

# THE ALABAMA BEEMER



Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle  
Owners of Alabama

BMWMOA Chapter 5/  
BMWRA Chapter #107

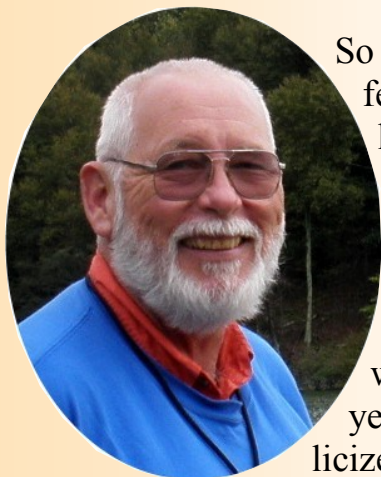


Volume XLII Issue 6

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## DITTO LANDING #25

Don Little



So much happened last week that it's hard to know where to start but I feel the first thing to do is congratulate Sheila both for her efforts as rally chair and as the well deserved recipient of this year's Russ Simpson Award. I feel both were major accomplishments for her.

Attendance was down from previous years, which also meant the work load was somewhat easier. There could be several reasons for the downturn in attendance, but it seems there was some question within other clubs as to whether or not we would be holding a rally this year. It was mentioned in the meeting Sunday that we need to really publicize next year's rally starting early. I feel this is especially critical since we will probably be making some major changes in our rally next year.

The weather could not have been nicer, and we even heard complaints about the cooler temperatures, something totally unexpected, but welcome, at the Great Chicken Rally.

From a security standpoint, I don't ever remember having so many people try to get through the gate. I think the area bicyclists had set up some sort of contest to see how many of them could get through.

All in all, it was a great week for Barbara and me. We got to Ditto Monday afternoon in our Sprinter. It was the first time I had been able to load the bike into the back so it was an experiment of sorts. After we got everything unloaded we fixed a nice steak dinner and were able to sit back and relax for awhile.

Tuesday we set out for the Jack Daniels distillery but never made it because we couldn't find our way through the back roads without a map or GPS. But the day ended well when we got to have dinner with Jeanne and John Zibell. Good food, great company.

Wednesday after we got things set up, several of us make our yearly trek to Ol' Heidelberg German Restaurant. The rain caught up with us while we were inside but ended before time to leave so we didn't even get wet. Another great evening. For us the absolute best thing about our rally is being able to spend time with friends. That is the only reason we show up to work like crazy all weekend.

Sometime in the next few weeks our members will be sent an email blast with information about another possible rally site or information about another rally at Ditto Landing. Members voted to continue with a rally in 2014; now it is up to us to determine which direction we will go in the future. When you get that email, please read it and respond **as quickly as possible** with your vote. If we truly want to continue our rally, we must decide how to go about it, and do it quickly.

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You're under arrest...



One more word and you're under arrest....



I just got out'a jail...



I don't care who you are, you're under arrest...

## **MAY MEETING MINUTES**

May 26, 2013

Ditto Landing - Huntsville, AL

President, Don Little presiding

Barbara Little, Secretary

Don opened the meeting by asking members to give themselves a big round of applause for a job well done with rally number 25.

He then turned the floor over to Tommy Arnold, CFO, for a preliminary report on rally finances. We sold enough raffle tickets to pay for the bike and will be able to donate some money to our charities.

Membership director, Martha Warren, reported that we now have 240 members with some renewals and some new members this weekend.

Don then asked Don Norwood, who was the Chair of the Future Rally Committee for a report on that committee's findings. Don started by thanking other members of the committee for all of their hard work. He handed out copies of their report and then gave a very detailed summation of their findings. The committee made no recommendations as to how we should proceed, but they did give us plenty of information to digest.

Don Norwood, personally, suggested that we start with baby steps—work with food vendors first—then perhaps change the venue.

In the discussion that followed Rally Chair, Sheila Kalahan, reported that Ditto Landing is both city property (pavilion) and county property (actual campground).

