Hello everyone! First we want to give a big Thank You to Jeannine and Tommy Arnold for hosting our meeting last weekend at Shellmound. Tommy's BBQ and Jeannine's fried pies and cobblers were Outstanding! They really worked hard to put on a great weekend of us. Thank you, Thank you! The weather even decided to cooperate Saturday afternoon. By Sunday morning it turned out to be a beautiful day! All in all a Fun weekend!! Speaking of fun... Fall is always one of the favorite times of the year for riding. Not too hot, the weather is usually beautiful and the colors are gorgeous! There are also lots of great rides and places to go...here's some of the upcoming events in our area:

Lee Waggoner's Rib Fest 10/24 & 10/25
This is a must do for all the rib lovers. It's all the rib's and country fix'ins you can eat! Last year he had dry rub, wet, Memphis, and any other style ribs you can think of!! And the camping on Lee's property is rally cool too. This is a must attend event.

Little River meeting 10/31 & 11/1
A good ole catfish fry on Saturday night and Halloween fun around the camp fire! Be sure and bring your wildest Halloween costume cause we'll have judging and prizes for the best costumes!

Swamp Scooters 11/13-11/15
Cajun food, Cajun music, and Cajun Culture...the Three C's! What else could you want?!
These are just a few of the many places to ride this Fall. All of them are a great excuse to find the best motorcycle roads and routes to Fall Motorcycle Fun!!

Halloween Costume Contest!
Bring your best and scariest Halloween Costume to the Little River Meeting! After dinner we'll gather around the campfire and have fun with the costumes and judge the best ones. We'll also have prizes for the winners!! So be sure to bring'em!

Elections for 2010 Officers
Our January election for Officers and Directors will be here before you know it and we want to encourage everyone to consider taking a leadership role in our club. We have lots of talented and capable club members who can do a fantastic job for our club! Our club needs you! ...step up and take a position and help lead our club! In all of the positions, past office holders are there to help with training, guidance and helpful advice if you need it. So just do it!

All positions are open and will be voted on. Many of the incumbents have expressed the desire to continue in their current position as indicated. You can nominate yourself or someone else for any position. Please make sure that whoever you nominate is agreeable to serve before you nominate them.

President – Open
Vice President – Jim Kalahan
Secretary – Open
Newsletter Editor – Open
Rally Chairmen – Connie Reeves
Rally Chairmen – Vance Harrelson
Safety Director – Joan Ware
Travel Director – Open
Photography Director – Jimmy Lowe
Membership Director – Open
Tech Director – Terry Ware

MOA Mileage Contest Ends Oct 11
The form to send in your ending mileage is in the current BMW ON or you can get them on the website. It takes two MOA member signatures, a notary, or any of our club officers can sign. Be sure to get those in by the deadline, postmarked no later than November 16, 2009.
MEETING MINUTES  
Sunday September 27, 2009 8:00AM  
Shellmound Campground, Nickajack Dam  
Jeannine Arnold, Secretary

Meeting was called to order by our president, Ron Riggins.

Ron read the Treasurers’ Report by Marty Simpson, which is available for all club members, at their request.

Ron told us the Diplomat Deli will be the site for the presentation of the MSF charity donation, date and time will be on the Forum.

The Shiloh Rally is the first weekend in October and the theme is to be "Tie One On", so bring your wildest tie. This is also the same weekend the BMW car club decided to do their joint Rally with us.

Our next meeting will be October 31 - November 1, at Little River State Forest, Atmore, Alabama. Vance reported that the campground was crowded last week, and there may be single wide trailers available. He said RA rep., Michael Johnston suggested Air Force Base in Pensacola might be a future site for us.

Ron reminded everyone Waggoner’s Rib Fest is coming up in Centerville, Tennessee on October 24-25th. Be sure to come as the food is wonderful and it’s a beautiful place to see. Lee has rides planned for on and off road.

Ron and everyone present thanked Tommy and Jeannine for a nice dinner. (Sorry about the rain!!)

Remember everyone, come January there will be openings for all the offices and even newsletter job, time to step up and take over!!!!!!!!!

Martha Warren asked to address the meeting, and handed out to all the officers, copies of other clubs' membership sign-up sheets for our perusal. Some had sheets for release of liability, and their rules for membership. A discussion followed as to what we thought our club had become; Most noted was our FOB rules.

