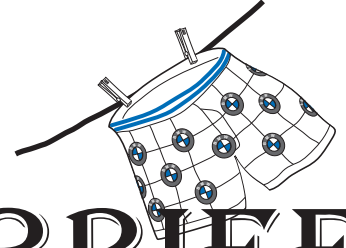


The Blackhawk

RIDERS' BRIEF



www.blackhawkbmwclub.org

June 2009

Next Meeting (June 18)

The next regular monthly meeting will be held Thursday, June 18, at Kieselberg Forest Preserve, just south of Roscoe. Kieselberg is located at 5801 Swanson Rd, about 3/4 mile east of Hwy 251, and about 2-1/4 miles west of Belvidere Rd. The club will provide the brats and burgers, with our very own prez manning the the grill. You only need to bring a dish to pass, your softdrinks, and the appropriate number of place settings. Be there before 6:30p for the cookout. Jeff will start the business meeting at about 7:30p, as usual.

Flea Market / MotoExpo

Earve Brauer says that all things considered, this year's event went pretty well. Being open for business on Saturday was a great help, as it offset some of the lower-than-usual attendance on Sunday (thanks to the monsoon-like weather). You will find the Financial Report for this year's event on page 4. See the Meeting Minutes for more info.

May 29 Hookie Ride

—John Scheub

On May 29th, 4 club members met at the McDonald's at Winnebago corners for the "Play Hooky" ride at 11:00 AM. Present were Rolf and Mike Schoelkopf, Tim Bradley and John Scheub.

Tim led us to Anderson Machining in Freeport, Illinois, which fabricates and assembles all of the brackets and mounts for ordnance, radios, antennae and lights as well as the wiring harnesses for every BMW Police Motorcycle sold in America, including the new G650 X-Challenge P. Tim and Tom took us through the entire operation. We saw them assemble the wiring harnesses which will be shipped to Germany, where they are incorporated into the police bikes during assembly there. Then the bikes are shipped back to Anderson Machining. We saw a new

2009 R1200RTP that had just arrived from Germany with Anderson's wiring harness and was being set up for a police department in New Jersey. Every department requires a custom build to its individual specifications. It is amazing what a little machine shop in Freeport, Illinois is can do.

We then had a very good lunch at Cimino's in Freeport, where the primary entertainment was Niagra Falls meeting Mike's lap. Ask him about it when you see him.

After lunch Rolf led us on a wonderful ride west of Pearl City, Illinois, where the terrain is not flat and the roads are not straight. The skies were blue, temperature in the 60's, and no wind. We benefitted from Rolf's experience as a Tour Director. Illinois has great motorcycling roads if you know where to look, and somehow Rolf never gets stuck behind farm equipment or other rolling obstructions out there. After a remarkably memorable afternoon, we arrived back in Rockford about 4:30 PM.

Suspectfully remitted,
John Scheub

(Thanks for the ride report, John! —ed.)

Coming Events

Experienced Rider Course (Sat, June 20)

Our club's Experienced Rider's Course will be held on June 20th. Our own prez, Jeff Sluiter, is organizing and instructing this course. He reported at the May meeting that all is set for the course, which is full. However, he urged anyone else who is interested in the ERC to just

Next Month's Meeting: Thu, June 18

Blackhawk Region BMW Association, Inc.
BMWMOA #35 BMWRA #204

Club Officers

President	Jeff Sluiter	815-877-4728 killjeff@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Rolf Schoelkopf	815-943-5650 flierrof@cs.com
Secretary	Lee Ann Sluiter	815-877-4728 lsluiter@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Gloria Misik	815-885-3197 g.misik@comcast.net
Flea Market Chmn	Earve and Becky Brauer	815-962-8911 rockbmw2000@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor	Paul Misik	815-885-3197 pmisik@comcast.net
Webmaster	Mike Gunderson	815-865-5310 mrgvideo@aeroinc.net
Tour Directors	Joe Misik	262-442-1217 (cell) superhawkpilot@yahoo.com
	Gary Akerman	815-623-6447 gaker73920@aol.com
	Thierry Leonard	815-985-7140 thierry662@yahoo.com
	Jeff Fink	815-633-7722 779-348-4123 (cell) (email n/a)
	Harrison Fiddis (c/o Charles)	815-623-6211 cfiddis@msn.com
	Paul Misik	(See above)



show up that morning, in case there are no-shows, either at our class or at the other ERC being held there that day (instructed by Tim Bradley and Gary Akerman).

