

THE ALABAMA BEEMER



Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

BMWMOA Chapter #5/ BMWRA Chapter #107



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November/December 2010

We All Got A “Little” Chili...But....

Vance Harrelson

not too cold...Yep, the monthly club meeting was held at Blue Springs State Park and it was a great time indeed! Traditionally this meeting is held in February but we shook things up a bit and did it in October this year. We had a great turnout in attendance with about forty five Alabeemers present...the great chili and fixins prepared by Don and Barbara...but...this time it was great fall weather and Halloween instead of the howling wind and typically cold temperatures of February! It was a real pleasure to gather in that pavilion around Don's washtub fire pots and not have to hide behind those blue tarps strung up to try and prevent that biting wind from blowing through! I sure didn't miss that and I doubt anyone else did!

Although Mari and I could not leave for the meeting until Saturday morning there were quite a number of folks that arrived on Friday and enjoyed lunch in Clayton and other spots around the area. I would like to especially thank Jim and Sheila Kalahan for the great stew on Friday night (wish I had gotten some) and the fall decorations that covered the pavilion! Also Russ and Roxanne Kruse cooked pancakes for those there on Saturday morning! Man, you all have set the bar quite high for these monthly meetings! Thanks to all of you!

As mentioned the temperatures were quite different than the typical Blue Springs outing so even though it was cool, it was not the usual COLD for the tent campers...and that was a good thing as Mari and I were sleeping on the ground Saturday night! Sunday we had a great meeting around the fire and it warmed up nicely providing another spectacular riding day for the return home.

A big thanks to all who had a part in putting this together and to those who attended! We had a great time indeed!

I would like to remind everyone that the club officer elections are coming up in January. Currently there are no names confirmed on the election ballot. I informed the group at the Blue Springs meeting that Mari and I are not planning to hold office in our club for the upcoming year. Jim Kalahan has indicated that he does not plan to hold office. Connie has notified me that she will most likely not be able to hold the Rally Chair position but of course will remain as CFO. Jamie Jackson has let me know that he would like someone to assume the newsletter duties. While I am not sure about each of the current Director positions, the point is that we do not have any confirmed names on the ballot other than Connie Reaves as the CFO.

I believe that it is good for any club to change its leadership periodically and we are certainly no different. I know that we are all busy with our daily lives but we also need committed and dedicated leadership for the club to survive. If you have never held an office in this or any other club, do not let that deter you from entering your name onto the ballot! Once again we have a great club, with a great heritage and tradition and we need YOU to step up and take us forward! Nominations are open now for all the positions. Please send nominations to me at president@bmwmoal.org or call me with any questions you have. A brief description of each position and the requirements are available for your review on our website by visiting the “Contacts and Officers” page and hovering over each title. Please consider stepping up to a leadership position!

In addition, I strongly believe that the club should take a look at strategic planning and develop a plan for our future. Let's look long term and decide where we want to be in one year, five years and ten years. I am concerned that we have no plan of action for our growth or even our sustainability and survival into the future. If you have any experience or the desire to take a look at future planning for this great group, please let me know. We can use

your input!

We are planning a great finish to 2010 with the Christmas party and the Eldridge Children's Home event on Saturday, December 4th. Make your plans now to attend and take advantage of the Eldridge Ride In www.echbenefit.com, the Barber Museum discounted admission and the great shopping available at the new Shops of Grand River Outlet Mall and the Bass Pro Shops. Don't forget if you need accommodations we have a block of rooms set aside at the new Hampton Inn located right there in Leeds. You can book online or call the hotel directly. The hotel is located at 310 Rex Lake Road, 1-20 Exit 140, Leeds, AL. The phone number is (205) 702-4141. **Be sure to use the Discount Code "BMW" to get our discounted rate.** After the day's activities join us at the Livery Event Center in downtown Leeds for our party!

Darlene Massey will be coordinating this event for us. Please contact her by email dmassey@amerexfire.com. This year we are returning to the "Pot Luck" style method for feeding us. The club will provide the meat and we will provide our favorite dish to accompany it! Please get with Darlene about what is needed to coordinate the menu!