Ron Riggins pointed out that in a class taught at the MOA Rally in Johnson City, most States' not-for-profit groups are not liable. The general discussion was that we needed to define what our rules need to say about FOB membership. A motion was made, then more discussion, and the motion was rescinded. In conclusion, a motion was made for consideration for revising the By-laws regarding Membership Eligibility at the January Planning meeting. A second was issued and a vote was taken to do this in January. The motion carried.

Martin Benson informed us that during the January 2010 meeting there will be a program at 3:00p on Saturday about Group Riding. It will be a 1 hour program and it is free. All should attend.

Bob Steber reminded us this is the beginning of nice weather and we need to get to riding and build ABEES points. Terry and Joan Ware have stepped up and are donating a jacket and helmet for prizes. There will also be tents, and a Kermit Duffel bag. All will be awarded in January at the planning meeting, so get your ABEES points done. Send them to Bob as it only takes 20 point check offs to qualify.

Vance also reminded us October 11th ends MOA mileage contest. Entries must be postmarked before November 16, 2009.

50/50 was won by Steve Hebert

Meeting was adjourned by Ron Riggins
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Remember Perry and Peggy Guffey as they mourn the loss of their daughter, Lynn Houston. Also, Peggy has been hospitalized due to complications with her diabetes. Perry is a past member and cousin of Tommy Arnold.

In addition, Tommy’s Aunt Edna passed away on Wednesday, September 30. Pray for Tommy and Jeannine as they deal with these losses.

NEW MEMBERS

Gail & Lana Kaltz     Crestview, FL    Sponsor: Marty Simpson
Joe & Cathy Lange     Helena, AL    Sponsor: Marty Simpson
Phil Freeman      Evergreen, AL     Sponsor: Don Drasheff

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| 1   | Melanie Turp  | 14  | Tom Sherrill  | 20  | Roger Ingram |
| 2   | Will Diener   | 15  | Martha Warren | 20  | Clint King   |
| 2   | John Tarver   | 16  | David Hogg    | 21  | Ernie Brooks |
| 3   | J. Don Flowers| 16  | Carolyn Shea  | 21  | Susan Galpin |
| 3   | Sybille Kern  | 17  | Jim McArthur  | 22  | Melba Kipp   |
| 5   | Bob Reich     | 19  | Butch Banks   | 23  | Jeff Pesnell |
| 5   | Kathy Steber  |     |               | 24  | Marcella Thompson |
| 6   | Vance Harrelson|   |               | 26  | Bizz Copeland |
| 8   | Jeanne Zibell |     |               | 27  | David McClain |
| 9   | Tommy Arnold  |     |               | 27  | Mike McDevitt |
| 9   | Oliver Wright |     |               | 29  | Michael Greenwood |
| 10  | Don Kimbrell  |     |               | 29  | Larry Mullens |
| 11  | Elaine Thompson|   |               | 30  | Mike Gilbreath |
For details refer to the Restaurants & POI and Favorite Roads and Rides Page on our club website. Pencil in the changes or copy and paste the descriptions from the website, print them and place in your ABEES Travel Guide.

### ABEES ADDENDUM - October 2009

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<td>Cedar Bluff</td>
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<td>Nathan Bedford Forrest Monu-</td>
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<td>Self Guided Walking Tour of the Town</td>
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<td>Very unique little town with beautifully restored buildings.</td>
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<td>EAT</td>
<td>Excellent food and atmosphere. Sit at the counter and watch your food being prepared.</td>
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<td>Favorite Ride C 17</td>
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**PICs from Shellmound**
Mari and I left at 6PM in the pouring rain Thursday night the 17th headed to St. Louis for the Open House scheduled for Saturday 19th at MOA headquarters. We went as far as Clarksville, TN on Thursday night under threatening skies the whole way.

Friday morning dawned with bright sunny skies so we meandered up the Great River Road through Southern Illinois enjoying a great ride until we attempted to cross the mighty river into St. Louis. I tell you I don’t think there is a road in central MO that is not under construction! Of course it didn’t help that we arrived in the area late in the afternoon on a Friday, when the Cardinals were playing the Cubs in town that night…I suppose that help to create the “perfect storm” for traffic gridlock!

However, once again Saturday morning brought a beautiful sunny day with temps in the high 70’s and a perfect day for the Open House. This is the second time we have attended this annual event. This is an excellent time to meet and get to know all the staff of the MOA and Board Members, get a shot at some great door prizes and enjoy a huge brat and burger cookout put on by the printing company that produces the ON magazine each month. The great weather brought out approximately 200 folks for the event that lasted until about 4PM.

