



MOA Charter #217  
BMW RA #300

2006 CLUB OFFICERS

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 Director: Chuck Hof  
 Newsletter Editor: Dale Whyte  
 Club Postmaster: Jay Whyte

Submission of advertisements/articles/product evaluations are due to the editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to the Newsletter Editor.

The Monterey Bay BMW Riders meet Saturdays at 9am (when a ride is not scheduled) for breakfast and conversation  
 See web site for current location  
 Social Coordinator: Denny Adkins  
 web site: [www.mbr.org](http://www.mbr.org)

## President's Message



*Two-Up Tour  
d'Trout Farm*

Chuck and Denny Adkins led us on a tight and scenic over-the-river-and-through-the-woods route to our evening meal at the Trout Farm in

Felton. Beginning at the BMW shop in Watsonville, we first rode to Corralitos, then out Eureka Canyon Road to Summit Road. Not long after crossing Highway 17 we turned onto Upper Zayante Road which led



*Oh Craps!*

us down to Felton and the restaurant.

Nearly all of us were riding two-up, but those who weren't met up with Significant Others at the restaurant. All told, I believe there were twelve or thirteen of us. I think everyone was pleased with the fare, and some took part in some gambling (no real money involved) after dinner.



*Big Winner*

*Book Report: Under and Alone by William Queen*

When I travel by air I usually do one of two things to pass the time: read or sleep. Unless I'm already in the middle of a book which I take along, I treat myself to a shopping opportunity in

an airport bookstore. Time was, the selection of reading material in airport shops was about that in your average gas station mini-mart. However, as the bookstores in major airports have improved to

be on a par with major book retail outlets, I always look forward to some leisurely browsing, time allowing, before making my final choice for the flight.

On my most recent trip, I bought a copy of Stephen White's *Missing Persons*. It's a mystery and the first of the author's I've read. I suppose it could be called a psychological thriller as well; more than one of the characters, including the first-person narrator and one of the murder victims, are practicing, licensed psychologists. The idiosyncrasies of their clients provide some of the texture and humor to the story. The setting is predominantly contemporary Boulder, Colorado, with a little of the action reported from in and around Las Vegas. It is mostly well written and very readable, and I would recommend it to anyone not specifically allergic to the genre.

For the return trip, I had a somewhat more limited choice, but couldn't resist sampling something from the dark and sleazy side of motorcycling. *Under and Alone* is the story of an undercover agent of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) infiltrating the violent and criminal Mongols motorcycle gang. The agent, William Queen, who tells the story, operated within the ranks of the gang for two years to gather evidence to prosecute the gang's criminal activities.

The most remarkable thing about undercover work is the length of time an agent must masquerade, nearly 24 hours a day, to build the trust and respect of those he's investigating. The toll is high due to the separation from family and friends, not to mention living under the constant threat that to be discovered is to die. In Queen's case, he lost his wife and became estranged from his son because of his total immersion into the biker gang culture.

One of the more interesting aspects was Queen's carefully staged entry into the gang. On his own he had to present himself at known Mongol hangouts, become acquainted with some of the members, and slowly gain their trust and respect to the point he was invited to join them in some of their activities and ultimately to join. More than once he had to perform a delicate dance and quick-thinking diplomacy to avoid having to commit outright murder to prove himself to the gang.

The first stage of membership is a period of initiation in which the potential new member is addressed as "Prospect." He is considered property of the club and must do the bidding of any of the regular members. After a suitable period and he is deemed worthy, a prospect becomes a "full-patch" member, allowed to wear the complete insignia of the gang on the back of a leather or denim vest.

The Mongols are headquartered in southern California and are sworn enemies of the Hells Angels. In fact, the outbreak of violence at the 2002 Laughlin River Run was a clash between these two gangs. That was two years after Queen's investigation which was carried out from 1998-2000. His work was successful. Many of the Mongols were prosecuted for their criminal activity, including murder, drug dealing, rape, gunrunning, robbery, etc.

The story is well told and fast moving. It allows one to satisfy a little morbid curiosity about the underworld of criminal biker gangs and revel in the fact that at least some were brought to justice.

## **FOR SALE**

**Rain Suit – One piece overall  
Medium, Fieldsheer  
Blue with white sleeves  
Like new condition \$15**

**Contact: Jay Whyte  
831247-0215 or email [jawhyte@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jawhyte@sbcglobal.net)**

## May 13th Club Ride



On May 13, join Mike Clark for a picnic ride to the Arboretum at UC Santa Cruz.

The ride will leave the Red Apple Café after breakfast, about 10 o'clock.

We'll find an interesting route that will get us to the Arboretum for lunch, probably around 1:00.

For those who don't want to pack a lunch, a list of deli-type sandwiches will be available at breakfast: Place your order (probably about \$5 for a good-sized sandwich) and your sandwich will be waiting for you when we get to our destination. Drinks, ice, and perhaps chips will be on hand at lunch.

The UCSC Arboretum is a world-class collection, specializing in Mediterranean climate plants and May is a great time to visit with a lots of striking flowers in bloom. In particular, the South Africa collection is spectacular right now. Mike will lead a tour of the gardens after lunch for anyone who is interested.

And, for those of you who enjoy a Shopping Opportunity--you know who you are--Norrie's Gift Shop at the Arboretum is a treasure chest.

Rain will cancel but it's not going to rain, so come along and don't forget your hat.

Note, this is **the second Saturday in May**. RSVPs are preferred but not necessary.

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Details are on the club website. The Arboretum's website is [www.ucscarboretum.org](http://www.ucscarboretum.org).