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We are fortunate here in Alabama and the surrounding states that we do not have to give up riding in the late fall and into the winter season. With that in mind, I encourage everyone to take advantage of the great riding days we still have in 2010 and use that time to run up those ABEES counts! Remember we will have some great prizes to give away at the January meeting! So remember to be safe and get out and ride!

NEW MEMBERS

Alan Kidd	Birmingham, AL	Sponsor: Vance Harrelson
Robert Wayne	Vicksburg, MS	Sponsor: Don Drasheff
Richard Shoemaker	Birmingham, AL	Sponsor: Mari Harrelson
Alan and Debbie Donnels	Palmer, TN	Sponsor: Vance Harrelson

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Michael Langley	14	Jan Barnett	20	Joe Lichtenstein
2	Tommy Zeringue	15	Joseph Mays	20	Phillip Thibodeau
3	Matt Wilson	16	Morris Dees	20	Tom Gilbert
3	Robert Herron	18	Jim Ronk	21	Rick Kilgore
3	Josh Reaves			21	Charles Neville Reese
4	Bob Steber			22	Gene McDaniel
5	Ron Shea			22	Steven Hudson
5	Jim Pippin			23	Ed Kearney
5	Robert Baker			23	Pamela Rogers
8	Margaret Hoffman			24	Larry Tuggle
8	Charles Smith			24	Jack Kipp
10	Denise Copeland			24	Eddie Williams
11	Jake Bennet			24	Amelia Bauman
11	Todd Kern			24	Elaine Winslow
11	Ginger Odom			27	Dennis Hallman
12	Paul Goehler			29	David Ghostley
13	Rodger Williamson				



MEETING MINUTES

October 31, 2010 8:00 AM
Blue Springs Campground
President Vance Harrelson presiding
Mari Harrelson, Secretary

Vance opened the meeting by thanking Barbara and Don Little for the Chili and the perfect weather to go along with it. Also thanks to Sheila and Roxanne for the decorations around the shelter and desserts. We had a great crowd and the riding was excellent.

Although we didn't have any 1st timers once again we had several folks that had not been for some time and it was great to have them back. It is so good to see faces that we miss at the meetings join us again. We really do miss you guys when you are away so come again soon.

Vance acknowledged the Bob and Kathy Steber's recent loss of their son Trey. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers and we hope Kathy is healing from her car accident.

Barber's Vintage Festival was a huge success and we not only made a number of wonderful new friends, we signed up 4 new members and sold 34 books of tickets. We all had a great time volunteering and we are looking for another opportunity to do it again. It was a team effort and a lot of long hours since volunteers were in short supply but it was a great time and we were able to tell lots of people about the club and the BMW community as a whole.

Vance mentioned that the elections are coming up and that at this time the ballot has all slots open so be thinking about volunteering to hold a position as an Officer or Director for a term.

The treasury report was shown and Vance said that the General Fund that we buy things for the club functions is in the red. The rally fund is ok, but the general fund that we use to pay for things like meeting expenses, flowers for funerals, general business expenses is in the red. Aside from dues it is funded only from 50/50 split. Therefore, Vance and Connie put it to vote to the Officers of the club to raise the dues to \$25 per member and \$5 per Associate. At the same time they are proposing to raise the rally fee to \$45.00 and Day fee to \$25.00. The Officers voted unanimously to bring it to the vote of the club. An e-blast was sent out and Vance received votes by mail to bring to the meeting to go with the discussion and vote at the meeting. Discussion was held and there were some that proposed that we raise it even higher but it was determined that these prices would be a good place to start and see if it would bring us into adequate financial status again. A motion was made to increase the dues to \$25.00 and associate to \$5.00 effective immediately, seconded, approved. A motion was then made to increase the rally fees to \$45.00, seconded, approved. With the count that Vance got by mail the vote on the dues was 36 yes and 5 no and the vote on the rally fees was 37 yes and 4 no.

50/50 split this month is \$70.00 and was won by Rickie Bonner.