For those who may not be members of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America, the club is approximately 40,000 members strong worldwide, produces a great magazine each month and sponsors many regional events as well as the annual rally and member discounts. Your Alabama club is chartered by the BMW MOA and is honored to hold Charter #5. And our own John Harper is one of the founding members of the MOA.

Check them out at www.bmwmoa.org !! Here you will find an informative website that includes forums and a classified section in addition to all kinds of news and information.

And next time you see Mari in that snazzy leopard print riding jacket, ask her about the door prizes from the Open House!
RIDE TO THE PRAIRIE ROLLING HILLS 
OF ALABAMA’S BLACK BELT 

Bob Steber

With the exception of Montgomery, Prattville, Selma, Camden and Marion, Alabama’s Black Belt, named for its rich "black" soil is an area in Alabama I haven't often visited. What a good surprise it was to ride the very rural back roads, especially Lowndes County Road 40 from the Montgomery County border to White Hall. It was like being all alone out there in the middle of nowhere. There were miles and miles with no traffic. Now that I think about it, there was more farm equipment there than there were cars and trucks.

One of the highlights along the way is the Holy Ground Creek Battle Ground Park near White Hall. This is the site of one of the four major battles of the Creek Indian War: Burnt Corn, Ft Mimms, Holy Ground and Horseshoe Bend. There is a plaque that well explains the history of Holy Ground and the battle that took place there. A well constructed boardwalk leads through a beautiful hardwood forest with Spanish moss to a large covered deck, with a great view, overlooking the forest and Alabama River. Also at the Holy Ground Park is a man made sandy beach along the Alabama River, picnic tables, hiking trails and camping sites.

Another highlight is the Old Marengo County Courthouse in Linden. The building looks like a small Greek Temple. It was constructed in 1848 and served as the seat of county government until 1903. On October 9, 1890, Rube Burrow, the nation's most notorious train robber was slain there by Sheriff Jefferson D. Carter.

Heritage Park in Prattville is worth spending some time. It is a well landscaped area overlooking Autauga Creek and the manufacturing complex around which this New England style village developed. When you are there, be sure to have a drink of cool water from the fountain that is fed by an artesian well.

Also, do not miss seeing the Civil Rights Monument in Montgomery. This beautiful monument honors the achievements and memory of those who lost their lives during the Civil Rights Movement, a period framed by the momentous Brown v. Board decision in 1954 and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in 1968. It was created by Vietnam Veterans Memorial designer Maya Lin. You will be amazed at how water flows over the top’s surface then with water tension continues down the funnel shaped granite pedestal into its reservoir at the base.

The round trip ride was 360 enjoyable miles. Along the way I checked off 18 ABEES points and enjoyed two lunches, an early one at Chris’ Hot Dogs in Montgomery and later at Jackson’s Fried Chicken in Camden. Jackson's is a strong candidate for having the best fried chicken in Alabama. Here are the places I visited: Prattville – Heritage Park, Old Prattvillage and Autauga County Courthouse. Montgomery – Capital Complex, Civil Rights Memorial, Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church. First Whitehouse of the Confederacy, Old Alabama Town, Chris’ Hot Dogs, and the Montgomery County Courthouse. White Hall – Holy Ground Creek Battle Ground Park. Benton – Robert F. Henry Dam. Camden – Jackson’s, Wilcox County Courthouse and the Old County Courthouse. Millers Ferry – Millers Ferry Lock and Dam. Linden – Marengo County Courthouse and the Old Marengo County Courthouse. Marion – Gateway Inn and Restaurant.

A day ride like this is what the Alabama Beemers’ Exploring and Epicurean Society is all about. It was a great day of exploring and finding good places to eat.

Eighteen counties make up what is usually considered the Black Belt and include:

- Barbour
- Bullock
- Butler
- Choctaw
- Crenshaw
- Dallas
- Greene
- Hale
- Lowndes
- Macon
- Marengo
- Montgomery
- Pickens
- Perry
- Pike
- Russell
- Sumter
- Wilcox
GROUP RIDE TRAINING  
Martin Benson, Travel Director

Our club hosts a number of group-riding events each year. On a good day, we arrive on time, prepared, and the ride progresses smoothly; a good time is had by all. On a bad day these events can challenge the patience, and much more importantly, the safety of all involved. Differing riding styles, a wide variety of riding-skills and different levels of cooperation among participants can tax the abilities and patience of the ride captain, and increase the risks of riding in a group.

