



UNDER THE HELMET

WWW.RMBRC.ORG

MOA CHARTER #321

Upcoming Rides

•Shop till you Drop Ride- January 27

Depart from Sams #3 at 900am and head to BMW Denver, then Foothills BMW, and then finally to Motogear Outlet to browse and shop at our sponsors for those items needed for the upcoming ride season. Contact Mike Fox at (303) 843-9828 or rides@rmbrc.org for more info.

•Briarwood Brunch Ride- February 4

Depart 1000am from BMW Denver for route to be determined for brunch reservations at 1130am. Contact Kip Rogers at kip@gis.net or 303-750-6234 for required reservations by January 31st.

•Limon Day Ride-February 25

Depart Sams#3 at 9am for ride out east to Limon and then lunch on the return in Elbert. Contact Mike Fox at (303) 843-9828 or rides@rmbrc.org for more info.

•Daytona Bike Week-March 4-14

Come join us on our annual trek to the sunny warm state of Florida with plenty of bikes, races, beach, and cruising. Ed, Roy, & David will be hitting the road early on March 3rd at 5am from the Drury Inn-Dry Creek & I25.. Ride Captains are Roy Blakney (303) 756-2547 or Ed Padalinski (720) 384-5855.

GROUP RIDING

Our own board member and safety director Roy Blakney presented last months topic on Group Riding. Since we had members not in attendance, I have recapped his presentation here.

The 12 Commandments of Group Riding

- 1) Have your bike and riding gear ready-this means you have fueled up, your faceshield and windshield are clean, all your lights work, and your tire pressure has been checked.
- 2) Arrive at your departure point early, not late.
- 3) Try to park close to the group, introduce yourself, and let the ride captain know how long you have been riding.
- 4) Take at least 5 minutes meeting with your group with helmets and cell phones off. The ride captain will introduce themselves, discuss the route, first stop, final destination, and approximate return time. They will also make sure that everyone on the group ride understand this. If you need to break off earlier, let your ride captain and sweep person know.
- 5) Slower riders and slower bikes should be directly behind the road captain in the usual staggered formation. Faster riders near the rear, but in front of the sweep person
- 6) Group consideration; be dressed and ready when ride captain fires up. The ride captain will verify that everyone in line is ready and running, left arm up and thumbs up is the signal and the sweep should signal the ride captain the final go ahead. This procedure is used at all stops.
- 7) The ride captain should only pull out from any location when the traffic allows the whole group to enter traffic. If this is not possible, the ride captain will accelerate slowly to allow the group to catch up.
- 8) The group should ride a staggered formation, NEVER ride directly behind any other riders taillight. This staggered formation is broken whenever the roads become narrow, twisty, or weather conditions are poor. Riding in groups of 5-6 riders is best with a gap between groups too allow a car to merge or exit into the groups.

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From your President...

The 2007 riding year has begun! While the weather has certainly not been our friend, it was nice that some members still made it out to the New Years Day Ride to meet members of our club as well as those of other clubs in the area. It was reported, however, that 1 brave soul did ride their motorcycle to the event in Castle Rock! We have also had our first meeting of the year presented by Roy Blakney on Group Riding. I felt it was a worthwhile topic and hopefully all of you who attended learned something new. In last month's column I failed to mention our Rides Committee Chairman, Mike Fox who has also worked diligently in providing many of last years rides and was instrumental in planning your 2007 Ride Book. Thanks Mike and hope you forgive my missing you! Now, as we sit home waiting for the snow to melt and we are

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2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Club Membership Information is available online at www.rmbrc.org or contact Ed Padalinski (303) 699-6282

President: Ed Padalinski president@rmbrc.org
 Vice President: Dave Fiack vicepresident@rmbrc.org
 Secretary: Marsha Satorius-Fox secretary@rmbrc.org
 Treasurer: Bob Wright treasurer@rmbrc.org
 Board Member: Roy Blakney (303) 756-2547
 Board Member: Mike Fox rides@rmbrc.org
 Board Member: Chris Spanos, Sr. christopher.spanos@att.net
 Social: Sherry Wysong social@rmbrc.org



Our January Social at the Old Spaghetti Factory was our best attendance yet with over 25 members, friends, & family present. Thanks Sherry for your continued planning and success!

The 2007 Ride Book is available now. If you have not received yours, please contact me to mail it to you or pick it up at our next event. The Rides Committee has worked hard in putting together a great collection for 2007. The emphasis next year will be on more day rides, thereby increasing our participation.

Club Activities:

- All Monthly Meetings are held in one location at Windsor Gardens Restaurant 597 S Clinton St. Denver. The Meetings begin at 7pm and food is served from 5pm-630pm
- All Monthly Board Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month at 700pm at the Parker Library, 10851 Crossroads Dr. All members are welcome to attend!
- February Meeting is February 1st and the topic will be "Movie Night" We will be showing a classic motorcycle movie from the selection that our members bring.
- February Social is Saturday, February 17th at Sonoda at 3108 S Parker Rd at 600pm. (303) 337-3800. RSVP required to Sherry Wysong at (303) 717-0140 or social@rmbrc.org no later than Thursday, February 15.
- March Meeting is 1st and the topic will be the recent "Copper Canyon Ride" led by Beemers & More and our own David Allen participated in. From what I have heard and seen, it certainly was an adventure mainly due to inclement weather. Please join us for David's video presentation.

