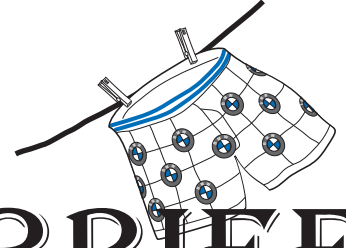


The Blackhawk

RIDERS' BRIEF



www.blackhawkbmwclub.org

May 2009

Next Meeting (May 21)

The next regular monthly meeting will be held Thursday, May 21, at Aunt Mary's restaurant in Rockford. For those of you who haven't been there before, Aunt Mary's is located just west of the intersection of Alpine Rd. and State St. Jeff will start the business meeting at about 7:30 p.m. If you wish to have supper with your fellow members and guests, get there around 6:30 p.m.

Flea Market / MotoExpo

On behalf of the Flea Market / MotoExpo Committee, a big "Thank you!" to all of you who helped out at this year's event! In spite of the drippy weather outside, the atmosphere inside the exhibit hall was rather sunny and pleasant.

The biggest success story this year was the change to a two-day event. This was our first year to be open to guests on both days, and attendance on Saturday was pretty decent, considering the rainy weather. I think it's safe to say that had we only been open on Sunday, our attendance figures would have really been hurting.

In case you're wondering how we did financially, with this year's event, we are not ready to publish the final report because we are still waiting for bills for the electricity, insurance, and pop. See next month's newsletter for the complete report.

Thanks to your efforts, all our vendors and guests seemed to enjoy the chance to:

- Buy that long-needed bike part.
- Sell that long-unneeded bike part they had stashed in the barn.
- Visit with friends they hadn't seen since last season.
- Tell "war stories" with their buddies while munching down a plate of pancakes, or biscuits and gravy, or brats, or chili-dogs, or ...

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 April meeting that the course was full. However, he urged anyone else who is interested in the ERC to just show up that morning, in case there are no-shows at our class, or the other ERC being held there that day.

4S Rides (Starting Sat, June 20)

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 much-missed BMW Motorcycles of Rockford. The dates for these rides are:

June 20 (Sat)

July 11 (Sat)

August 15 (Sat)

September 19 (Sat)

Meet in the parking lot at Jessica's restaurant, in Roscoe, at 3:15p for a 3:30p departure. Occasionally the location and time may change, so be sure to check for updates in future newsletters, or on our Web site.

Next Month's Meeting: Thu, May 21

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 pmsik@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)



GS/Dual Sport Ride (Sun, June 14)

Jeff Fink will be leading a trip to the GS/Dual Sport Ride on the Tri-County ATV Trail, from Monroe WI to Mineral Point WI. The ride will depart Jessica's restaurant, in Roscoe, at 8:00a.

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.

Favorite Roads

Joe Misik is preparing a special kind of ride for later in the year. You can help out! Just send him an e-mail to let him know your favorite roads, especially those running south and east, but any direction is fine.

Two-Wheel Tuesday

We will have Two-Wheel Tuesday again, to be held at 7:00p the first Tuesday of every month, at the Culver's in Bevidere. Join us for some conversation and tire-kickin'.

Play-Hookie Ride

Also back for another year is our Play-Hookie Ride. Skip the yardwork and 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.

Dan Boon, Rally Meister

Dan Boon has set a goal to visit a bunch of rallies this year, and he'll be showing our flag. If you find yourself at a regional or national rally, be sure to check the bulletin board for directions to his "hospitality tent" and look him up. He'll have the club flag flying proudly.



RA Rally Adventure Rider Clinic, July 23-26, Canaan Valley, WV

Here's a notice that Jeff Sluiter received from the BMWRA, about a special adventure rider clinic that will be given at this year's RA Rally:

This course consists of 4 hours of seminar and off-road motorcycle riding instruction on a closed course that has been groomed for beginners, yet has challenging areas for more advanced riders to hone their skills. The course enables riders to transition from the basics of off-roading to the more complex techniques needed for multi-day trips

on dual-sport machines. This course combines the skill-building of the basic off-road course with advanced techniques for single track and obstacles.

You'll learn skills that enable you to transition from asphalt to double track, single track, and fire trails. The fundamentals of straight lines, turning, body posture, and braking are combined to handle obstacles, stream crossings, and tight single track.

