

THE ALABAMA BEEMER



Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle
Owners of Alabama

BMWMOA Chapter 5/
BMWRA Chapter #107



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May 2013

CAJUN CHAOS - 2013

Don Little, President

We had another great time in Louisiana with our Cajun friends last week. They always go above and beyond. I think I gained 5 pounds from eating all the crawfish, jambalaya and white beans as well as all those wonderful deserts. THANK YOU to everyone who had a part in giving us another "Cajun Chaos" to remember.

The open house at the Baton Rouge BMW shop on Saturday was fun. How nice for those guys to have such a great shop that close to home. There was an 800GS at the shop with all kinds of extras that had caught my eye. I was talking to Gary about it when I realized that I really didn't want or need all that stuff. Thank you, Gary, for bringing me to my senses before I made a serious mistake.

The weather was ideal until Sunday morning when we woke up to overcast skies. We knew we were going to get wet, just hoped we would make it home some pretty good showers from a little west of the Alabama, without incident. We rode in just east of McComb, MS to line but we made it through reached the turn-off to made it on in with no bro- ken legs or nuthin'. You can believe me when I say we said a lot of prayers all the way home and prayers of thanks when we got here.

Next up will be the Great Chick- en Rally, and it is very im- portant to have as many members there as possible. Not only will we need the volunteers to make this, our 25th rally another success story, but we have some very im- portant issues to discuss at our business meeting Sunday morning.

The committee that has been working on suggestions for future rallies will make their report to the Club at that time. Then it will be up to us (ALL OF US) to vote to accept or reject their recommendations. If you voted in January to continue to hold a 2014 rally, then you need to be at this meeting to hear what they have to say and to voice your opinion and vote on how to go forward.

I am looking forward to seeing you all there.



APRIL MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2013

Cajun Chaos Zachary, LA
President, Don Little presiding

Don opened the meeting with a round of applause and a big Thank You for all of our Cajun friends who put on such a great weekend and especially to Amelia and Mike who, once again, opened their home to us.

Next he asked Martha Warren to talk about the Russ Simpson award. This award is given annually at our rally to honor someone who helped to make our Club and our rally what it is today. Martha handed out a description of the requirements for nomination for the award and asked that everyone nominate a person who met those requirements. (Requirements are posted on the Club website.)

Don then asked Vern to give us an update on the Future Rally Committee's progress, and Don again stressed that we must have a rally Chairperson in place soon in order to begin to plan next year's rally.

Vern took the floor and with tongue very firmly planted in cheek said that he had come up with a wonderful idea..schedule 2 rallies, one spring, one fall. Cancel the fall rally and we will have cut our rally work load in half. After a chorus of groans and snickers, he then said that the committee is very close to a final decision on the recommendations to be made at the business meeting following this year's Great Chicken Rally. When asked if serious thought had been given to a change of venue or date, Vern said that many things have been thought about and discussed.

Tommy Arnold and Rodger Williamson, also members of the committee, echoed Vern's remarks.

Following that, Tommy gave a financial report. So far, we have had about 18 people pre-register for the rally and we are close to having the bike paid for.

Barbara asked that members get stubs for sold raffle tickets and money to her ASAP. Any unsold tickets need to be mailed to her as well.

Jim Kalahan, substituting for Sheila, gave a rundown our upcoming rally. We are only going to have two nights of music this year, Friday and Saturday. Thursday night will be movie night. Because our rally is held Memorial Day weekend, we will have a Wall of Honor to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Please bring a photo (Jim suggests a copy) of someone you want to honor for display on the wall.

AS ALWAYS we need volunteers, and lots of them. Jim did say that he and Sheila have received a lot of inquiries about how to volunteer at the rally, which is always a good thing.

Jim displayed a copy of the rally logo, which Sheila designed (and which can be seen on the Club website), and he described this year's rally T-Shirt.

Don reminded members about the BMW Club of Nashville's upcoming rally in Burkesville, KY and the Georgia Club's Georgia Mountain Rally coming up soon as well.

He then brought up the fact that he is not going to be able to attend the MOA rally in July and that someone in the Club will need to be responsible for getting attending Club member's names to the Awards committee in order for our Club to be recognized. Vance was immediately nominated, seconded and voted on to do that chore. (See what happens when you can't attend a monthly meeting!!)

Rodger then talked about the RA rally to be held at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC in June.

Jim took the floor again to talk about a Club Cruise for March 2014. The cruise departs New Orleans March 23. Ports of call are Mahogany Bay, Isla Roatan, Belize and Cozumel. Contact Mari for more information on this cruise.

Rodger says he is having some computer problems and may not be able to keep track of mileages this year, but he is working on it and hopes to get everything sorted out soon. He also said that our Club Facebook page now has over 700 "likes" so check it out.