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



PEEK-A-BOO, I SEE YOU

Gail Thorne

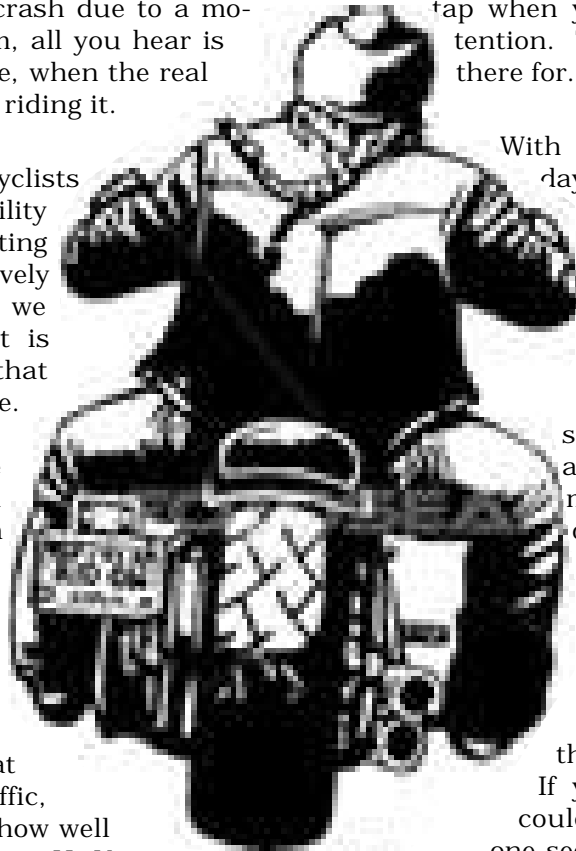
As much as the cruiser crowd likes to be seen, they seem to miss the point as far as it being a safety issue. Have you ever noticed how most of them just blend into the traffic? Aside from their obnoxiously loud pipes (which DO NOT save lives...that is pure BS), long tassels hanging from the handle bars, and several pounds of useless chrome, these bikes with their riders just aren't very visible to other motorists. For the most part, they all dress in dark (usually black) clothing from head to toe. They mistakenly think this makes them look "bad" or "cool". Then, when they are involved in a crash due to a motorist literally not seeing them, all you hear is how unsafe all motorcycles are, when the real problem is mostly the dummy riding it.

The truth is, we as motorcyclists need to accept the responsibility for our own safety by educating ourselves and riding defensively at all times. As BMW riders, we know that wearing gear that is highly visible helps give us that little extra edge in staying safe. However, you cannot assume, because you've bought all the right gear, that a motorist will see you. You have to ride with the attitude that everyone else on the road is out to get you! If you don't, sooner or later, they will.

I like the magazine ad for highly visible riding gear that shows a rider in a sea of traffic, with the point being made of how well he stands out due to wearing Hi-Viz Yellow. If he was wearing black or dark clothing, he would simply just look like part of a car or truck. How would you rather look in heavy traffic? Keep this in mind when you buy riding gear. The "new" reddish orange color also shows up well. Contrasting colors stand out too. If you happen to have riding gear that tends to be on the drab side, just add an inexpensive reflective vest which you can purchase at almost any discount store.

There are also a few other things a rider can do to be more visible to motorists that don't have any

thing to do with clothing. If riding in heavy, side by side traffic, glance around occasionally when safe to do so and make eye contact with the nearby motorists. However, just because they seem to be looking you in the eye, don't assume they "see" you and let your guard down. A friendly nod or wave will certainly cause recognition. Most Southerners will wave back, and you know you have been seen. Now, I realize you can't ride constantly waving as if in a parade, but in certain situations this is useful. Many times, when traffic is congested, you will ride for miles with the same "crowd". Let them know you are there. Small children in the back of a SUV respond well to a wave from you. Now, they are all screaming "Look Mommy, a motorcycle"! Also, there is nothing wrong with giving your horn a little tap when you need to get someone's attention. That is what that button is there for.



With winter approaching, and our daylight time getting shorter, the odds of riding late in the evening or after dark increase. Night riding is really not a good idea and should only be done if you have to. Most good riding gear has reflective areas, for the purpose of being seen at night. We all know about the adhesive reflective material available for sticking on saddlebags, fairings, helmets, etc. This is a very good addition and works great. Don & Barbara Little, who have ridden thousands of miles on a m/c, made this suggestion...apply reflective tape to the BOTTOM of your motorcycle!

