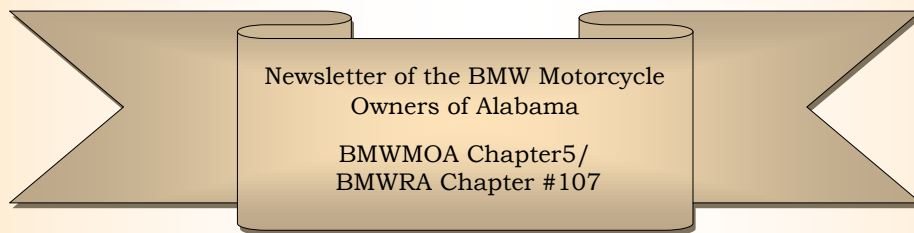


THE ALABAMA BEEMER



Volume XLII Issue 9

September 2013

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

August 24, 2013

Raccoon Mountain Campground, Chattanooga, TN

President, Don Little presiding

Barbara Little, Secretary

Don opened the meeting with a big round of applause to thank Jeannine and Tommy Arnold for the great meal they prepared for us Saturday night. As always, Tommy did a great job with the Boston butts and Jeannine's coleslaw and cobblers were delicious.

We had two visitors, Bill and Millie (sorry I did not get your last names) who are members of the Chattanooga club. We hope they will join us again.

Don asked for officer's reports and Martha Warren, Membership Director, reported that we have not gotten any new members this month.

CFO, Tommy Arnold reported that he had been contacted by a non-club member with two bikes to sell a 650 GS and an RT1150 (?). If anyone is interested, please contact Tommy and he can put you in touch with the seller. He also reported that the storage fee for our food trailer will be going up January 1, if we choose to keep the trailer and continue to store it.

When asked about progress with food vendors for our 2014 rally, John Zibell said that one vendor is still working out the details on number of meals that he will be able to provide and costs of those meals.

Vern Headrick said that he had not heard back from the vendor in Warrior that he had hoped to contact but he had spoken with a vendor in Madison who will be able to serve barbecued chicken both Friday and Saturday night for a very reasonable price. Both these local vendors will be willing to serve

other meals as well.

Jim Kalahan reminded us that our ad must be to the MOA ON by October 31 at the latest in order to begin appearing in the January issue. It is the consensus of members that this is critical in view of the changes we are making in our 2014 rally. Discussion followed concerning a change in rally fee, how to determine what the fee should be and many meals should be served. The Secretary and the President will get a proposal together for members to consider at next month's meeting concerning rally fees and number of meals. A motion was made to serve no more than two meals, and possibly one, based on the rally fee.

Vern then asked if we will continue to serve beverages, popcorn and peanuts as we have in the past. Jeannine is to get the President a detailed list of the cost of these food items from this year's rally so a determination can be made concerning those as well.

Paul Thorne brought up the fact that other rallies he and Gail have attended, do not furnish drinks or snacks and Jim reminded us that volunteers will be needed to see to it that drinks, etc are available if we decide to continue to provide them.

John Zibell commented that the cups for the drinks cost more than the drinks themselves, according to the vendors he has spoken with.

Jim Kalahan asked about getting a smaller storage trailer if we get rid of the griddle and the fryers.

Bill Bedgood suggested that the food that is now being stored in the trailer be donated to a local food bank after our plans are finalized. He submitted that in the form of a motion which was seconded and passed. John Zibell will handle that and Bill will help with the inventory for tax purposes per Jim Kalahan's suggestion.

Jamie Jackson again asked for the floor to discuss the newsletter and question the need for a continuation of same. He explained that in the beginning a newsletter was started to keep members informed of Club and member news but with the arrival of the internet and our Club website and forum, he did not see the need of a separate newsletter. He suggested that anything that needs to be communicated to members can be handled through the forum or an email blast. Anything of a confidential nature such as financial information could be in a password protected section.

A change such as this would call for a change in the by-laws which can only be done at the January meeting. It is Jamie's intention, as per the by-laws, to submit a proposal in writing to the secretary by the October meeting that such a change be made. It will then be voted on at the January meeting.

Martha Warren suggested that several of our by-laws need to be revised, and she is going to draw up some proposals for consideration at the October meeting also.

Amelia Bauman voiced concerns that we will lose members if we do away with the newsletter altogether. Jamie's argument is why join and pay dues if the newsletter is already available for free on line?

Bruce Cain made the argument that we must get younger members in order for the Club to survive. This brought about a very impassioned speech from our President.

