BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern California



ORCAL NEWS

JULY 2014

OUR NEW TOUR CAPTAIN:

by Ted Crum

I'm Ted Crum, and I am proud to announce that at Finnon Lake the club members in attendance elected me to be the 20014-15 Tour Captain. I hope that I can meet the standard set by our outgoing captain Cliff Dunn, who gave us 2 wonderful years of riding, and under whom I served as one of the assistant Tour Captains. Cliff made it look easy, but we all know how hard he worked for us.

I came to the club about 7 years ago, soon after I bought a K75c to take over from my ailing Honda CX500. This was my first bike with wind protection and luggage, and it was time to do real riding. A beautiful Second Sunday ride to Point Reyes had me sold on the club, and I finally joined at the '49er in 2009. What followed was the best riding I'd known, captained by past tour captains Warren Barnes, Dave "It's a motorcycle ride!" Halliwell, and Cliff Dunn.

We are a riding and camping club, and I my goal is to help the members enjoy both throughout the upcoming year. I hope that the members can help me do this. One way is to bring me your ideas: Places you've always wanted to camp, good roads we'd like; and just as important, things you think that we could do better. Another help is the cadre of Assistant Tour Captains. Three of us supported Cliff last year, and if anyone would like to help out this year, please let me know.

So here's to another year of great rides. I'm going to go order tires now!

--Ted Crum Tour Captain tedcrum@berkeley.edu

JULY TOUR, MEETING & CAMPING:

This month's meeting and camping will be held Saturday July 26th at 5:00 p.m. at Fort Churchill State Park, Nevada, 10000 Highway 95A, Silver Springs, Nevada 89429, Phone: (775) 577-2345

If you want to ride in the club tour, will meet for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at Denica's Real Food, 2259 Las Positas Rd, Livermore, CA. This will be the starting point for the organized tour group ride.

Fort Churchill is a bring your own food event. Dinner shopping can be done at the nearest Safeway in Dayton, NV on the way to the campground if you want to pick up some food along the way.

This month we are traveling to Fort Churchill, Nevada and we will learn about the fort's ruins and its history that started in 1861 a year after the so-called Pyramid Lake War began in 1860. The fort was abandoned in 1869 after serving as protection for the Army, Pony Express and a supply depot during the Civil War.

Come join us for a great weekend of riding and camping under the stars, and learn more about this location and the neighboring Buckland Station down the road, which provided an important way station for pioneer travelers and was one of the earliest ranches in the area.

Camping cost is \$5.00 for BMW club members and \$10.00 for non-members. If you are new to the club and have questions please contact one of our new club officers. Email addresses for all new club officers are located on the second page of the newsletter.





a touring and camping club bmwnorcal.org

Charter No. 9, BMW Motorcycle Owners of America Charter No. 210, BMW Riders' Association

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Z. Ortiz 650/952 5296 president@bmwnorcal.org

VICE-PRESIDENT*

Dan Rowe

vp@bmwnorcal.org

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TREASURER*

John Vashon

treasurer@bmwnorcal.org

TOUR CAPTAIN*

Ted Crum

tourcaptain@bmwnorcal.org

SAFETY/TECH DIRECTOR*

Buddy Scauzzo

safety@bmwnorcal.org

HISTORIAN*

707/318 1026 Don Alexson

historian@bmwnorcal.org

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

408/348 7999 Warren Barnes

wildguineapig@hotmail.com

MEMBER DIRECTOR

650/952 5296 Z. Ortiz

ADVERTISING

Pat Potter 650/593 6009

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST 408/338 5948

Cliff Dunn

*Board Member

articles, photos, events, etc. for the newsletter are due on the first day of each month.



PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS -

by Z Ortiz

Cliff Dunn & James Lucas - THANK YOU!

Tour Captain, Cliff Dunn Treasurer/Secretary Jim Lucas have stepped down from their respective board positions for the new 2014/2015-club fiscal year. Please join me in thanking them for a job well done. They are the quintessential team players.