If you have crashed at night, it could mean the difference in someone seeing you, especially if you happen to be in a ditch or lying in the middle of a desolate road.

As I said earlier, WE have to be the one responsible for our own safety. Don't get complacent just because you have spent hundreds of dollars on riding gear. This gear tends to make us "feel" safe, but we must do all we can to make ourselves visible to other vehicles. The majority of traffic is people who do not share our love of motorcycling. They are in another world, and it is our job to make them recognize our space on the road.

Ride Often To Ride Well

HOW I BECAME A BMW OWNER

Jeff Sparks

After too many years of not owning a motorcycle I decided that it was time to return the hobby. It was an all encompassing passion for me as a kid as I progressed up the Mini-Trail ranks and further up the Honda ladder in minute cubic centimeters from 90 to 100 to 125, preferring the CL versions with their high pipe and trials universal tires, they were pre-historic GSs. Over the years the reading of various motorcycle magazines had kept me current on the latest motorcycle models and a scan of the local dealerships brought up four possibilities within my price range.

The Harley dealer had a used 1200 Sportster as well as a new 883. As great as it would have been to enter the Harley fold, I knew that Sportster riders suffered ridicule for riding chick's bikes. Living in fear of showing up at a bike event and hearing "Does your wife know that you are riding her bike?" was one factor in overlooking these bikes. Knowing that both these models had motors which vibrate like paint can shakers bolted solidly to the chassis was another factor causing me to skip these choices. Later models finally got the rubber mount motor.

The price for the then new Triumph Bonneville in black was very reasonable. The low, flat seat, small nimble looks and the nostalgia associated with that brand were strong factors in this bike's favor. My uncle had a 1968 Bonneville that I lusted after as a kid. Not knowing who I may be riding with brought about concern about its smaller engine displacement, now that 1200-1300 cc is the new mid-size. Also the thoughts of hanging bags and a windshield on those classic lines just would not seem right so that model was skipped over.

The same dealer had a BMW R1150R, a non-ABS 2002 model that had been traded in. It showed less than 10,000 miles, looked to be in very good overall condition and within my price range. Memories of my dad's comments, a Harley rider for many years, his last being a circa 1960 Duo-Glide, saying that the engine design of the BMW was inherently smoother than that of a Harley caused me to look closely at this machine. He said that the V-Twin was trying to tear itself apart while the boxer twin canceled out its own vibrations. The suspension

engineering seemed unorthodox, but impressive to me. The oil cooler mounted in the gas tank seemed like a neat idea that I hadn't seen before. The bike seemed big enough without being overly heavy. I struck a deal on the bike, which at the time had no accessories other than heated grips. My intention was to add accessories as I could afford them to transform my base motorcycle into a light touring mount.

The first addition was the mounts for the system bags. These mounts made it possible to install Givi's luggage rack to mount one of their bags, complete with a backrest pad for the little bride. She had ridden with me and said that she felt as if she was going to fall off the back, so in lieu of her holding on, I complied with the luggage. It was great to be able to take along a jacket, rain suit and tire plugging kit on rides. It brings to mind the comment I have heard about not buying a pair of jeans without pockets on them.

My new riding buddies were on Gold Wings, with their full fairings they were little disturbed by the sudden rain showers, but following behind felt as though I was being shot by a fully automatic BB gun. So the next addition was the BMW touring windshield to replace the factory bikini version. This modification brought about a dramatic change in the bike. It did increase rpms at cruising speed but made riding a much more pleasant endeavor. It keeps the heat blast directly off of me in the summer and freezing wind of the winter at bay. I had never had a bike with a proper windshield, although I tried to adapt a Wixom fairing to my Suzuki GT 550 one time with less than favorable results. My last addition and most expensive was the system bags. Although they seem to weigh the bike down a little I do like the balanced feel that I get with them on and I like to be able to carry a proper air compressor and few extra tools along on rides.