Last months Raffle winner was Dave Fiack who received one of our new club shirts. It could be your chance to win next month, you must be present to win!!!

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getting the itch to get out and ride, I look at this time to plan my year and see where it will take me. It is a good time to plan routes, create maps, and research the areas we plan to ride to. I also reflect on last years rides and it gives me the time to put together some nice slide or movie shows to share with friends and other members. I also use this time to look at my gear and purchase those items that I need to replace or add to my wardrobe for the coming year. The snow will melt soon and we will all be back on the road!

Remember it is not all about the ride!

Ed Padalinski president@rmbrc.org



GROUP RIDING

BY ROY BLAKNEY

(Continued from page 1)

- 9) Distance at highway speeds should be a 3-5 seconds gap between riders. This is about the same spacing as telephone or light poles along the side of the road. In city traffic, the gap should be closed, otherwise the other cars on the road will squeeze in between the riders. The further back you get, the faster you have to speed up to catch up. If the group turns off and you cannot see them, you could get lost. That is unfair to the group and no fun for you! Consideration for your group and by everyone in it makes for a safer and greater ride.
- 10) In all honesty, everyone pushes the envelope a little with regard to the speed limit. The ride captain is responsible for the setting the speed and pace. Our club practice is to keep our speeds no more than 5 miles over the posted limit. A group of 15-30 bikes pulled over and all getting tickets, takes the joy out of that ride for a long time afterwards. An accident or a fatality much more so. In my 62 years of riding in groups, I have experience such things and most were avoidable.
- 11) Headlights should always be on high beam during the daytime light. Always use your turn signals with plenty of notice to your following riders. Do not rely on a whole bunch of hand signals that can hardly be seen most of the time and can be confusing. One finger on your front brake lever, flashing your brake lights as a danger signal is much more visible in all conditions day or night.
- 12) If your position as the sweep (the end rider), of any group (the mother hen) is to help the ride captain in maintaining the group. When a group is trying to pass slower traffic, the sweep can move into the passing lane and actually create a gap for the other riders to enter by slowing traffic. The ride captain usually sees this and he then can move over to pass with the rest of the group following in. However, each rider must check their own mirrors to make sure it is safe to enter the passing lane. The ride captain should only consider a passing maneuver if he/she knows that there is enough room for the ENTIRE group to pass. The ride captain should also allow enough space after passing to allow the rest of the group to reenter the lane.

These items are a recipe for disaster: Above all ride your own ride!

Do not get sucked in by other riders ahead of you, as you know your capabilities and do not know theirs

Group Ride Pre-Ride Checklist-T-CLOCK

T-Tires and wheels-condition, air pressure, spokes, rims

C-Controls-levers, cables, hoses, throttle

L-Lights-Battery, lenses, wiring, headlamp, signals

O-Oil & Gasoline-levels

C-Chassis-Frame, suspension, chain or belt, fasteners

K-Kick/Sidestand-centerstand and side stand condition

Motorcycle Movies

I decided that I would go back and just watch every motorcycle movie ever made. It has been a interesting experience and some of the titles that I have seen so far:

"Long Way Round"-by Ewan McGregor and Charlie Boorman about their 2004 adventure around the world

"On Any Sunday"-with Steve McQueen about the motorcycle races that happen around the country on Sundays

"Evel Knievel"-with George Hamilton with flashbacks about Evel's big jumps

"Evel Knievel"-with Beau Bridges about Evel's whole life

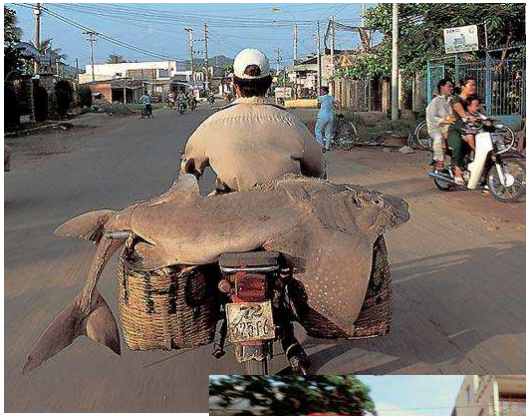
"The Wild One"-with Marlon Brando a punk within a motorcycle gang

"Easy Rider"-with Peter Fonda & Dennis Hopper in their cross country wild adventures

"Born Loser"-with Tom Laughlin about an American Indian rider who rescues the 'girl' vigilante style

"The Last Hurrah"-with 2 New Zealanders who ride from Peking, China to Amsted, Holland on vintage bikes in 2005

I will update date you again as I have another 10 in my 'queue'!