It was also brought to our attention that many small towns would love to have us, but they do not have the necessary facilities to host a crowd that large.

Don (Little) again thanked Don (Norwood) and all of the members of the committee for their time and effort on our behalf.

Vice-President, Jamie Jackson made a motion, which was seconded, to accept the analyses presented by the committee as a guide for future rallies.

Jim Kalahan then asked for the floor to talk about another venue, BamaJam Park just outside Enterprise, AL. The facility has its own liquor license, an enclosed kitchen, smokers, a pool, and a water park. It is located on 1600 acres that include 35 full hook-up RV sites, shaded tent camping, 26 miles of trails for off-road riding and 26 instant-on hot showers. There are also other amenities that would be of benefit to our rally. The owners would cook, we would serve.

They would also deal with all permits, inspections, etc. This is a gated area; we would have exclusive use, but we would be required to man the gate.

Their insurance is something that would need to be checked out in the future.

Don asked if it would be possible for the future rally committee, the Kalahans, and the Littles to visit this facility.

Connie Reaves suggested that after this visit, that an e-mail blast be sent out to all current members, giving all pertinent details and recommendations. The members would then be given 2 or 3 days to decide if this venue would work for future rallies. A motion was made, seconded and passed that this be done.

Wanda Daigle suggested that the committee get assurances that the costs for the facility will not sky rocket after the first year, if we decide to go that route.

Bill Bedgood said that regardless of where we hold the rally we need to quit cooking breakfast, a continental breakfast would be good.

Bob Daigle said that we must do more to promote our rally, make sure the ads to the ON and OTL are submitted early; possibly send emails to previous rally attendees. Bill suggested that perhaps one reason our attendance was down was because the Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground held its first annual Memorial Day Barbeque this weekend too.

Don Norwood suggested that members make better use of the website forum in order to stay informed on the committee's visit to Bama Jam Park.

Mike Bauman asked for the floor to present an all-new BOOBY prize to Mike and Rhonda Scott, something about a face plant and a roll down a hill.

Pandora's representative stuck his head in for just a minute to thank everyone for their support during the weekend. Vance then said he will be at Pandora's with more MOA Super Stakes tickets to give away next weekend.

Tommy then brought up the subject of a bike raffle for next year. He said that too many people are not selling tickets and that we can't continue to depend on two people and sales at Barber's to pay for a bike. (Steve Hebert sold 56 books of tickets, Darlene Massey sold 32 books and 55 books were sold at Barber's).

Jamie made a motion that the Club not raffle a bike next year. The motion was seconded and passed.

Following that, the meeting was adjourned.

Many, many thanks to Cara Barnhart (pictured below) for her contribution of the center pieces for the dining tables under the pavilion. The arrangements were beautiful and completely in keeping with the Memorial Day theme. Cara also arranged for the gigantic flag that hung above the fireplace, as well as the many smaller flags that adorned the perimeter of the pavilion.



Also, thanks to Rodger Williamson for ensuring that the flag was properly folded and respectfully prepared for storage and return to its owner. Thank you also, Rodger, for the floral arrangement placed in honor of Jessica Leigh Williamson.



## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Daniel and Linda Mariscal	Enterprise, AL	2009 R1200GSA	Sponsor: Steve Hebert
Gary Adams	Huntsville, AL	2007 R1200GS	Sponsor: Sheila Kalahan

## **2013 RALLY SUPPORTERS**

Sheila Kalahan

On the behalf of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama we thank you for your support. Your donated items made our 25<sup>th</sup> Rally special. Thank you again.