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[www.bmwsantacruz.com](http://www.bmwsantacruz.com) or toll free 1.866.268.9311

The advertisement features a circular inset image of two people wearing helmets riding a BMW motorcycle on a road. The background of the ad is a light, hazy landscape.

## **BMW lowers cost of ownership**

**By Ted Porter  
BeemerShop**

Most people feel that the Integral ABS brake system BMW introduced with the 2002 models was an advancement over the older systems, but it has proven to be more expensive to maintain. The job is time consuming with multiple circuits and bleed points, and the ABS Hydro unit is not very accessible on some models.

BMW recently released a service bulletin reducing the frequency of the brake fluid change intervals for models which are factory equipped with the Stahlflex braided steel brake hoses. Field studies conducted by BMW concluded that moisture absorption by the brake fluid has been significantly reduced by the use of the Stahlflex hoses. As a result, BMW has changed the recommended brake fluid intervals as follows:

I-ABS "wheel circuit" brake fluid change (Hydro unit to caliper): was required every year, is now required every 2 years.

I-ABS "control circuit" brake fluid change (master cylinder to Hydro unit): was required every 2 years, is now required every 4 years.

Non-ABS models with Stahlflex hoses: was required every year, is now required every 2 years.

The change from one year to two years on the wheel circuit is only for models equipped with the Stahlflex braided steel hoses. I-ABS models equipped with standard rubber hoses must still have the wheel circuit fluid changed annually.

However the change on the control circuit brake fluid from two years to four years applies to all I-ABS models regardless of hose type.

Non-ABS models with rubber hoses or older models with ABS I or ABS II still must have the brake fluid changed annually.

This chart might help:

<b>Brake fluid service</b>	<b>Rubber Brake Hose</b>	<b>Stahlflex Brake Hose</b>
Non ABS models	every year	every 2 years
Integral ABS Wheel Circuit	every year	every 2 years
Integral ABS Control Circuit	every 4 years	every 4 years

Although these are new official BMW recommendations, common sense should prevail. If it is determined that your brake fluid has discolored or shows other signs of contamination, it should be changed regardless of age. If you're not sure how old your brake fluid is, have it changed now, and start a regimen that will ensure the health of your brake system.

If this is confusing, or you're not sure which ABS or brake hoses you have, see your local dealer or contact me at the BeemerShop for more information.

I appreciate the club and as time allows I will submit technical articles that I believe will be of interest to the membership. I am also open to suggestion if you have a technical topic you would like to see covered. Feel free to email your suggestions for future technical articles directly to me at the BeemerShop.

**Until next time,  
Ride safe!  
Ted Porter  
Ted@BeemerShop.com**

# Why should you trust your BMW to the BeemerShop?

There are SEVERAL reasons!

## Here's Reason #2: New Bike Warranty Protection

BMW owners are lucky to get such an excellent warranty with their new bike. But many are led to believe that while their bike is under warranty there is no option but to have routine service work done at a BMW dealer. **WRONG!**

Ted Porter has fifteen years experience in service management at BMW dealerships. He and his crew know exactly what is required to keep your warranty in good standing. They use factory BMW parts and approved fluids, follow the factory service check lists, and update service booklets in complete compliance with BMW's terms. Ted's BMW technical knowledge is up to date, and he's well versed in the latest BMW Warranty Policies and Procedures.

So in BMW's eyes, the routine service work done at the BeemerShop is unquestionably recognized as acceptable and legitimate. That means you can be assured your bike will get the best possible care, while knowing there is absolutely no danger of jeopardizing your valuable factory warranty. Isn't it nice to know you have an alternative?

*Next month...* Reason #3: **Experience Matters!**



**For a limited time ...**

## Buy an Ohlins Shock and get FREE installation!

Yes, buy your OHLINS shocks from the BMW experts at the BeemerShop, and get FREE installation on all models except the K1200LT. And because of our low overhead, we can even install OHLINS shocks on your K1200LT for a very reasonable labor price.

BeemerShop is an official OHLINS dealer. All popular shock fitments are in stock, and custom spring fitment is done in-house with Factory OHLINS special tools. Call now to make your appointment!

Ted Porter's  
**BeemerShop**  
 Service Excellence for BMW Motorcycles

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## Needed!

Ride leaders for June, July,  
August, September  
Dinner rides



ride leaders for September club ride



Summer bbq hosts – you pick the date!

And

Hosts For the club holiday party  
– December 2<sup>nd</sup>



**Please contact Dale Whyte to schedule**  
**831-247-0214 or EMAIL [dalewhyte@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dalewhyte@sbcglobal.net)**

SATURDAY'S, WHEN A RIDE OR CLUB EVENT IS NOT PLANNED, THE CLUB MEETS FOR BREAKFAST at 9am – please see web site for current location.

Down the road.....

**May 13** Ride to a picnic at the UCSC Arboretum, led by Mike Clark. Note: this is the *2nd* Saturday. Details in this newsletter. Or check the club web site



**June** Russian River – Chuck and Denny Adkins, ride leaders

**July or Aug** Cambria/Hearst Castle – Ron Aikins, ride leader

**September** TBD

**October** Castle Air Museum – Tom Brazier, ride leader

**November** Solvang M/C Museum – Dick Dodd, ride leader

**December** Holiday Party! December 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosts Needed

MONTEREY BAY BMW RIDERS  
629 Main Street, P.M.B. 385  
Watsonville, CA 95076

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

check out our web site:  
<http://www.mbbr.org>