I was able to get onto a bike that was affordable, and add quality factory accessories at my own pace. I have a decent bike that can keep up with most of my riding buddies. I can carry enough clothing and gear for couple of days, the wife can ride without worrying about falling off, and rainfall does not park me. I also have a little flexibility in that I can switch back and forth between the touring shield and the factory bikini shield, and ride sans Givi, or system bags or both as I please. Think of it as kind of a poor man's Road King with the foot pegs in the right place.

RETURN TO SHILOH 2009

Joan Ware

This year should have been Rejuvenated Shiloh

The Rally is now on the big field across from the "permanent" RV's. The county was so glad that they were using the park that they provided a tent for the week. So there was plenty of shaded seating and a stage for a great band Saturday night and the awards. Which our club won "Largest Club" in attendance, as usual but it was low this year only 9 members

There were 5 vendors there, Kermit packing system, Ray's LED Lights, Shango Rider, Grass Roots BMW and Terry's Two Wheel. Which from what the rallymeister said was fantastic, we had a really good time and plan to return next year.

The camping was great; bath houses need a bit of work, but it was cool enough to skip the shower as long as everyone did.

Friday night we had the biggest pulled pork sandwiches I have ever seen and all the trimmings.

The Methodist youth brought lunch for Saturday that was fantastic pork loin, Italian green beans, coleslaw, Mrs. Shubert's BIG rolls, dessert, and drink, all for \$5.00 donation. The boy scouts cooked hot dogs all day too. Plenty of food and I think the riding was enjoyable for everyone. We of course did not ride. Next year they said they may bring lunch and also dinner; yummy!



Even with all her kitchen duties at Blue Springs Barbara found time for a smile.



Don Little's "furnaces" kept everyone warm.

BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS OF ALABAMA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Date: ____/____/2010

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: Connie Reaves, 108 Cape Cod Circle, Alabaster, AL. 35007

TEXAS HILL COUNTRY

Bob Daigle

Sometime back in September a couple of friends who are “regulars” at Hebert’s Cycle starting planning a trip to the Texas Hill Country. The trip was to coincide with the BMW rally in Smithville, Texas on October 15-17. Keith Gutbier, Purvis Lessard and I met at Hebert’s and finalized the plan. Keith was going to attend the Falling Leaf Rally in Missouri on the weekend of the 8th -10th. Purvis and I would not attend that rally but would leave on October 11th and camp and ride in the Hill Country until we rode up for the rally in Smithville. Keith would meet up with us at some point during the week. So the plan was set.

Monday Oct. 11th Purvis and I met at 5 A.M. along I-10 in Prairieville, La. He said that we had a slight change in plans. He had called an old friend of ours, Denny Clouch, to see how he was and told him about our trip. Denny invited us to spend the night Monday at his home and he would join us on the trip Tuesday morning. Our original plan was to ride all of the way Monday and set up camp. Since it’s always good to see old friends like Denny, I had no problems with the change. So we departed Prairieville at 5 A.M. and the ride was on. We arrived at Denny’s home in Seguin, Texas at around 2 P.M. It was good to see him again. He had gone to great pains to secure an excellent meal of smoked brisket from the local Wallyworld. I have to admit that it was one of the most tender meals of brisket that I have ever eaten. We had a great time the rest of the evening drinking cheap scotch and swapping stories.

Tuesday 12th The three of us left Denny’s home around 7 A.M. and rode I-10 until San Antonio where we followed U S 90 west to Hondo for a breakfast stop. We were now in the Hill Country and ready for some fun riding. We departed US90 in Sabinal and followed SR127 to US83 at Condon. From there it was a short run to Garner State Park near Leakey, Texas. We checked in and secured a campsite at the park and set up camp. Garner is one of the most popular parks in Texas and is situ-

ated on the Rio Frio. It is a beautiful area and our campsites had a view of the river and as important, the bath house. Since it was still before noon we decided to do some riding. We traveled the seven miles to Leakey and began the Three Sisters Loop which is an approximately 90 mile loop consisting of three separate highway legs. We took Ranch Road 337 out of Leakey for a great stretch of mountain twisties with fantastic views. This takes you to SR 55 at Camp Wood where we stopped for lunch at of all places, a Mexican restaurant. Naturally I had the hamburger steak meal while Denny and Purvis partook of the fine Mexican cuisine. I’m afraid to order Mexican food. With all of the different dishes that I can’t recognize or pronounce, I’m afraid that I’ll get a different dish than I ordered and won’t know it. Seriously though, I’m just not that crazy about it.