4S Rides

Thierry Leonard has volunteered to lead a series of 4S Rides this year. For those of you who are new to the idea, 4S stands for "Super-Secret Saturday Supper" ride. It was started by Bruce Pickering a few years ago, when he was the manager of our own much-missed dealership, BMW Motorcycles of Rockford.

Next 4S Ride: There have been two 4S rides to date, and the next one will be in July. Since Thierry will be out of the country for that month (literally!), yours truly (Paul Misik) will pinch-hit for him. Meet at 3:15p on Saturday, July 25, in the parking lot of Jessica's Restaurant, in Roscoe. We will leave by 3:30p for a mystery dinner destination.

Check our Web site for dates and times for August and September. These updates will also be published in the July newsletter.

BMW MOA National Rally (July 16-19)

The BMW MOA's National Rally will be July 16-19, in Johnson City, TN. See the MOA magazine, "ON," for details.

RA National Rally (July 23-26)

The BMW RA's National Rally will be July 23-26, in Canaan Valley, WV. See the RA magazine, "OTL," for details.

Going to a Rally this Summer?

This is a reminder that, if you find yourself at a regional or national rally, be sure to look for Dan Boon. He'll have the club flag flying proudly. Dan's goal is to let people know that our club attends their events, just as they come to our Flea Market/MotoExpo. Check the bulletin board, at the rally, for directions to his "hospitality tent."



Favorite Roads

What's your favorite one-hour loop in this area? Joe Misik is preparing a special kind of ride for later in the year, and he's looking for your favorite roads. You can help out by sending him an e-mail to let him know. Loops running south and east are especially needed, but other directions are okay, too.

Two-Wheel Tuesday

The first Tuesday of every month is Two-Wheel Tuesday, held at 7:00p at the Culver's in Bevidere. Join us for some conversation and tire-kickin'.

Play-Hookie Friday Ride

If you can sneak out for a ride on Fridays, join our Play-Hookie Friday Rides. Meet other members at 11:00a the last Friday of every month, at the McDonald's on Winnebago corners, and go for a day's ride. See page 1 for John Scheub's write-up on the May ride.

President's Corner

—Posted on our Web site

For Jeff Sluiter's most recent letter (dated May 11, 2009), see the May issue of the Rider's Brief, or go to our Web site.

Club Web Site

(www.blackhawkbmwclub.org)

This is a standing invitation to visit our club Web site. Mike Gunderson, our webmaster, is always working to improve its content and appearance, and he's done a great job!

What you can find there:

- An introduction to our club.
- Info on our Flea Market / MotoExpo.
- A message from our Prez.
- Copies of our current and past newsletters.
- Pictures from our past rides.
- A list of our club officers, along with their contact info.
- A page of links to area BMW motorcycle dealers and other interesting BMW sites.
- A calendar of club events. You can also download a PDF copy of our 2009 Club Calendar here, either in color or black and white.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for our Web site, drop a line to Mike Gunderson, our Web maste!

Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes from the business meeting of May 21.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30-ish. Twenty-one members and Zara Bradley attended.

Treasurer's Report

Checkbook Balance: \$. This includes all the income from the Flea Market/MotoExpo, before paying out expenses.

Flea Market/MotoExpo Financial Report: Still waiting for insurance bill – around \$. The report will be in the next newsletter. This year the vendor fees were almost as much as what was taken in at the gate. We had 54 vendors. Will end up being a good year because of the vendors and not giving away \$ as in previous years.

Visitors

Bruce Weidel (Widell –ed.), this is the third event he has participated in. He was voted in as our newest member.

Mail

Iowa Rally the second weekend in June. In the Iowa City area. Pure Stodge.

OLD BUSINESS

Flea Market

Earve thanked all the members who worked that weekend. Have a few things to iron out for next year. Vendors wanting to come in at 9:00 a.m. Kitchen went smoothly. Pancakes went over well. Talked about sending out a thank you to the vendors who were at our flea market. In the letter, include the dates for next year's flea market. Mike had a thank you to the vendors on our website on Sunday night of the flea market. Suggestion to have five club members staff the entrances to the building. Suggestion to use wrist bands vs a stamp. Next year take care of the gate at the building. Recycle next year by using a cardboard box with a round hole. 50/50 – Thierry said that a few people were unhappy with the way that the prizes were done. Only three raffles. Suggestion to spend the next twelve months getting door prizes to raffle off. Door prizes on Saturday also. Extra incentive to the vendors to provide a door prize. Offer to give them a reduced price gate admission. This can be thought about over the course of the next year. Suggest Dan Boone take this to the rallies he attends. The \$ from the 50/50 will go to the Old Stone Church food pantry in Rockton.