Cliff has been Tour Captain/Second Sunday Breakfast Ride Chair for some time now and he has turned over the reins of Tour Captain to Ted Crum but will remain our Second Sunday Breakfast Ride Chairman. Cliff has provided many great rides and some rides we are still talking about. Cliff didn't stop there, He started the GS Clinic at the '49er Rally and charted the beginners GS Ride and has mentored plenty of club members to make them better and safer riders. When he couldn't ride due to an injury, he brought snacks and refreshments to our campouts. A firm believer of track days to hone your skills, he brought Reg Priedmore's C.L.A.S.S. to the attention of our members and we had quite a few participants.

Jim Lucas is a numbers guy and I am not. Jim, like Cliff, has a no-nonsense way of looking at things. We talked at length about the club's finances (he talked, I listened) and how to make it better. He was very patient with me and diligent in his duties. Yeah? So what? Well, shortly after he became Treasurer he received a promotion at his company and the company was poised to make some acquisitions. I am told that acquisitions are where the finance guys shine or become homeless. During these trying times he would show up at the SSBR and go straight to work after the ride. He always made time for the club and me. He was also a very gracious host and we held some board meetings at his beautiful home. His wife, Rita, was also very gracious and welcomed us to a cornucopia of seasonal themes, as she is an extremely talented and gifted decorator.

Membership Celebrations:

Greg Hutchinson received his 25-year membership pin and Bob Berner and Ted Crum received their 5-year membership pins.

We now have 124 riders on our meetup site. There has been some resistance to meetup from some members and it's OK. As always, the club website is the official representative/face of the club. Our new webpage will reflect the upcoming events on the main page so you don't have to be redirected to meetup for the information. Please read Dan Rowe's explanation and tutorial for meetup.

Second Saturday Breakfast Ride:

The first SSBR of our new fiscal year started out on a typical Bay Area morning blanketed by fog. It wasn't cold but the fog made me cautious due to the damp roads and semi-poor visibility. Once I headed East on HWY 80 it cleared up and got warm. Flippy's is a small local family restaurant that manages to retain its charm and quaintness. The food was OK but the company was outstanding.

The premise of the SSBR is to move the start location around the Bay Area to give members a reason to ride roads they would otherwise not consider. Ron Cordell and Cliff hit a home run with the mix of new and previously ridden SSBR gems from the East Bay. The personal influence from our collective membership is what adds variety and NORCAL character to our rides.

By the time we reached Franklin Canyon RD we had meandered through some roads that were so cool and twisty that my GPS called them out as "Left Turn" and "Right Turn" with one specific tight hairpin that the GPS called a "U-turn!" My GPS is so funny when it is not leading me astray. Ron Cordell lead the first half of the tour while Chris Dailey riding his sidecar and Buddy Scauzzo rode sweep. We had about 15 riders starting out with Rick Klain joining us for breakfast. After breakfast the sky was blue, the temperature perfect and the ride was sprinkled with panoramic views I had not seen for quite some time. I should mention that this was Ron Cordell's first time undertaking the SSBR (read his article elsewhere in the newsletter) and he did an outstanding job with the entire process.

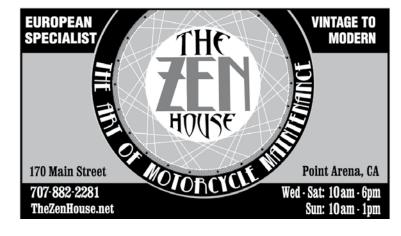
At the halfway point, the North Bay riders split off and the group became smaller. Cliff led the second half and Roger Rapp immediately fell in behind Cliff. No big deal because I got to listen to Roger's exotic sounding engine as he tried to match pace with Cliff on his Ducati. Power rules in their world and I found myself flogging my F800GS keeping up in the turns but hopelessly in need of more power on the straightaways. There was one section on Niles Canyon RD that split off to the right but there was a gravel road that went straight into a fence. I swear I only looked at the fence for a second and when I realized that I had target fixation, I applied a bit of brakes to make the turn and dive down the hill. In my head it was so cool a recovery that I was smiling until I could not see Cliff or Roger in front of me. The last image I had in my head was Cliff's taillight but reality is a cold shower, they were gone! I could barely hear the cacophony of their engines but it sounded a lot like laughter.