Denny and Purvis had Mexican; hamburger steak for me!

After lunch we headed up SR55 to RR335 to begin the second leg of the loop. This is the longest and my choice as the favorite leg with really nice twists and turns with lots of ups and downs. A couple of spots I called the roller coaster. The views were great with lots of different types of scenery changes from brush country to high mountain views of beautiful valleys. RR335 takes you down into the flatlands and to SR41 for a short

stretch.

Then it was on to RR336 and the final leg of the loop with more mountain roads and curves with great views. So far during the ride we would stop and wait for Denny to catch up to us since he was just taking it slow on the mountain roads. At a stop at the end of RR335 at SR41 I noticed what looked like a small piece of aluminum foil stuck to my back tire. I pulled it off/out and you guessed it, not foil but a small piece of shiny metal which didn’t seem to have punctured the tire. The tire was still hard and I did not hear any air escaping so we had continued on when Denny caught up. When we stopped to wait for Denny again on the outskirts of Leakey I kicked the tire again and it didn’t sound good. After checking the pressure I found it only had about 7 psi left. I was able to plug it and get back to our camp. It was too late to get anything done in town. Keith Gutbier met up with me at a gas station and Subway shop in Leakey before dark and followed me back to camp. At camp we engaged in more ly-

ing and drinking scotch until lights out.

Wednesday 13th Not wanting to continue riding with a plug in my tire, our first stop this morning was at a tire repair shop in Leakey. At first the owner said that he did not do any tire repairs on motorcycles. He did not want to damage a bike trying to get the wheel off. I explained to him that the back wheel on my bike bolts on like a car wheel and that I would take it off for him. He then agreed and repaired the tire with an inside patch. He was amazed at how the wheel came off and that it would fit on his tire machine. Even then he wasn't going to charge me much but I gave him a nice tip since I would have had to go to Alamo BMW in San Antonio otherwise. Having that out of the way we had breakfast and then rode RR337 east to the town of Vanderpool then RR181 and SR39 following the beautiful Guadalupe River into Hunt. We rode out to see the reproduction of Stonehenge but found out that it was being torn down. We continued on through



Kerrville where we took SR 16 to Medina for lunch. I called Wanda from there around noon. Did I mention that October 13th is our anniversary and here I was on a motorcycle trip. Not to worry, Wanda had given me express written permission to come on the trip. On top of that I had the good sense to order a dozen long stemmed roses before I left with instructions to deliver them to her office on this morning. She had gotten them and was thrilled. I seemed to remember something about getting a bunch of hugging or something when I got home. Pretty smart huh?

After lunch it was RR337 from Medina, back to Vanderpool, RR187 to Utopia, and then RR1050 back to Garner SP. Purvis and Denny went back to camp but Keith and I went to ride the Three Sisters Loop. Keith was not with us when we rode it the day before so I went back to ride it and to stop and get

some photos. We had a great time and it was back to camp that evening for more lying and scotch drinking. Do you see a pattern emerging here?

Thursday 14th We broke camp that morning. Keith left with us but rode north towards Kerrville and to the northern part of the Hill country while we took a different route. We were on our way to the rally in Smithville and would meet up there. Denny wanted to stop at his home and check his dogs and get mail. We rode several ranch roads on the way to Hondo and US 90 passing through a couple of small towns with a breakfast stop at the Lost Maples Café in Utopia. After a rest and lunch break at Denny's it was on to I-10 east to Waelder where we took SR97 on to SR 95 and into Smithville. They were nice back country roads but not quite what we had just left behind. In Smithville it was on to the Vernon Richards Riverbend Park and the site of the Houston BMW Club's 40th annual Reunion of Friends Rally. This is a nice city park on the banks of the Colorado River. The campground was great with lots of shade. We found a good spot and set up camp for the rally. Afterwards we wandered around the grounds and met with and talked to other rally goers. For dinner that evening we went into town and ate at, you guessed it, a Mexican restaurant. I decide to have Mexican soul food, pork chops and guacamole. After dinner we took a riding tour of the town and then back to the rally where we engaged in story telling and lies. Denny offered more scotch but I said that I preferred to go to sleep naturally tonight and not artificially lose consciousness. Had a restless night without a lot of sleep. Wished I had drank the scotch. I was pretty sure that a train had passed just outside my tent that night but I saw no tracks in the morning.