This is a one-hour, classroom-only program that provides information on proper group riding procedures and techniques. Stressed are riding formations, traffic strategies, and group communication. A modern audio-visual is used to highlight key points. Take-away materials are provided.

Our plans are to offer this program in January at our meeting in Montevallo. The time frame is on Saturday at 3:00 PM.

Rodger Williamson took this picture of a road sign in Kuwait on the road going into Iraq. ... what does it mean?? “No Evil Knievel-ing”?? Anyone have any ideas?

Although a pretty darn good pilot, Jim Kalahan is certainly no Boy Scout. (3 quarts charcoal starter?)
ALABAMA BACK ROADS
Martin Benson

September is history but the memories of roads ridden are still fresh in our minds: country back roads that wind down by a creek, county road 39 up Crow Mountain. Memories of hard rain as we road these roads. Memories of BBQ ribs and all the fixings that Tommy and Jeannine provided at the Shell Mound. How can we ever forget the fried pies.

Our next meeting will be at Little River near Atmore. Bob Steber will be leading a club ride down. On this ride, one of the sites we will visit is Lenn’s out-house. Also he will lead a lunch ride on Saturday.

Details and gps routes of the rides will be put on the web site. See you down the road.

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CLUB RIDE TO LITTLE RIVER FOREST
Bob Steber

BMW Motorcycle Club members and their guests are welcome to join me for a great ride to the October gathering of Alabeemers at Little River Forest. The dates for the meeting are Saturday & Sunday 10-31 and 11-1 2009, but we are going Friday October 30th so that we can make the ferry crossing of the Alabama River on the old 1930s era side wheeler Davis Ferry which does not operate on weekends.

We will meet Friday morning at the Alabaster Chevron I-65 exit 238. There is a Waffle House there also. Please be ready to roll at 7:30 am after a short riders briefing, and be sure to have a full tank of fuel and an empty bladder prior to departure. On the way, we will make a quick stop at the Selma Chevron on Hwy 22 (1/2 mile north of Hwy 80) and should be there by 9:30 am. Folks wishing to join us for the rest of the ride are welcome to meet us there.

After leaving the Selma Chevron, we will have a riding tour of Selma to see the wonderful old buildings and the famous Edmond Pettus Bridge, and then ride to Old Cahawba where the scenic Cahaba River flows into the Alabama River. This is also the site of Alabama’s first State Capital.

We will have lunch in Camden after a visit to the Gees Bend Quilt University and crossing the Alabama on Gee’s Bend Ferry. You will have a choice of going to Jacksons Fried Chicken or Redd’s Soul Food & BBQ. We will also get fuel in Camden (145 miles from Alabaster).

From Camden we will ride to the Davis Ferry landing and cross the Alabama on the Davis Ferry. The road approaching and exiting the ferry is packed dirt for about ½ mile on each side of the river which is in good condition and should be no problem for you to ride.

After crossing the river, we will ride to Monroeville to see the Old Courthouse of “To Kill a Mockingbird Fame” before continuing to Little River Forest. We should arrive there around 4 pm.

Look for ride details and the GPS route on our club website at the Forums Planned Rides page later in October.
COME ON DOWN TO LITTLE RIVER
Jamie Jackson

The October club meeting and campout will be at Little River State Forest near Atmore, Alabama. The park used to be known as Claude D. Kelly State Park. The park is located approx. 11 miles north of I-65 on Highway 21 (Atmore Exit). The park lies slightly more than 75 miles north of the Gulf.

There are 12 improved campsites with full hookups and plenty of primitive sites. We will be camping around the pavilion which is near the bath house. If you prefer you may camp in the back part of the campground where there are hook-ups, and we will be allowed to put three tents per site. The club will be collecting the camping fees so just come on in and set up. Fees will be around $10 per tent per night.

Royal Oaks Bed & Breakfast is nearby and has one room in the house and two bungalows out back. The bungalows are nice with hardwood floors, etc. they are $80.00 per night. Phone is 251-368-8722.

Dinner will be catfish, slaw, baked beans, french-fries and lots of dessert. Dinner is planned for 5:30 PM.

Breakfast items will be provided. Coffee for sure and either sweet rolls or possibly sausage biscuits.