Jamie, on behalf of newsletter editor Malvene, once again pleaded for contributions to our newsletter. She can't compose one if we don't help!!

Don also asked that members take advantage of our WEBSITE. It is a very good website and we need to use it.

Mike and Amelia had a lot of great door prizes again this year and most of those in attendance were able to get one.

Jim Kalahan won \$80.00 in the 50-50 pot this month.

After that we adjourned and Don said a short prayer for our safety returning home.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Little, Club Secretary

LET'S GET THOSE RAFFLE TICKETS IN!!!

Barbara Little

Thank you to everyone who has sold raffle tickets this year. I, personally, appreciate the effort that has gone into this. It is time, however, to get your ticket stubs, money, and any unsold tickets back to me, if you have not already done so. I would like to have them if possible by May 13. Everything needs to be mailed to me (Barbara Little) at: P O Box 190 (or 557 Holloman Rd.) Clayton, AL 36016.

DO NOT mail anything after the 15th as it may not reach us before we leave for Huntsville on the 20th. I don't want raffle stubs sitting here while I am sitting there!!! If you absolutely cannot get them mailed to me to arrive by the 13th then bring them to the rally.

Remember, if you sold 4 books of tickets, you are entitled to free entry into the rally, and I must know that before the rally in order to make sure you can get in free.



This is what a Crawfish Boil is all about!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|--|--|--|----|-----------------------|
| 2 | Susan Dubick | | | | 18 | Janice Bowers |
| 2 | Bonnie Sanders | | | | 19 | Ross Lewis |
| 2 | Lynda Trimble | | | | 19 | Erika Smitherman |
| 4 | James Rasco | | | | 20 | Ray Williams |
| 5 | Yasmin Compton | | | | 20 | Thomas Wintz |
| 6 | W. Patrick Reaves | | | | 21 | Scott Fuller |
| 9 | Deborah Parsons | | | | 21 | Jill Vanderwesthuizen |
| 10 | Jerry Lusk | | | | 25 | Rick Jones |
| 11 | Erik Bahl | | | | 25 | Ray Zimmerman |
| 11 | Ramona Merrill | | | | 27 | Mari Harrelson |
| 12 | Troy Gordon | | | | 27 | Roxanne Kruse |
| 15 | Angie Prann | | | | 28 | John Swafford |
| 16 | Paul Buckholdt | | | | 30 | Polly Wright |
| 17 | Harry Bonner | | | | | |



NEW MEMBERS

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Thomas Wintz | Baton Rouge, LA | 1997 K1200LT | Sponser: Mike Bauman |
| Valerie Flynn | Baton Rouge, LA | 2003 F650GS | Sponser: Mike Bauman |



May 17-19, 2013

what is life about?

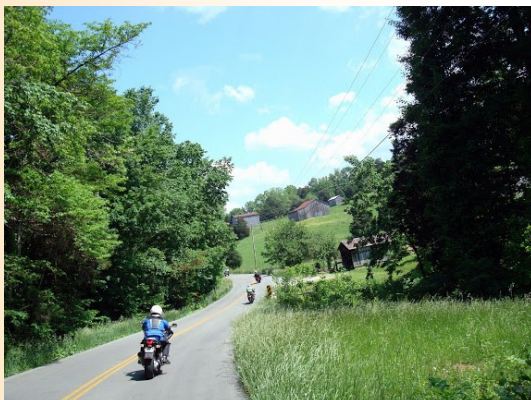
Only a couple new items since the Rally update from last Sunday so this will be a short email. For more complete details [Click HERE](#) to visit the Rally web site and/or to pre-register.

Vendors have been very generous to our Rally and for those who attend we now have about forty (40) door prizes valued at over \$3,000. Every person who registers receives six (6) tickets with their registration. Also, if you pre-register by May 14 you will receive an additional four (4) free tickets. An added incentive to pre-register is that the Rally fee is \$40 now versus \$45 after the 14th and at the door.

Come join us in the rolling hills around Burkesville, Kentucky. [Click HERE](#) for map to Burkesville. The Rally fee includes almost everything - steak dinner, two nights of music, free camping, a free breakfast and more. Come meet some of the nicest people in one of the nicest towns in Kentucky.

Three guided rides are scheduled with visits to [Maker's Mark Distillery](#), [Kermit Chair](#) manufacturing plant and a ride through the hills to [Red Boiling Springs](#). Here is what one of the scouts had to say:

As mentioned in earlier emails, two of our club members made a scouting ride up to Cumberland County for some back roads that would be more enjoyable on a GS than a GT or LT. So what did they find? Will it be comparable to the old Paris-to-Dakar run, don't think so, never saw any sand dunes in the area! So will it be a mini version of the Trans-America Trail? Well the location is somewhat closer. From what I hear it will be pretty much half and half between asphalt and gravel. Paved roads are rough and narrow, some creek crossings, some gravel, nothing too technical, but could prove challenging if you have never been off pavement. Sounds like the Dalton Highway to me or maybe the Moki Dugway? Guess we need to ride to find out!