Friday 15th Our group rode into town to the same Mexican restaurant for breakfast. We all had the



Another Mexican breakfast

Smithville breakfast which as near as I could tell was some sort of scrambled eggs and stuff. I'm starting to get used to eating the plate with my meals cause everything comes on some sort of tortilla. After breakfast I stayed in town for more sight-



Downtown Smithville

seeing and picture taking. Then it was back to the rally to just hang out. Keith and Purvis rode some roads in the area. That evening we were treated to brats on the grill for dinner.

Saturday 16th The club provided breakfast in the campground although belated. The cooks forgot to wake up and food was not served until 7:30A.M.



The sign says Camp Glockenspiel, but the breakfast was, you guessed it, Mexican.

You won't believe my luck on the menu choice for breakfast; yep scrambled eggs on a soft plate again. I've almost got this whole eating without a fork thing down pat. Keith and I then rode some state park roads through Buescher and Bastrop State Parks and on into the town of Bastrop for some

sights and lunch. Then it was back to the rally where we watched the bike games and bike judging. The club also had the BMWMOA SMART trainer set up. I took a turn on it and was very impressed with it's operation. It really throws a lot of situations at you for you to react to. It then goes over the course you ran and shows what you may have done right and wrong. It then prints out a scorecard to keep. I got a B. I should have gotten an A except for the stupid guy on the bicycle (RIP). Just kidding, I only grazed him. Dinner that evening was pasta with sauce and salad. Afterward they had the awards ceremony and gave out quite a few door prizes, didn't win anything. The rally was fairly nice. The turnout seemed sort of low with maybe 150 registered. I don't know what the normal attendance is. Still a nice rally. Back to the tents to pre pack for the morning.



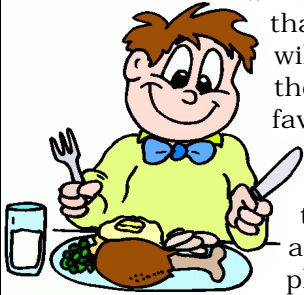
Sunday 17th We got up early and broke camp and packed. Keith waited around for breakfast but Purvis and I left out at 6A.M. We took SR 71 south to I-10 and stopped for breakfast in Baytown. After that it was just slab back home with one more rest stop in Jennings, La. I arrived home at about 2 P.M. tired but happy. It was a fun week with some great riding with good friends. I added another 1700 plus miles to the RT this week. It's really starting to pile up, my odometer is starting to look like a calculator. It was good to get home even after a great trip. I won't tell if I cashed in on Wanda's Wednesday promise. I'm not like that.

The officers and directors of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama wish to extend to you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - DECEMBER 4TH

Darlene Massey

As you read in Vance's article, the Christmas party will be a little different this year than in the past few. The club will be paying for the meat and the members will bring their favorite dishes for a buffet style meal. When preparing your dishes remember that this is one hungry crowd. I am coordinating the food so please e-mail me with the dish or dishes that you are bringing.



(This will prevent us from having 15 squash casseroles.) I also need a headcount to furnish Vance so that he will know how much meat to buy. **Please furnish your headcount confirmation and dish information no later than November 22, 2010.** You may e-mail me at dmassey@amerex-fire.com or call on 205-937-4217.