**Amelia and Mike Bauman**

**Autumn Riders**

**BMW Motorcycles of Atlanta**

**BMW Motorcycle Owners of  
Nashville**

**BMW of Baton Rouge**

**BMW MOA**

**BMW Riders Association**

**Steve Cruce**

**Cycle Nation**

**Diamond Gusset**

**Ear-ific Molds**

**GSM Moto Rent**

**Haynes Manuals, Inc**

**Hoosier Beemer's Rally**

**Kermit Camping Products**

**Kermit chair Co**

**Jeff Kurtz**

**Lanza's Beverages**

**LD Comfort**

**Manic Salamander**

**Motorrad Elektrik**

**Pandora's European Motor-  
sports**

**Ray LED Lights**

**Rene Cormier**

**Terese Stevens**

**Silver Eagle Outfitters**

**Rita Waters**

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

2	Michael Johnston	14	Daniel Mariseal
3	Rick Compton	15	Bruce Cain
3	Ted Thompson	19	Mark Foreman
4	Priscilla McCorstin	21	Beth Gregory
5	Jeannine Arnold	22	Joe Oliver
5	Stephen Smitherman	25	Ken Pedigo
6	Fred Merrill	28	Stephen Ehrnst
8	Bob Daigle	28	Kay Headrick
9	Jamie Jackson	30	Phillip Johnson
9	Leonard Kaiser	31	Paul McClain
13	Martin Benson		



## **2013 GREAT CHICKEN RALLY VOLUNTEERS**

Sheila Kalahan

A special thank you to all the volunteers who gave up family time, vacation time and what ever else might have been going on in their lives. Thank you to our club members as well as the Rally goers for making our 25<sup>th</sup> year extra special.

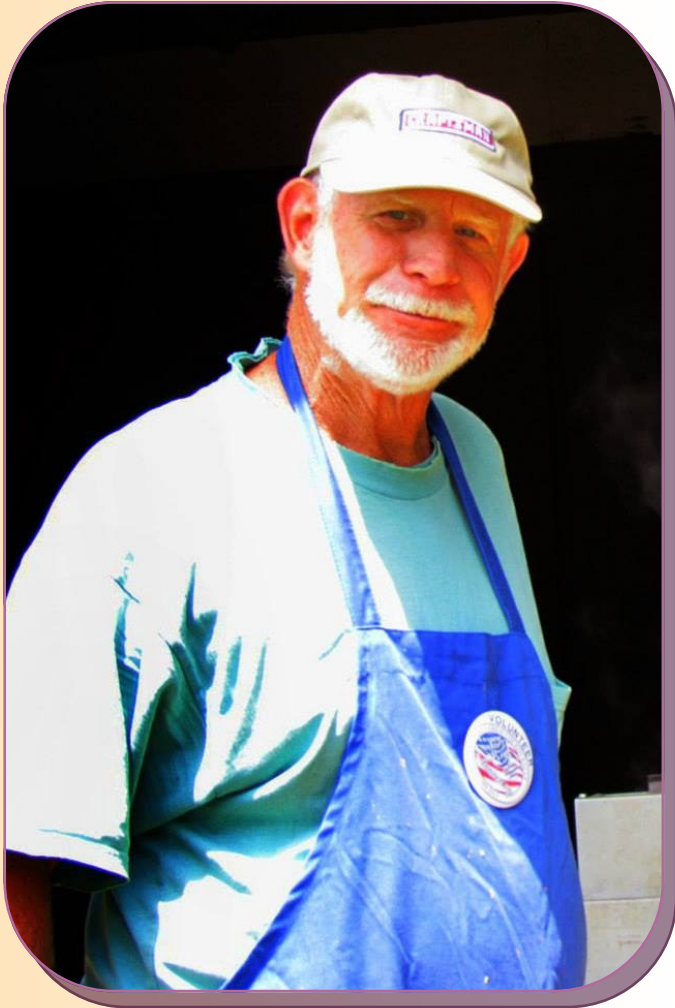
Listed below are these wonderful Volunteers:

<b>Dianne Albea</b>	<b>Jim Dubick</b>	<b>Gary Nesmith</b>
<b>Jeanine Arnold</b>	<b>Frank Fisher</b>	<b>Don Norwood</b>
<b>Tommy Arnold</b>	<b>Myrtle Fisher</b>	<b>Connie Reaves</b>
<b>Eric Bahl</b>	<b>Tim Flynn</b>	<b>Seth Reeves</b>
<b>Anna Barnhart</b>	<b>Linda Goodin</b>	<b>Tommy Robbins</b>
<b>Don Little</b>	<b>Mari Harrelson</b>	<b>Steve Schuckman</b>
<b>Cara Barnhart</b>	<b>Vance Harrelson</b>	<b>Michael Scott</b>
<b>Amelia Bauman</b>	<b>Steve Hebert</b>	<b>Rhonda Scott</b>
<b>Mike Bauman</b>	<b>Suzanne Hebert</b>	<b>Marty Simpson</b>
<b>Harry Bonner</b>	<b>Jamie Jackson</b>	<b>Bill Tonkin</b>
<b>John Bonner</b>	<b>Malvene Jackson</b>	<b>Martha Warren</b>
<b>Lila Bonner</b>	<b>Jim Kalahan</b>	<b>Phillip Warren</b>
<b>Rickie Bonner</b>	<b>Barbara Little</b>	<b>Rodger Williamson</b>
<b>Larry Camp</b>	<b>Marliam Lee</b>	<b>Polly Wright</b>
<b>Robert (Bob) Daigle</b>	<b>Chris Mascarella</b>	<b>Tommy Zeringue</b>
<b>Wanda Daigle</b>	<b>Darlene Massey</b>	<b>Jeanne Zibell</b>
<b>Suzi Dubick</b>	<b>Madison McCurry</b>	<b>John Zibell</b>

These were the names given to me, so if any one was omitted please do let me know.

Thank you to all.

# The Great Chicken Rally 2013



The "Captain"; Twenty five straight years of smoking chicken!



Something is just not right about this picture.  
Is Linda's head on backward?



Miss Lila takes a spin.

## **JUNE MEETING**

Jamie Jackson

Location: Cheaha State Park, twelve miles south of I-20 off State Highway 281 in northeast Alabama.

Date: June 29 - 30

Cheaha State Park is a 2,799-acre state park in Alabama, located in northern Clay and southwestern Cleburne counties. The park, which is Alabama's oldest continuously operating state park, encompasses Cheaha Mountain, the highest point in the state. Cheaha State Park is the pinnacle of natural beauty and awe in Alabama. Surrounded by the Talladega National Forest, this foothill of the Appalachian Mountains holds the reputation of the highest point in Alabama. Standing 2,407 ft. above sea level, it is no wonder why the local Creek Indians named this place "Chaha," meaning high place.

Directions: This is the easiest route. The more adventurous will probably want to consult their maps and GPS for alternate routes.

From I-20, take exit to AL-77. Turn right onto AL-77 and travel approximately 13 miles. Turn left onto AL-21 (Haynes St) and travel less than a mile. Turn right onto AL-21 (North St E) and continue on AL-21 approximately 5 miles. Bear right onto McElderry Rd (CR-398) and continue on McElderry for less than a mile. Turn right onto Cheaha Rd (CR-385) and continue on Cheaha Rd approximately 8 miles. Continue onto AL-281 and travel approximately 2 miles to the park entrance and store

Learn more at:

[http://www.stateparks.com/cheaha\\_state\\_park\\_in\\_alabama.html](http://www.stateparks.com/cheaha_state_park_in_alabama.html)





**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

**Club Sponsored Events With Meetings**

- Jun 29 Cheaha State Park - Delta, AL
- Jul 27 Blue Ridge MC Campground - Cruso, NC
- Aug 24 Raccoon Mtn. Campgnd - Chattanooga, TN
- 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**

- Jun 20-23 RA Rally - Biltmore House, Ashville, NC
- Jun 21-23 Barber Superbike - Birmingham, AL
- Jul 18-21 BMWMOA - Salem Oregon
- Oct 4-6 2013 RAMS Rally - Parker's Crossroads, TN  
(Formerly Return to Shiloh Rally)
- Oct 11-13 Barber Vintage Days - B'ham, AL