong> Christmas party , Guntersville State Park Lodge - Guntersville, AL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>