



December 2008/January 2009

MOA Charter #217
BMW RA #300

2008 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Denny Adkins
Vice President: Chuck Adkins
Secretary/Treasurer/
Pillion Princess: Dale Whyte

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

Director: Ron Aikins
Director: Mike Clark
Director: Red Davis
Director: Dick Dodd
Director: Rick Franke
Director: Louis Frutschi
Newsletter Editor: Dale Whyte
Club Postmaster: Jay Whyte

Formerly President for Life
Mike also serves as club webmaster
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.mbbbr.org

President's Message



Happy New Year! 2008 ended for our club with a very enjoyable Christmas Party hosted by Lonnie and Micki Hurst held in their clubroom at their complex in San Jose.

About 22 more or less attended the pot luck and as usual, there was some very good food and company. Many thanks again to Lonnie and Micki for their gracious hospitality.

A thank you to those of you who led rides north, south and east (still haven't figured a way to go west). Some were familiar rides and some were new adventures, but I think it was great to have newer and current members joining in for these group rides. There were even a couple of spontaneous rides right after breakfast. Chuck and I would like to see more of these and suggest you ask at breakfast if there isn't a planned ride, if anyone would like to go for a ride. If you have never led a ride, there are members who can suggest short or long rides and give you directions and how to lead rides safely.

Some of our members were unable to participate this year as much as they would have liked to because of various family, job, health and other obligations. You were missed. I hope 2009 will afford you more opportunities to attend breakfasts, rides and other club functions.

Another event that was very enjoyable was the annual Motorcycle Show at San Mateo, CA in December. Chuck and I rode the bike to the show on a Saturday and met some club members and people we had met at previous shows. It is always fun to see the new bikes and visit all the vendors. However, we were surprised to find BMW did not have a factory representative or large display this year. There were local dealers with a few motorcycles from their dealerships. I guess it was another sign of "the economy".

Ballots to elect new officers and directors are enclosed. Please return them.

Thank you for the opportunity to be your President this last year. A special thank you to Dale Whyte who continues to be the constant supporter of the presidents and keeps us all informed through our Newsletter.

See you at breakfast or out there on our motorcycles!

Milestones

By Ron Aikins

How many others out there keep track of miles gone by? It has been one of my habits to maintain a log of such trivia ever since I bought my K75 back in '94 (you know, way back before the turn of the century!). Of course, for several years I had just the one bike, so keeping track of my total mileage was as easy as looking down at the odometer.

I remember during those first years noticing how many Beemer riders were still enthusiastic riders of mounts of much earlier vintage. I appreciated their steadfastness, decades-long love of riding, dedication to maintenance, and the statement their mounts made about BMW craftsmanship.

However, my re-introduction to motorcycles took place for the most part on showroom floors. The older bikes could be nice enough, but how could someone keep ignoring, year after year, those shiny new toys? I'd see some of the riders of older mounts come into the shops for maintenance or parts and give the latest models but a passing glance. I often found it remarkable.

But now I'm moving into my own "old-timer" phase. I can no longer name all the models available in the current BMW (or anyone else's) lineup, let alone recite all their specs or care to follow the on-line chit-chat regarding the minutiae of their maintenance, accessories, and occasional shortcomings. I've realized I've been very happy with what are now considered "older" bikes,



learned to maintain my own for the most part, and do not see a significant dollar-for-pleasure return in investing five figures in new technology. I've also now lived through enough motorcycling history to have learned that the latest technological advances can be a mixed bag of blessings.

I'm also old enough now to get lost in my own digressions. Now, where was I? Oh yes, I meant to talk about miles gone by,

numerical indications of the wealth of pleasures enjoyed along the road over many years.



Two recent occasions of note have brought me to such musings. First, our own Darryl Richman was listed in the latest copy of MOA's *ON* as having reached a total of 500,000 BMW miles. A half million miles! That is a remarkable milestone in anybody's book, and Darryl is one of those older bike aficionados as well. Congratulations, Darryl, and keep on rolling!

The second event is my own. This week in mid-November I will have racked up 200,000 motorcycling miles, though not specifically BMW miles. I have been spending some time looking back over photos of past rides and events which has deepened my sense of what a long and mostly happy road it has been. I thank those of you with whom I've shared rides and good times. You've all been part of making it such a pleasant adventure. I've also found reminders of many miles spent on the road alone, sometimes with a tinge of loneliness, but mostly in solitary pleasure.

I can only hope that the pleasure may continue for many years and that we can enjoy much of them together. In the words of David Cwi who writes the column *Mileage Slaves* for *ON*:
See you down the road.

Club Holiday Party Photos



Santa Jay and
Elf Chuck



President Denny
Speaks

(right)
Jay didn't get to take
this Marilyn Dodd
original home



(above) The group photo
Photographer Mike Clark
reclines



(left) Donna Aikins and
Elf Chuck Adkins

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SATURDAY'S, WHEN A RIDE OR CLUB EVENT IS NOT PLANNED, THE CLUB MEETS FOR BREAKFAST at 9:00am – please see web site for current location.

Down the road..... 2009

January 24	Ron Aikins leads a club ride
February 21	Mike Clark leads a ride into the Mount Hamilton/Livermore area
March 21	James Kmetovic leads a ride in the Salinas Valley/Carmel Valley area
March 28	All British Show – ride after breakfast to event
April 18	Dick Dodd leads a ride to Parkfield.
May 16 &17	The Frankes lead a ride to the Sonoma area (overnighter!)
May 22 – 25	49'er Rally in Auburn
May	Jay Whyte -- a ride to Panoche Inn – details later
June 20	Chuck and Denny Adkins lead a ride somewhere Northern
July	Motorcycle Show in Soquel -- TBA
July 18	Tom Brazier leads a ride TBD
July 16-19	BMW MOA Rally in Tennessee
July 23-26	BMW RA Rally in West Virginia
August	Open
September	Jay Whyte leads a ride to Woolgrowers in Los Banos
October	Open
November	Open
December 5	Club Holiday Party -- Hosts/Location needed

**MONTEREY BAY BMW RIDERS
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Watsonville, CA 95076**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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