\$ taken in from camping fees. A lot of people were upset about the 20% fee at the consignment table. Need communication to establish what the fee is so that all club members know what the answer is. Will have signs up next year to let them know what the % is. Suggest heads of committees type up a sheet as to what needs to be done - duties, job description. We'll make it clearer on the explanation of what we are doing for next year's flea market. We ended up with about 75 forms with e-mail addresses. The biggest complaint was the public address system. Going to buy a bull horn next year.

Rides

Club ERC - all set. June 20th Tim and Gary are going to be doing another one at Rock Valley College at the same time.

Two Wheel Tuesday – Jeff was the only one there. Culver's in Belvidere.

Hookie Friday - meet at 11:00 a.m. at McDonald's at Winnebago Corners.

NEW BUSINESS

Rides

Paul Bunyan Ride on Monday. Meet at Love's truck stop on Rockton Road in Roscoe.

When you click **calendar** on website it will go to events.

Joe is going to do one and possibly a couple of Wisconsin **Rustic Road rides** this year.

Progressive dinner ride was proposed. Start at Sluiters for appetizers. Mike and Marlisa will volunteer their house, dessert at Brauer's. We need one more location.

June 20th is **Four-S Ride**.

By-Laws

By-laws require attendance to three club events before being considered for membership to our club. Discussed requiring a minimum of events for members to attend in order to retain membership. Decided not to require this at this time.

Next Meeting

Next meeting in June: Picnic at Kieselberg Forest Preserve on Swanson Road. Bring a dish to pass, table service, and drinks. Meat will be provided.

NO CLUB MEETING IN JULY.

Club Anniversary

35th anniversary of Blackhawk BMW Club– Thierry Leonard suggested setting up bikes in the air field of a friend of his, and have someone take pictures of us from his plane.

50/50

\$ purse. I forgot who won. (Bill Hedgspeth was the lucky winner. –ed.)

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Sluiter

Club Secretary





*A Blast from the Past!
Pictures from Our 2007 Paul
Bunyan Ride (pg 1 of 2)
-Photos by Bill Hedgspeth*

*More Pictures from Our 2007
Paul Bunyan Ride - Check out
these wild junk sculptures!
-Photos by Bill Hedgspeth*



Jeff Dean's Web Site

<http://bmwdean.home.att.net/index.html>

Have you ever visited Jeff Dean's Web site? If not, check it out! Jeff is one of the all-time experts on BMW motorcycles and good riding practices, and a look-see is well worth the time. Here's a short list of the topics he covers, to wet your interest ...

- BMW motorcycle Eye Candy
- The wonderful "slash-2" BMW motorcycles from 1955—1969
- A 1960s hot rod — the BMW R69S
- The beautiful and rare vintage BMW sport bike, the 1954 R68!
- Check this out: five shaft-drive opposed fours!
- What the heck is an Earles fork?
- Tim Stafford and the Art of BMW Motorcycle Restoration
- 1965 "Happy for a Lifetime" ad — engaging BMW "If you want to be happy for a lifetime, ride a BMW" ad from 1965 (1553 by 2085 pixels).
- Do you see what you think you see? "Inattentional blindness" — read this and you might look again!
- Should you wear a full-face helmet? Ask 1.1-million-mile BMW motorcycle rider Dave Swisher, of Bowling Green, Virginia, what his opinion might be. Check out what happened to his helmet!
- What simple thing can most motorcyclists do to reduce their collision chances by 24%? Click here for the answer.

The "Dean" of Motorcycle Web Sites!
Dedicated to BMW's shaft-driven motorcycles

by Jeff Dean

Today is Monday, June 15, 2009
Last updated March 16, 2009

Industrial Heritage

Friend of the Marque

BMW motorcycle Eye Candy

The wonderful "slash-2" BMW motorcycles from 1955—1969

A 1960s hot rod — the BMW R69S

The beautiful and rare vintage BMW sport bike, the 1954 R68!

Check this out: five shaft-drive opposed fours!

What the heck is an Earles fork?

See photos and read info on the BMW R1200RT

Tim Stafford and the Art of BMW Motorcycle Restoration

Joe Seliga and the art of the wood-and-canvas canoe

- Click here to go to Dean's Selected BMW Motorcycle Links
- See illustrated BMW motorcycle accessories
- See illustrated Craven's historic saddlebags for slash-2s
- The Cee Bailey BMW motorcycle windshields. The best ever?
- Should you wear a full-face helmet? Click here to see.

Photos of BMW motorcycles below, clockwise from the upper left

Blackhawk Region BMW Association
P.O. Box 1823
Rockford, IL 61110