After which we gave away some door prizes that were donated by Dianne Alba and John Stanley Bonner and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Little, Secretary

BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS OF ALABAMA
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Date: _____/_____/2013

NEW____RENEW____UPDATE____

Sponsored by _____

Primary Member: _____ DOB: _____

Secondary Member: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____ Apt# _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ FAX: _____

Year / Model BMW(s) : _____

Circle those that apply: MOA Member RA Member Airheads Member Oilheads Member AMA Member

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

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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Michael Igou	17	Joe Bogle
2	Joe Clark	17	Jerry Brooks
2	Erwin Simon	17	Rick Trimble
4	Charlie Parsons	18	Barry Clay
4	Jeff Sparks	18	Steve Sanders
9	Jim Kalahan	19	Michael Adams
9	Wade Killen	19	Gary Nesmith
10	Lee Clements	20	Belinda Kaiser
10	Donna Fearing	21	Tommy Patterson
13	Emery Brawley	22	Mark Rusak
14	Thomas Armour	24	Tammy Benoit
14	Jim McCorstin	24	Don Little
14	Steve Schuckman	25	Jim Dubick
14	Phillip Warren	30	Gary Williams
16	John Zibell		



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jamie Jackson

CLUB ASSETS

If you attended the July meeting at Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground then you are aware that the decision has been made for the club to get out of the food preparation business. To accomplish this, the kitchen equipment is to be sold to members and non-members alike.

John Zibell has volunteered to head up this project and is making headway. One of the smokers has been sold along with various supplies from the trailer. One food vendor has showed interest in the deep fat fryers. All the equipment will be sold, including the kitchen trailer, so if any of you, or anyone you know, wants any of the equipment contact John Zibell or Don Little for details.

Any canned food in the trailer will be donated to various food banks. John and Bill Bedgood are inventorying the foodstuffs to determine a value for tax purposes.

CORRECTION

Last month it was reported that only two articles had been submitted to the newsletter for the entire year; one from Suzi Dubick and another from Erik Bahl. That was an incorrect statement as a third article was submitted by Martha Warren about their vacation in Big Bend. The well written article appeared in the April edition. Apologies to Phillip and Martha.

Club Sponsored Events With Meetings

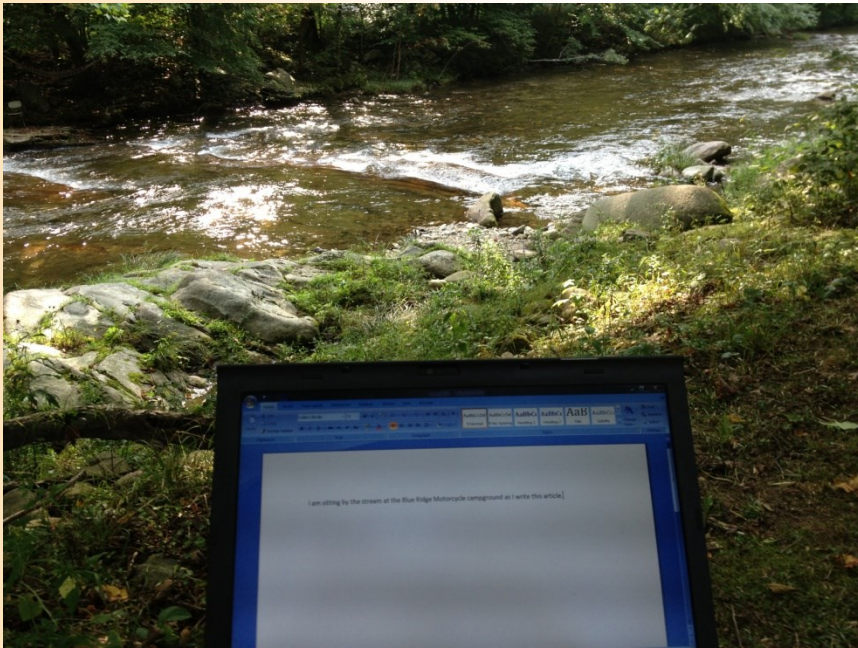
Sep 28	Old Harbin Hotel & Campgnd - Nauvoo, AL
Oct 26	Little River State Park - Atmore, AL
Dec 14	Christmas Party - Hampton Inn, Eagle Point

Other Events of Interest

Oct 4-6	2013 RAMS Rally - Parker's Crossroads, TN (Formerly Return to Shiloh Rally)
Oct 11-13	Barber Vintage Days - B'ham,AL

A WORKING VACATION

Eric Bahl



I am sitting by the stream at the Blue Ridge Motorcycle campground (BRMC) as I write this article. This shows the beginning of this article I am typing at the BRMC. It was quite peaceful.