Please email me at rally@bmwmcon.org should have any questions. [Click HERE](#) to join us at the Rally.

Thanks,

Steve Cook, Rally Chairman

HAVING FUN WITH THE “SWAMP PEOPLE”

As told by a “Hill Billy” Jamie Jackson

It took courage for Malvene and I to suit up in 44 degree weather and head out to the monthly meeting of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama club meeting for April, but courage we had with a lot of motivational banter back and forth. At last we had all our gear and headed out; I felt kind’a like the Michelin Man with all the garb I had on. But on to I-459 and heading South we realized the temperature was easing somewhat. By the time we reached Tuscaloosa (home of the Crimson Tide) the temperature had climbed all the way to 57 degrees. The high was forecast to be in the mid to upper 60’s.

We met up with Don and Barbara Little in McComb, MS and were joined by Phillip and Martha Warren for dinner at the Santa Fe Cattleman’s Restaurant. We were surprised to find that Nancy Keen, of Silver Eagle Outfitters, was also staying there at the Hampton while doing some business in McComb. After the good food, and lots’a laughs, it was off to bed for some tired old bones. After a good breakfast the next morning it was a pretty easy ride over to Zachary, LA. We stopped in at Amelia’s and Mike’s house just in time for lunch and the party started.

Amelia, Rhonda, Wanda, Sheila, and others had prepared all kind of sandwiches, snacks, and deserts to hold us off ‘til dinner. Kyle Frederic, who holds a world championship title for cooking jambalaya, showed up in the afternoon to start our dinner of jambalaya with white beans with pork and fresh French bread. Of course all that was followed up by tables full of deserts prepared fresh and as only you can find in South Louisiana.



A special bench for an Alabama fan

Saturday started out with really good breakfast at Amelia’s, followed by an afternoon of snacks and beverages while anticipating dinner; and dinner it was with 400 pounds of crawfish boiled with potatoes, corn, mushrooms, onions, and of course whole garlic pods (they taste like butter when cooked that way). Yes, I did say 400 pounds!

The good natured(?) Tide vs. Tigers rivalry continued through the week end. When I checked into the hotel and went to the room, I discovered that some of our friends(?) had talked the hotel staff into letting them into my room before I checked in; right in the

middle of the desk was a large box of LSU tissues. I am grateful that is all they did. However, at Mike and Amelia’s, another prank was waiting to unfold. I was honored with a

special guest chair prepared just for my benefit. The gag was countered somewhat though, with a ribald ceremony re-establishing the “Family Guy” back into Mike’s custody, after two years of travel throughout the world (Family Guy not Mike).



Did I mention that a good deal of this whole affair was about the food? Well, of course it was the delicious food and

the fun loving people that made it such a success. Nobody knows how to party any better than a bunch of “Coon Asses” as they refer to themselves. Bob Daigle and Tommy Zeringue are two of the best crawfish cookers that I have ever met. There seemed to be a little friendly competition between the two as they boiled the five sacks of crawfish.



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I also realized that each pot tasted a little different than the last. Of course I sampled each one, and re-sampled, and re...ah, you know what I am talking about. Some of the folks were concerned about all the crawfish juice that had run down the front of my shirt so they instructed me in assuming a defensive position for scarfing them mudbugs down. It kept it all off the front of my shirt but certainly caused a lot of laughs. I think they will do anything for a joke.



Chin down, elbows out, knees bent, GO!

Saturday night began to wind down after Mike Bauman’s fantastic fireworks display. I have seen big, well funded events that can’t even begin to match that show.

Sunday was pretty uneventful with a long ride back home through (warm) scattered showers. I am already looking forward to visiting with our Louisiana friends again next year, if it takes place; Somehow, I believe it will. And if it does, anybody that missed it

this year should make it a pretty high priority for their 2014 travel plans.

Some crawfish were indeed harmed during this event; however, they were treated as humanely as could be expected. Any cruelty was unintentional.



Win a 2013 G650
GS BMW Motorcycle
Tickets \$5.00
Drawing at Awards Ceremony
Saturday Night
Winner need not be present

NIGHTLY
ENTERTAINMENT
THURSDAY - MOVIE
FRIDAY - LIVE BAND AND DANCING
SATURDAY - LIVE BAND MORE DANCING



DITTO LANDING
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA
MAY 23 - 26, 2013

For more details go to www.bmwmoal.org



Do not enter any kind of Crawfish eating contest with Tommy Zeringue's daughter, Tammy... You will not win!

**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

- May 23-26 Great Chicken Rally - Huntsville, AL
- 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

- May 17-19 European Riders Rally - Burkesville, KY
- 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