"Who Needs a Truck"? Here are few photos in a series that I will be including in the upcoming newsletters.



2007 EUROPEAN ADVENTURE

BY DAVE FIACK

We are planning our first overseas motorcycle tour that is scheduled for 28 August 2007 through 04 September 2007. The tour organizer is RMBRC member, Michael Schleicher. Michael lives in Alzenau Germany, just east of Frankfurt am Main. I am assisting Michael, from the US side for logistics, questions, etc. The tour will begin in Alzenau and continue through a portion of Germany into France, to the southern most city of Nice. Michael is planning on using Logis de France (www.logis-de-france.fr) for the hotels. These are small family owned hotel-restaurants. As the time of the year for which the tour is planned is the last two weeks of the main six weeks of vacation in France we will be forced to reserve rooms well in advance. A deposit will be required, probably by the middle of April. (amount to be determined in a few weeks) It is best to rent a motorcycle in Germany. I will provide a list of rental agency's in a later. If you are interested in possible joining our adventure, please contact me so I can add you to my distribution list. Dave Fiack (303) 805-1799 or vicepresident@rmbrc.org

The current agenda:

Tuesday, August 28-Alzenau, Germany to Taintrux, France
 Wednesday, August 29-Taintrux to Saint Jean de Maurienne, France
 Thursday, August 30-Saint Jean de Maurienne to Barcelonnette, France
 Friday, August 31-Barcelonnette to Nice, France
 Saturday, September 1-Nice to Aspres Sur Buech, France
 Sunday, September 2-Aspres Sur Buech to Lons le Saunier, France
 Monday, September 3-Lons le Saunier, France to Alzenau, Germany



Our own club member Wayne Sheffield was giving the 'old college try' to get his bike out into the snow, but I guess it was just too deep!

MEMBER PROFILE - MIRANDA & BRUCE SANDERS

When you own 5 BMW motorcycles, one would think that the weather has no impact on your getting out and about. That SHOULD be the situation with Bruce & Miranda Sanders who are proud owners of a 'fleet' of motorcycles including a '02 F650GS, '02 K1200RS (soon to be replaced with a '07 K1200GT), '07 R1200GS Adventure, '05 R1150R, and last but not least an '06 HP2. This fleet of motorcycles is also accompanied by two other prize possessions, an '03 50th Anniversary Special convertible Corvette (Miranda's 50th Birthday gift) and an '06 Z06 Corvette (Bruce's 50th Birthday gift), but due to extreme weather conditions they seem to be relegated to their pickup truck.! How do two people drive and ride all of these vehicles? I guess you will have to ask them! While Miranda is retired, Bruce still goes to his job at Qwest on a daily basis, but he hopes his retirement is not too far away.



The motorcycle riding history goes back about 38 years for Bruce, while Miranda has just taken up the activity after meeting Bruce in 1999 while he was off the bike. For about 3 years he was mending himself from his accident in North Carolina coming down off Mt Mitchell to avoid a car stopping in the middle of the road on his 1999 K1100 which did not survive the impact. Since Miranda is such a 'bad' influence on Bruce she convinced him to get back in the saddle when he bought the '02 K1200RS. She actually rode on the back of that motorcycle for a while, but kept falling asleep even at high speeds. Seems that was enough for both of them and on their 1 year anniversary, Miranda attended the MSF Rider Training class. She began her riding career shortly thereafter on the '02 F650GS and then upgraded in 2006 to the '05R1150R for some of their cross county road trips to the New Orleans Jazz Fest and Asheville, North Carolina to some great riding in that area.

While they met on the internet in Dallas, Miranda had raised 4 children as a single mother and I get the impression that she really likes to get spoiled by Bruce now. Those 4 kids have produced 12 grandchildren so far, all in the Dallas area. Bruce's dad was a pilot in the Royal Air Force and was very active in many British air campaigns during WWII. Bruce's passion for sports cars goes back to the day when he owned a 1986 Yamaha Virago 1100 motorcycle that was one of the few 'gold plated' models in the US. He traded that motorcycle in for his first real sports car a white Mazda Miata when they first arrived on our shores. Constantly looking around to find the latest sports car he happened upon the first Honda S2000s to hit the shores in the US. He later ended up selling those sports cars to Miranda's boys and that is when he entered the Corvette family.

When they purchased that first BMW motorcycle they immediately joined the BMW MOA and AMA. Along the way they bought his '04 R1150GS Adventure and discovered that a free membership to the local club the Colorado BMW Motorcycle was included. They began to attend events and meetings, volunteering to help along the way including the Paonia Rally in 2005. Soon thereafter, they became officers of that club, Bruce as Secretary and Miranda as Newsletter Editor in 2006. As the new year arrived, Bruce has become the 2007 club president and Miranda continues to be Newsletter Editor and Ridebook editor. They also decided to join our club last year and we are very fortunate to have them as members. They have been on numerous rides and we usually see them most meetings and social events. Hopefully we can convince them to assist us in the future in our open club positions in the coming years. The next time you see Bruce or Miranda congratulate them on their success!