Godspeed Virginia Simpson-Woodson:

It is with a sad and heavy heart that I report on the tragic death of Virginia Simpson-Woodson. Virginia was a relatively new member that made a difference to those she met. You might remember her form the Holiday Party or the '49er where she volunteered her time when she wasn't riding. She was killed in a head on collision along U.S. 101 near Bandon, OR on June 30th, 2014. She was driving her car when an elderly man inexplicably crossed the centerline into her lane.

--Z Ortiz







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CALL FOR MOA RALLY VOLUNTEERS:

The MOA Rally in St. Paul MN will be an exciting event this summer. With 5000+ anticipated attendees. a very important function is REGISTRATION. It takes over 300 volunteers to setup and operate registration from Tuesday through Saturday.

I would like to invite the members of the club to volunteer to help us do registration. Each shift is only four hours. In registration you will welcome rallygoers, check them in, provide them a wrist band and rally book, review the major activities/locations and most of all answer any questions they may have. It is a very important job since we are the initial "face" of MOA for first-time rally attendees and we set the stage for everyone's rally experience. Check out our article on the BMWMOA.org website to describe the volunteer duties. http://bmwmoa.org/TheRally.aspx To volunteer for a shift in registration, go to our volunteer-website: www.moaregistrationvolunteer.eventbright.com This is a free ticketing website we have used for 2 years. It helps us organize the shifts and communicate with our 300+ registration volunteers. After signing up for a shift(s), you will receive a confirmation email. It takes only a few minutes to sign up. If you would like to volunteer with a group from the club for a particular shift, the easiest way is to pick a shift and communicate the instructions to other club members asking them to quickly signup for the same shift. A second method is to pick a shift, then communicate and collect all the names and email addresses. Then send me the completed list and I will enter the data. (this takes longer and more coordination.) I look forward to meeting you all in St. Paul. Thanks and contact me if you have any questions.

Roger Trendowski, Chair - MOA Rally Registration 732-306-6182 Vz cell rtrendowski@verizon.net

STANLEY STOMP:

Host Chartered Club: Bavarian Mountain West MC Club of Idaho Inc. The 41st Stanley Stomp will be held again in beautiful remote Grandjean, ID – located 100 miles NE of Boise just off Hwy 21. Dates are August 7-10, 2014. Because of the remote location, attendance is by pre-registration only, through our web site. Sorry, we cannot handle ride-ins. Visit us at www.idahobmwriders.com for more details and registration. Registration will open January 1st, and the rally will be limited to first 200 pre-registered guests. Register early, and join us at the Stomp for great riding, scenery, door prizes, and food.

2014 NORCAL RANGE OF LIGHT GYPSY TOUR:

The 2014 Range of Light Gypsy Tour is the zenith of our riding, touring, and camping mindset. The ROL is held over Labor Day Weekend each year. This year that begins Augut 29th. Three days of outstanding touring awaits all that participate. The weekend starts in Gridley, CA. The route for each day of touring and camping location at the end point is a closely held secret. We provide the meals and camping for each night of the tour. We also transport your soft luggage to each camping spot for you during the entire tour so you and your bike can ride unencombered by camping gear. At the Friday check in, each rider receives a packet containing a commemorative pin, meal tickets, raffle tickets, and a location of that night's campsite. Saturday and Sunday rides are also a Poker Run with points for questions along the route.