Directions:
If you are coming south on Interstate 65, get off at exit 57 which is state highway 21 Atmore/Uriah. Go north on highway 21 to Little River Campground entrance 11 miles from interstate. Going north on 21 you turn right into the Park. If you are coming south on 21 from Uriah, it is approx 4 miles and you turn left into the park.

For the sightseer, a Vanity Fair Outlet Center is located about 15 miles north on Highway 21, the Creek Family Restaurant and Creek Bingo Palace are located about 12 miles south on 21 just off I-65. There are convenience stores located about three miles north and south on Highway 21.

Contact details:
Little River State Forest
580 H. Kyle Road
Atmore, AL 36502
Tel: 251-862-2511
COLLISIONS INVOLVING DEER AND VEHICLES UP IN ALABAMA

Press release from State Farm Insurance:

Using its claims data, the nation’s largest auto insurer estimates 2.4 million collisions between deer and vehicles occurred in the United States during the two-year period between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2009 - 18.3 percent more than five years earlier. Alabama experienced a 16 percent increase over the same period.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, deer-vehicle collisions in the U.S. cause more than 150 fatalities each year. The average property damage cost of these incidents was $3,050, up percent from a year ago.

These collisions are more frequent during the deer migration and mating season in October, November and December. The combination of growing deer populations and the displacement of deer habitat caused by urban sprawl are producing increasingly hazardous conditions for motorists and deer.

For the third year in a row, West Virginia tops the list of states where a collision with a deer is most likely.

Although not stated in the above data, I can only assume that the same rate of deer/vehicle collisions apply also to motorcycles. In fact, I could not find any data specific to deer strikes by motorcycles.

However, I did learn that about 150 Americans a year die as a result of 700,000 collisions with deer, which reportedly cause over a billion dollars in damage. A disproportionate number of those fatalities are motorcyclists. According to available references a motorcyclist is three times more likely to result in a fatality than an automobile motorist.

State Farm has published information that states that the likelihood of a vehicle registered in Alabama has a 1 in 196 chance of colliding with a deer. If you are alarmed by those statistics then consider the average motorist in West Virginia who has a 1 in 45 chance of a collision with a deer. It seems the safest place to ride is in Hawaii where a vehicle operator has only a 1 in 11,000 chance of collision. For more stats check out the State Farm web site at: http://www.statefarm.com/about/media/media_releases/wv_deer_collisions.asp

So how can we reduce the risk of having a collision with one of these horned highway invaders?

- Be aware of posted deer crossing signs. These are placed in active deer crossing areas.
- Remember that deer are most active between 5 and 9 p.m.,
- Use high beam headlamps as much as possible at night to illuminate the areas from which deer will enter roadways,
- Keep in mind that deer generally travel in herds - if you see one, there is a strong possibility others are nearby.
- If riding in a group, spread out. This will keep one rider who hits a deer from taking other riders down with him,
- If a collision appears imminent, do not swerve. Braking hard right up to the point of impact is best, as you want to be stabilized if you do collide, which will give you the greatest chance of remaining upright.

“Okay”, you ask, “What about the deer whistles? Won’t they scare the deer off the roadway and guarantee smooth sailings?” I can find no data that suggests that the whistles actually work, despite the claims of the vendors.

More to the point, let’s assume the whistles do work, and that a deer ahead hears the media. What’s the message? Is the noise a collision warning, a mating call, a challenge to fight, or simply an annoyance? Let’s assume the deer receives the message as a collision warning. Does that stimulate the animal to run away? And if the deer does agree to run away, is it supposed to make a 180 and run back into the woods, or is it supposed to run straight across the road?

I do know that Darryl Falkner, one of our club members, has first hand knowledge of a deer strike. Darryl suffered severe injury with several broken bones when he hit a deer last summer. Darryl told me that there may be very little that a rider can do and “All he ever saw was just a flash and the next thing he knew he was laying in a ditch trying to breathe with a punctured lung.”
## ABEES POINTS TO DATE

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Restaurants, Points of Interest and Monthly Club Gatherings</th>
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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.

Dedicated to safe and enjoyable motorcycling

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

c/o Jamie Jackson - Editor
1308 Stonecrest Drive
Birmingham, AL 35235
jamiejackson@bellsouth.net

Club Sponsored Events With Meetings

Oct 31/Nov 1  Little River State Forest - Atmore, AL
Dec 5  Christmas Party - Guntersville St. Park

Other Events of Interest

Oct 24-25  Waggoners RibFest - Centerville, TN
Nov 13-15  SwampScooters Rally - Carencro, LA