It is Wednesday and the campground is almost completely empty. A couple of people have straggled in for the long weekend coming up. I met an interesting guy who was a CIA sniper in Viet Nam. When it comes to motorcycling,

this has been a good month for me. The meeting at Raccoon Mountain was great. The TVA facility was an amazing thing to see. The food was great as was the company. The rain storm that we had during the club meeting Saturday evening produced a beautiful rainbow. It seemed close enough, but I could not find a shovel and any volunteers to hunt for the elusive pot of gold.

As some of you know, I love the Wheels Through Time (WWT) motorcycle museum in Maggie Valley NC. I have visited it many times and had inquired about volunteering. It just so happened that Dale and Matt said they could use some help right after the Raccoon Mountain club meeting. It turns out they were heading to the Davenport Iowa swap meet and were going to be light on staffing. Perfect! I left the Club meeting at Raccoon Mountain on Sunday and headed over to the Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground to setup home for the week. My first day of work at WTT was Monday. This is normally one of the slow days. They wore me out. I got a firsthand glimpse into how difficult it is to operate a popular Museum. I spent most of my time greeting folks and doing miscellaneous chores around the Museum. They would not let me work on any of the American Iron in the restoration shop as my hands have been tainted by vintage German machinery. I did get special BMW only parking out of sight of the visitors to the museum.

WTT is closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, so I had a couple of days of rest

before working Thursday thru Sunday. The remaining days proved to be more interesting. With a three day weekend the museum was overrun with visitors. I met many interesting people from all over the world. Each day flew by, but was exhausting. You never get a chance to sit down and have to eat you lunch in just a few minutes when you can find it. I have a new appreciation for the individuals that put together collections and allow the public to visit. I would do it again, but it sure was not easy. As I wrap up writing this article it is Saturday night at the BRMC and it is hopping with activity. Tonight's menu was ribs and they were fantastic. It's a sad day as my working vacation is coming to an end. Tomorrow is my last day at WTT. I head home Monday after spending a week at the BRMC and five days at WTT.

The next bit of good news is, It's official! The 2014 Motorcycle Cannonball Run has been announced. I am happy to say I am entered in the event. It was limited to 100 entries and I hear there is a waiting list. It starts out in Daytona Beach FL at the BMW of Daytona, and ends in Tacoma WA 4150 miles and 17 days later. John Zibell has volunteered his truck, trailer and time to be my support crew and transport back to Alabama. I appreciate him stepping up. Being the great mechanic he is, working on member's bikes and restoring his model T, he will be a huge asset. If you are interested, details of the endurance run can be found at:

<http://www.motorcyclecannonball.com/>

I have started up a website to document my own personal experience. It is in the early stages so check often to see the exciting updates:

www.cannonbahl.com

I have a lot of work ahead of me. I plan on taking the bike to Barbers Vintage Festival in October to display it. When it comes home from there it's time to tear it down. Hopefully I don't run into any serious issues when I open it up. I hope to have it back together in the spring to start long distance test rides. This is very important as the average day on the endurance run will be 300 miles. That is on an 85 year old motorcycle.



PREPARING FOR CAJUN CHAOS...

Amelia Bauman

May 1 – Time to start gathering door prizes for next year. Set up the storage bins in a designated location. “No, Mike. Not the middle of the living room!”

June - “No, Mike. I don't know how to get in touch with Buddy Guy.” That was a strange question!

July – Start thinking of something a little different to have or do at the next Cajun Chaos. “No, Mike. I don't think slip n' slides would be a good idea.”

August – Still putting things away for door prizes. “No, Mike. We don't have to have a door prize for everyone.” Continue collecting door prizes.

September - “No, Mike. We can't put in a track for Cajun Chaos. Even if we had the room, we couldn't afford the insurance.” More door prizes; Mike keeps coming up with more “great ideas.”

October - “No, Mike. We can't give kittens as door prizes. I know we could get enough to have one for everyone.” Help! I need a drink now.

November - “No, Mike. We can't have Buddy Guy perform at Cajun Chaos this year.” Is he out of his mind?

December – Review menus. “No, Mike. We can't have prime rib or Baked Alaska.” “No, Mike. I can't start buying things yet. We don't know if we will be having Cajun Chaos yet.” Count the door prizes; start coming up with ideas for the favor bags.

January – Make a list of all food items needed. Determine what can be purchased in advance and start checking sales. “No, Mike. We can't buy the milk now. Why? It doesn't freeze well.” Lots of trips to different stores to catch all the sales.

February – Purchase buttons, items for the favor bags, etc. “No, Mike. We can't put antique kaleidoscopes in the favor bags. Do you have any idea how much that would cost?”