Sunday night concludes the RoL with an awards ceremony after dinner. Monday morning comes all to soon with everyone departing for home, sad that the tour is over and you have to wait another 12 months to enjoy something like this again. Pre-registration for this year's ROL is now open on the club website.

CLUB AUDIT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

As of 6/30/14, the balance in our checking account less payables is \$13,189, money market account is \$40,130 and paid members for 2015 is 117. We finished our 2014 fiscal year with a net income of \$11,473, outstanding payables (from the 49'er) of \$13,812 and a net operating income of \$-2,339. A final 2014 report will be available for review at the end of July. If you'd like a copy of this report or any other financial information, please contact me at jevashon@gmail.com. Finally, the club audit will occur sometime in the first week of August and if you'd like to help, please contact Z.

-- John Vashon Club Treasurer

BEEMER BASH:

Host Chartered Club:

Central Cal BMW Riders

Autumn Beemer BASH a non-profit rally to benefit the BMW Community at Large.

September 12 - 14, 2014, Plumas-Sierra Fairgrounds 204 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy, CA. 95971 (530) 283-6272

For Information: bashinfo@ccbr.org

(925) 443-2070

Saturday Night Dinner, Saturday & Sunday Continental Breakfasts are only included with a Pre-Registration Package!

Pre-Registration is open from June 12, 2014 through September 2, 2014



http://www.motoshopsf.com/650-873-1600

Wed-Fri: Noon-10PM Sat-Sun: 10:00AM-7PM

ROCKY BOW LUNATIC FRINGE RALLY:

Host Chartered Club:

Rocky Bow BMW Riders

Located in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains 15 kilometres west of Cochrane, Alberta, the Rocky Bow BMW Riders will be hosting our annual rally at the Beaupre Community Hall. The time of the rally has moved up a week to coincide with the start of the Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth, the Calgary Stampede. Come for the rally and stay for the Stampede! Your \$45 entry (\$50 at the gate) gets you five meals (including a delicious steak BBQ on Saturday), refreshments, two nights of camping, an observation ride and field events along with prizes, awards and limited edition pin (guaranteed for pre-registration only). Check out our website for the latest updates and directions: www.rockybowbmw.ca. E-mail ekke61@hotmail.com for more information or mail Rocky Bow BMW Riders, 9 Sleigh Drive, Redwood Meadows, AB, Canada, T3Z 1A1.



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SECOND SUNDAY BREAK-FAST RIDE - FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING:

by Ron Cordell

I've been in the club now for nearly 2-years and have always enjoyed exploring the rides offered for the SSBR. It's a great way to spend a little time once a month to have breakfast with the gang and then go out for an always-fun ride. I've lived in Berkeley over four years during which time I've come to know the East Bay landscape for riding pretty well. SSBR rides rarely happen in the East Bay and I knew that people were missing out on some really great riding. Not to mention that, for once, I wouldn't have to get up 2 hours ahead of the breakfast time just to get to the starting point! Don't get me wrong - there are fantastic rides all over the Bay Area and I'm grateful to be able to ride along with some really wonderful people to learn new roads. But I decided to see what I could do to put a ride together.

The hard part was getting started. I had some great roads in my head but had never stitched them together before into one big ride, so I fired up Garmin Base Camp and got to work. I didn't worry about details at first; I just created the route to "get it on paper". Once I had the core roads in place I looked around for a decent breakfast place from where we could start. It took me a few weeks of searching around but eventually I found a place that looked like it would work: Flippy's Family Cafe in Rodeo, CA. I rang them to see what time they opened on Sunday and if they could deal with 20 or so motorcycle riders. Yelp had some decent reviews as well, so it was settled. With the start of the ride anchored, I was able to put together the first half of the ride from Rodeo to Castro Valley.