We'll teach you the fundamentals and demonstrate real-world challenges so that riders can assess terrain and risk, then make good choices using skills practiced here. It's a course that builds confidence and breaks down barriers without destroying you and your gear.

There will be four classes offered during the rally, including one on Thursday afternoon, two on Friday, and one on Saturday morning. Morning classes will begin at 8:00am and run till 12:00 noon. The afternoon class will begin at 1:00pm and run till 4:00pm. Classes will be assigned on a first come, first served basis, so register now to confirm a spot in your preferred class!

BMW RA Rally Adventure Rider Clinic Details Length: 4 hours (¾ day) Age: 6 years old - Adult. Class Sizes: maximum of 10 students. Motorcycle: bring your own motorcycle. Minimums: Safe off-road or dual-sport motorcycle with appropriate tires for dirt riding and fuel for 4 hours of riding, spare spark plug and basic tool kit (plug wrench, etc), DOT helmet, jacket, sturdy pants, gloves, eye protection, over-the-ankle boots. Hydration packs (CamelBak, canteens, etc) are recommended for all seasons. Long sleeves recommended for summer. Location: BMW RA National Rally in Canaan Valley, WV

Price: \$75

To register, or for more information, please visit www.motomark1.com/dbsra.html

Below may be cut if there's not enough space...

MotoMark1 Adventure Rider Clinic. Sgt. Mark Brown, aka MotoMark1, has been a North Carolina State Highway Patrolman for over eighteen years and is the training coordinator within the Special Operations Motor Unit. He is also the lead police motor instructor for North Carolina State Highway Patrol and when not on his R1200RTP, Mark can often be found helping 'civilian' students understand the finer points of off-road riding.

Fortunately for the RA, Mark has agreed to teach several 4-hour adventure riding clinics designed around his eight hour MSF-certified class. If you have aspirations of taking your GS to Baja, Copper Canyon or even on a local fire road, consider Mark's clinic as an investment in your future. Regardless of your skill level - beginner or advanced - Mark and his instructors work with each rider to help them identify and improve any shortcomings. This

is accomplished by working on a number of essential and fundamental off-road skills that include, but are not limited to, posture/riding position, turning, riding over obstacles, climbing, traversing and descending hills, and proper braking techniques. Each exercise is also designed to build confidence and foster a positive mental attitude, which, in the end, facilitates learning. As a result, everyone improves.

President's Corner

—Posted on our Web site

May 11, 2009

Greetings, all Blackhawk Region BMW Association members and guests.

Our weather in the Midwest seems typical this season. One day it is 80 degrees and a couple of days later it is 50 something with chances of more rain. We must pack our gear accordingly even on day trips in order to remain comfortable.

I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to the 500 plus people that made it to our 2009 BMW Flea Market and Moto Expo. We hope you found some good deals and your overall experience was a positive one. Mother Nature gave us one good day and one challenging day but we have dealt with that before. The fact that so many of you decided to attend is proof that such an event still has value for you in this electronic age.

Please let us know what you liked at this year's event and what you think needs some future consideration. Our success and improvement relies on feedback from the vendors and customers. We already have several ideas for making the 2010 event an even better experience. We hope making the Flea Market / Moto Expo being available to everyone on Saturday as well as Sunday was a move in the right direction. I personally heard nothing but good comments about extending the event into Saturday. We also hope you were happy with the amount and variety of vendors that attended. This is something we already are working on to make next year's event successful. We did have a few 'glitches' this year but we will figure out how to resolve them before next season.

Next year will be our 25th anniversary of the Flea Market / Moto Expo. Please mark your calendars now for the last weekend in April 2010.

Have a great 2009 riding season and be safe out there. We are 70% more prepared to handle risks on the road if we attend a safety course, so perhaps, include that either at a rally you are attending or within your own state.

Sincerely Jeff Sluiter

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 master (mrgvideo@aeroinc.net).

Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes from the business meeting of April 16.

Treasurer's report: The club took in \$ at the Spring banquet. The balance in our checking account is \$.

Guests at our meeting included Jerry Valbol, a friend of Tim Bradley, Bruce Widell, brother of Michelle, and John Sorenson of Oregon. Michelle and Quint (that's Quint Wehmer—*editor*) were voted in as new members.