March – Clean up the yard. “No, Mike. You can't use Round Up on everything.” Wear Mike and Rhonda out on the big clean-up weekend.

April – Put favor bags together; final count on door prizes; check recipes against purchased groceries; make the last minute grocery list; print out schedule, menus, and chore list; clean house; make sure baths have adequate supplies; set up beds; put linens on beds. “No, Mike. We can't just hand everyone a broom when they arrive.”

And now you know why he has no opinion!



Story and Photos by James Phillips

At the turn of the 20th Century, Nauvoo was a booming town. It was founded in 1888, during the construction of the Northern Alabama Railway, and it was a center for coal mining in the early 1900s.

For a period of time between 1920 and 1940, there were three hotels in Nauvoo. Only one of those old inns has survived until today—The Old Harbin Hotel.

Gene and Earlene McDaniel have owned the historic hotel since 1975, when they purchased it from the Harbin family—the building’s original owners.

Earlene McDaniel said the hotel was built in 1923 by W.O. Harbin. She said Harbin and his wife, Alta, lived in the building with their seven children.

“All their children grew up in the hotel,” she said. “The hotel wasn’t originally called the Harbin Hotel. We named it that in honor of the family. We’ve found some old tickets through the years, and we think the original name may have been The Nauvoo Hotel. We’re just not

quite sure.”

The building ceased operating as a hotel in the 1940s, Earlene McDaniel said. For several years, it was used as everything from a furniture shop to a pool hall.

Gene McDaniel, a Nauvoo native, said he was immediately interested in purchasing the hotel when the opportunity arose.

“I knew that I wasn’t going into the hotel business, but I thought it was such a historic building, and I could see it meaning so much to the community,” he said.

Earlene McDaniel said she fell in love with the hotel the first time she saw its upstairs.

“The Harbins were a private family. Most people in this area had never seen the hotel area of the building by the time we bought it,” she said. “From the minute I walked in, I fell in love with the place. I had all kinds of ideas.”

Since that first day in the building, Earlene McDaniel has worked on those ideas, trying to keep as much of the

original hotel intact as she possibly could.

The building features two large open rooms and a kitchen on its ground level. The original ceiling remains in the two large rooms. The McDaniels operated a hardware and grocery store on the ground level for many years.

Guest rooms at the Old Harbin Hotel are located on the second floor. The main hallway leading to the rooms features its original wood. While the rooms feature mostly antique furnishings, they have been update with modern comforts, including new bathrooms, air conditioning and televisions.

"We want people who stay here with us to be comfortable—like they are part of our family," Earlene McDaniel said. "We also want them to feel like they've gone back in time a little bit."

The building's second floor also features a wooden deck that goes around the hotel, which Gene McDaniel said is often times used by people for a great view at the annual Nauvoo Car Show and Christmas in Nauvoo events.



"We don't have a lot of people who stay here these days, except during our events," he said. "We have four big events each year—the car show, Christmas, a motorcycle show and a coal miner reunion."

The McDaniels said the building is also used for smaller, private events, such as fundraisers and weddings.

"It's really a community center more than a

hotel," Gene McDaniel said. "When we bought this place, we did it for this community. People said they thought I was crazy for getting it, but I'm so glad we bought the hotel. It's been a blessing for us."

Earlene McDaniel said the people who've stayed at the hotel over the years have been the biggest blessing. People from all 50 states have stayed at the Old Harbin Hotel, and many visitors from other countries have also been on the guest list.

"So many people have come back to Nauvoo for a place to sleep in their old hometown," she said. "We've also made so many new friends, and it's all because of this hotel."

Each hotel guest also gets breakfast made by his wife, Gene McDaniel said.

"We have so many great conversations with people at the breakfast table," he said. "We welcome people to our breakfast table, and that is something special."

Along with the hotel, the McDaniels own most of downtown Nauvoo. An old doctor's office, movie theater, auto shop and post office sit on property nearby the hotel.

"These places needed to be preserved," Gene McDaniel said. "They would have just been torn down, and there wouldn't be anything around here. I didn't want that to happen."

The other buildings have not been completely restored, but Gene McDaniel said they serve as a reminder of Nauvoo's past.

"Nauvoo was a busy place many years ago," he said. "I haven't been able to do everything that I wanted to do with these buildings, but they do remind people of the old days. I think that is important."

The McDaniels are both in their 70s (Gene, 77, and Earlene, 75) but they plan on continuing to preserve the old hotel for many more years.

"I love this place, and I will work around here as long as I am able," Earlene McDaniel said. "Once we can't keep it up, I hope it's something our kids will keep up." •