I decided what I had wasn't long enough, so over the next couple of weeks I decided to add on a second half, which ended up with a great tour of the East Bay. I stewed over the length of the ride while I tried to find some stops to have breaks - was it going to be too long? In the end I decided that having two segments made it easy for people to bail halfway



through the ride if they wanted, while others could continue on to the South Bay.

I continued to fine-tune the rest stops, scouting out the route for places with facilities that would be easy for 20 or so motorcyclists to stop. While I was familiar with the northern part of the route, I wasn't so much with the southern part. That's when I decided to send the route to Cliff Dunn for his opinion. Cliff was the first person to import the route, which showed up some problems with how I constructed it in Base Camp. He also encouraged me to stick with the length of the ride and to better anchor the ending location. After a couple of times back and forth, I felt I had the final product and tested importing it "cleanly" to make sure there were no routing surprises in the GPS. Using one of the previous PDF route sheets as a guide, I put together the map and route sheets to print out as handouts, and exported the final GPX file and emailed them to be posted on the Club website and Meetup.com.

I'm not the best rider in the world, and I've always been a bit hesitant to ride in the pack on the SSBR's, so it was with a bit of trepidation that I led the ride I had planned. But I knew the route, so when it came time to be the ride lead, I just hit the road and let anyone that wanted to follow come along for the ride. The rest took care of itself and we had a great

time and I learned a ton. I encourage anyone that has roads they would like to share or don't get to ride enough to try their hand at putting a SSBR together. There's plenty of friendly help to assist you all along the way, and you'll have a blast doing it - and probably learn a few things in the process. What's not to like?

—Ron Cordell

SAFETY TECH CORNER:

by Buddy Scauzzo

Report Receipt Date: JUN 12, 2014 NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V320000

Potential Number of Units Affected: 950 Manufacturer: BMW of North America, LLC

SUMMARY: BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain model year 2014 R1200 RT motorcycles manufactured November 27, 2013, to May 5, 2014. The affected vehicles have a Dynamic Electronic Suspension Adjustment (ESA) rear shock absorber. The piston rod within the rear shock absorber can break without warning, causing loss of stability.

CONSEQUENCE: If the piston rod breaks it will cause loss of stability, increasing the risk of a vehicle crash.

REMEDY: BMW will notify owners, and dealers will replace the Dynamic ESA shock absorber, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in July 2014. Owners may contact BMW Customer Relations at 1-800-525-7417. Note: Owners are advised not to ride their motorcycles until they have been remedied.

NOTES: Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

If you have any question your RT is part of the recall simply provide you dealer with the last 7 digits of your vin # for conformation.

-- Buddy Scauzzo, Safety and Tech

FORT CHURCHILL NEVADA:

by Don Alexson



This month we are traveling to Fort Churchill, Nevada and we will learn about the forts ruins and its history that started in 1861 a year after the so-called Pyramid Lake War began in 1860. The fort was abandoned in 1869 after serving as protection for the Army, Pony Express and a supply depot during the Civil War. Come join us and learn more about this location and the neighboring Buckland Station down the road, which provided an important way station for pioneer travelers and was one of the earliest ranches in the area. All at this month ride and camp venture.





WHAT IS MEETUP?:

by Dan Rowe

Meetup is the world's largest network of local groups. Meetup makes it easy for anyone to organize a local group or find one of the thousands already meeting up face-to-face. More than 9,000 groups get together in local communities each day, each one with the goal of improving themselves or their communities.

Meetup's mission is to revitalize local community and help people around the world self-organize.

Why we are using Meetup?

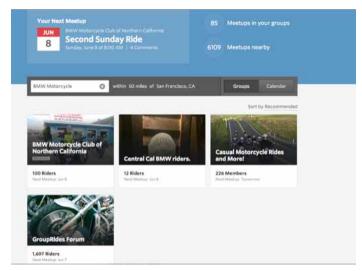
- 1. Promote the club. BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern California uses Meetup as an additional means to promote the club. In the short time NorCal has been on Meetup, over 125 people have joined the online Meetup group. Several have attended the campouts and become members of the club. Many of those that have joined the Meetup Group did not know about NorCal.
- 2. Better group organizational tools. When our members and guests use Meetup, NorCal's event organizers have a better idea of how many people will come to an event. Additionally, it centralizes the RSVP process and removes the strain of only one person managing an RSVP list.