The party will be in Leeds, Alabama at The Livery, an event center located at 8334 Thornton Avenue, which is located right downtown. A map showing the location is on page 12. Social hour will be from 5:30 to 6:30; BYOB and set-ups will be furnished. **Dinner will be at 6:30.**

Following dinner we will play "Dirty Santa". The rules will be explained before the drawing begins. If you wish to participate please bring a gift to go under the tree that is wrapped but without a name or gender markings. If you are male, bring a gift for a male, and if female then bring a gift suitable for a female. (It all works out.) Gifts placed under the tree should be in the \$20 range.



Remember, it is almost 4 miles back to the Hampton Inn, where most will be staying. The route is right through downtown Leeds so be sure to make arrangements for a designated driver if needed.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Ivory Hampton
- 7 Ron Riggins
- 7 Sheila Kalahan
- 8 John Montoya
- 9 Cathy Lange
- 15 Electa Sparks
- 16 Lana Kaltz
- 18 Kenny Owen
- 18 Sharon McLean
- 18 BJ Ronk
- 19 Gene Barber
- 19 David Smith
- 19 Beverly Bedgood
- 20 Don Delashaw
- 20 Harold Fearing
- 21 Ron Beck
- 21 Grant Borden
- 22 Keith Koon
- 24 Tim Nesmith
- 24 Terry Ware
- 25 Dan Copeland
- 25 Steven Farley
- 26 Vernon Headrick
- 27 Tim Flynn
- 27 Marliam Lee
- 29 Jim McLean



ABEES POINTS TO DATE

Name	Restaurants, Points of Interest and Monthly Club Gatherings	Favorite Roads & Rides	Total ABEES Check Offs	Total ABEES Tickets	Total Bonus Tickets	Total Tickets
Martin Benson	328	31	359	18.0	18	36.0
Rodger Williamson	249	27	276	13.8	25	38.8
Bob Steber	134	19	153	7.7	11	18.7
Jamie Jackson	115	9	124	6.2	14	20.2
Malvene Jackson	115	9	124	6.2	14	20.2
Vance Harrelson	94	3	97	4.9	14	18.9
Steve (Santa) Whitley	78	13	91	4.55	9	13.55
Lenace Whitley	78	13	91	4.55	9	13.55
Bob Daigle	55	6	61	3.1	11	14.1
Tim Flynn	54	2	56	2.8	9	11.8
Paul McBrayer	37	12	49	2.5	11	13.5
Brenda McBrayer	37	12	49	2.5	11	13.5
Wanda Daigle	44	5	49	2.5	7	9.5
Gary Nesmith	43		43	2.15	8	10.15
Mari Harrelson	39	2	41	2.1	0	2.1
Gary Dubois	21	7	28	1.4	2	3.4
Terry Ware	24	3	27	1.4	7	8.4
Joan Ware	15	1	16	0.8	0	0.8
Rhea Converse	15		15	0.8	0	0.8
Leroy Sloan	13	1	14	0.7	0	0.7
John Harper	8	3	11	0.6	0	0.6
Darlene Massey	10		10	0.5	1	1.5

ITEMS FOR SALE

Titan Silver 2002 BMW K1200LTC for sale. 16,310 miles. Meticulously kept, Motolights , Factory Stereo with a Single Disc Player in the Console and a 6-Disc changer in the Saddlebag , ABS integrated brakes, Heated Grips, Heated Seats, BMW Alarm System. Always garaged. Selling due to health reasons. If you have Any Questions please do not hesitate to ask. Call Michael Langley Sr at 256-693-4162. Asking \$10,995 or Best Offer. 3

The 1994 metallic red K75 "Rally Bike" won by Brian Hatley, plus a complete package of equipment and ride-on 4'x8' trailer, custom built by Tony Autier, is offered for minimum of \$6,350, or better offer for 30 days following newsletter publication. Photos and itemized list of inventory to all inquiries by mail. 13,856 mi. Contact Fred Merrill at 251-923-6271 or 923-6255 or by mail at 16260 East Indigo Loop, Summerdale, AL 36580. 2

2004 Kawasaki KLR 650. Cherry condition, 5000 miles, loaded with extras. Contact Jim Pippin at jimpippin@live.com 256-782-0564, 256-689-1209 1

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama

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Map to Christmas Party - Dec. 4 at Leeds, AL