Flea Market

Twenty-nine vendors had pre-registered and we learned of five more at the meeting. This information will appear on our website. Saturday a.m. the trailer is being loaded at Brauer's house. Allen is going out at 9:00 a.m. to clean the kitchen at the fairgrounds and needs helpers. Committees and their chiefs include Consignment table - Joe Misik, Registration table - Earve Brauer, 50/50 - Thierry Leonard, Kitchen - Becky Brauer and Dawn Goltz, Security - Dennis Klankie (Klenke—*editor*), Rolf Schoelkopf, and Gary Pasche, Clean-up - Roy Gregorson (Gregersen—*editor*). At the fairgrounds, cold food and cleaning supplies will be unloaded first. After cleaning the kitchen, the trailer will be unloaded. Be sure to tell the club cashier that you are going to eat, so we can keep track of

food. Bring your roasters and 30-cup coffee pots. Wear a hat and apron in the kitchen. Take off your apron when using the bathroom. Wash your hands when you come back into the kitchen. Leave serving spoons inside the roaster. Sunday afternoon - building must be cleaned. Bring gasoline powered leaf blowers if you have one. A thank you to vendors will be posted on our homepage for a few weeks after the flea market. Raffle tickets for 50/50 - Every time we collect \$100, we will draw a ticket and all tickets will be dumped. Must purchase new ticket for the drawing. Door prize drawing is at 2:00 on Sunday.

ERC

June 20th. The class is full but come anyway as there are two ERCs going on.

Mileage awards

Bob Goltz - 26,445 miles, Rolf Schoelkopf - 24,398 miles. Twelve participants turned in mileage. The club average was 11,876 with Earve Brauer winning at 10,696 miles.

Spring Banquet

Thanks to Jerry Sandine for planning the Spring banquet.

NEW BUSINESS

Club Anniversary

2009 is the 35th anniversary of the Blackhawk BMW Club. We discussed ideas for doing something special to celebrate, which included a 70's party, a commemorative party, a photo of all our bikes arranged into the number 35.

National Rally

National Rally is July 16-19, 2009. There will be NO meeting in July.

Two-Wheel Tuesday

First Tuesday of every month we meet at Culver's in Bevidere at 7:00 p.m.

Play-Hookie Ride

The last Friday of every month members meet for a play-hookie, day ride at the McDonald's at Winnebago corners.

Spring Slimy Crud

Sunday, May 3 is the Slimy Crud. Club members are gathering at Pine Bluff Wisconsin and will ride to Leland, Wisconsin. Meet at 7:00 for breakfast and leave by 8:30.

Wild Goose Run

Jeff Fink's Wild Goose Ride will be posted on the website.

Favorite Roads

Send Joe Misik an e-mail letting him know your favorite roads, especially south and east, but any direction is fine. The tour directors are in the planning stage for a ride.

50/50

Bob Weir won \$ in tonight's 50/50.

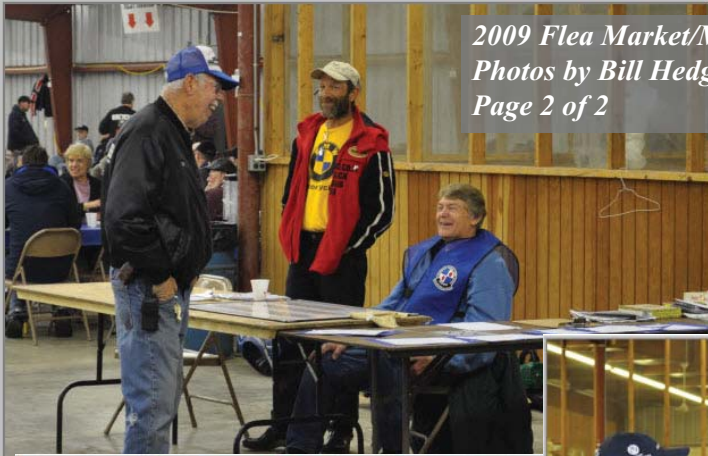
Next Meeting

Next month's meeting is May 21st at Aunt Mary's in Rockford.

Respectfully submitted,
LeeAnn Sluiter, Secretary



2009 Flea Market/MotoExpo
Photos by Bill Hedgspeth
Page 2 of 2



2009 Flea Market/MotoExpo
Photos by Paul Misik
Page 1 of 2





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