How to use Meetup?

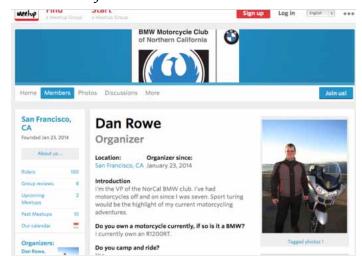
- 1. Navigate to Meetup.com
- 2. Sign in or link an account to Meetup. If you already have a Facebook account, you can link it. Otherwise, create an account with an email address. Use a real email as updates come from Meetup when

event details are changed

3. Search for our group by typing in BMW Motorcycle. You may need to change the mileage for the search radius.

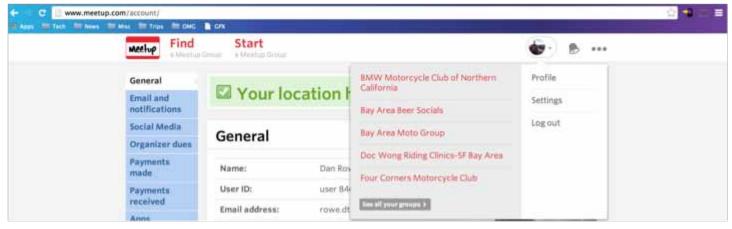


- 4. You can also use the full URL of our group once you've joined Meetup: http://www.meetup.com/BMW-Motorcycle-Club-of-Northern-California/
- 5. Click the link for BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern California
- 6. Click the Join us! Button

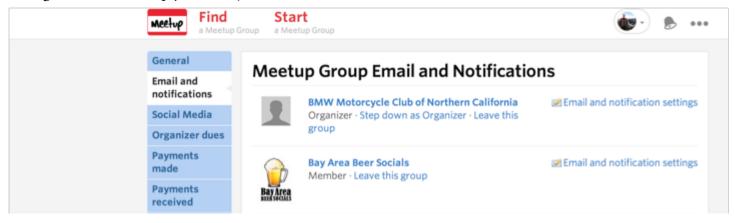


I only want to receive emails from NorCal's Meetup. What do I do?

1. From the profile button in the top right, select settings



2. Under General on the left side of the page, click Email and notifications. Click the Email and notification settings for each Meetup you have joined.





VINTAGE NORCAL PICTURES:

by Don Alexson

Club Historian Don Alexson has recently scanned and added several picture books from some of the BMW Club of Northern California's 1977-1978 club meetings and events. For a blast from the past, check out the club's photographs section from the website. A sampling of the '70s splendor is below:





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NORCAL NEWS • JULY 2014

BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern California



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Ride to Camp; Camp to Ride



FIRST CLASS MAIL

 $A\ color\ version\ of\ the\ newsletter\ is\ available\ online\ at:\ www.bmwnorcal.org.$

COMING EVENTS

Information in this issue.

July 13 Second Sunday Breakfast Ride -- check website for location

July 26 Meeting & Camping -- Fort Churchill, Nevada

August 23 Meeting & Camping -- Bodega Bay

Aug 29 - Sept 1 2014 ROL Gypsy Tour -- Start Location Gridley, CA

September 12-14 2014 Beemer Bash -- www.ccbr.org
September 27 Meeting & Camping -- SongDog Ranch

September 25-28 Horizon Unlimited California Meeting -- Mariposa, CA www.horizonsun

limited.com/events/california

October 18 Meeting & Camping -- Sly Park Octoberfest

blue/bold items are Norcal events. All events in California unless otherwise stated.