



BMW Club of Houston, LTD

BMW MOA #12
BMW RA #287

Vol. 1, No. 2 March, 2005



Mis toallas son sus toallas! Mike Murphy hosts another Tech Day.

Mike Murphy Hosts Tech Day

By Beverly Ruffin

Mike Murphy opened his heart and his garage to club members anxious to bond with their motorcycles. There was a seemingly endless supply of hot dogs, chips, drinks and good company. Participants were limited only by their imagination. Even the shop towels were abundant!

BMW MOA - Club Liason

By Robert Cline

BMW MOA president, Larry "Hawk" Hawthorne, in the February 2005, *BMW ON* magazine, introduced Robert "Koop" Cooper as the new Chartered Club Liaison.

Koop lists active communication between the local club leadership and the BMW MOA as the key factor to understand and relate the needs of the local clubs' expectations and insure that these needs are being met.

Through active communication and polls of both the BMW MOA leaders and local club leaders, Koop, hopes to find the top priorities and to understand where the goals between the organizations cross. Koop says "I am hoping the goals between the two [levels of our membership] will be the same, but I have always found that it is best to ask the customer what they want, as it may not always be what you think they want."

Koop advises to put serious thought into the list of goals and be prepared to support him on making these goals a reality. Communication, Koop says, has to go both ways.

Contact Koop at clubs@bmwmoa.org, or directly at k12koop@gmail.com.

Events Calendar

March 2005

Every Sunday - Breakfast with the Beemers.

10th: ClubBusiness Meeting.

13th: Club ride. - TBA

APRIL 2005

Apr 11

MOA Mileage Contest Begins

Apr 14th: Club Business Meeting, 8:00 PM, Hickory Hollow Restaurant, 101 Heights Blvd, Houston. Members gather around 7:00 PM to eat and socialize before the meeting.

Apr 16, Sat. MSF - Experienced Riders Course - Motorcycle Training Center, Rosenberg, Tx: 7:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Exclusive for Houston BMW Club members. Class size limited. The \$75 fee is non-refundable and is required to reserve your place in the class. Register by phone: (972) 918-9807. Contact Beverly Ruffin for additional information.

Apr 17, Sun

Monthly Club Ride. To be announced.

Apr 22-24, Fri-Sun

TEXAS NATIONAL BMW RALLY, Lake Belton, Cedar Ridge Park, 10 miles west of Temple, Texas, off TX Hwy. 36. A camping, no frills rally organized by the BMW motorcycle clubs of Texas. For more info, contact Mike Moon (817) 237-6508.

Apr 23, Sat Lone Star BMW/Triumph Open House, Austin, TX

May, 2005

May 6-8, Fri-Sun Fourth Annual 'Ride the 3's' BMW Motorcycling Event, Leakey, TX. Headquartered at the Frio Canyon Lodge (FCL) (NE corner of TX83 and

Annual Advertising Rate for Display Ads

Business Card:	\$100.00
1/4 Page:	\$200.00
1/2 Page:	\$300.00
Full Page	\$400.00

Classified Advertising:

Classified advertising is free to Houston BMW club Members. Non-members may advertise BMW motorcycle items only. All classified ads run for 3 issues unless renewed.

Monthly rates for Display ads available upon request

TX337). GPS: N29.43.454 W99.45.792. Phone: (830) 232-6800. E-mail: FCL@HCTC.net. Overflow accommodations at Leakey Springs Cabins and River Haven Cabins, 1 block South, 2 blocks West of FCL. Phone: (830) 232-5400. E-mail: rhc@hctc.net. Meet for cocktails and discussion of events on the veranda at FCL 5pm on Friday. Saturday evening Cocktail Party @ 5pm then Italian Dinner under the Gazebo at FCL. \$19.50 for catered meal of chicken piccata over fettucinni, Ceasar salad, green beans, bread, Italian cream cake, coffee and tea. (Includes tax and gratuities). RSVP to Floyd Crow if you intend to eat. Contact Floyd Crow in you are planning to participate.

May 12, Thu BMW Club of Houston Club Business Meeting, 8:00 PM, Hickory Hollow Restaurant, 101 Heights Blvd, Houston. Members gather around 7:00 PM to eat and socialize before the meeting.

May 15, Sun Monthly Club Ride. To be announced.

June, 2005

June 9, Thu. BMW Club of Houston Business Meeting 8:00 p.m. Premeeting social begins at 7:00 p.m.

June 12, Sun: Monthly club ride. To be announced

June 18-19, Sat-Sun: Annual Summer Soltice Ride. Leave TX/LA Visitor's Center, mile marker 880 at 6:15 a.m. Make reservations at Super 8 Motel (1-800-800-8000) in Anthony, TX (Mile Marker 0). Contact Berverly Ruffin for additional information.

Continued page 8

President

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Vice President

Vacant position

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BMW Club of Houston, LTD

Treasurer's Report

By Charlie Storer, Treasurer

February, 2005

Balance on Jan. 31, 2005 **\$5,994.28**

Receipts

Advertising	600.00
Membership Dues	108.00
50/50 Drawing	36.00

Total Receipts \$744.00

Expenses

Name Tags	(111.56)
Christmas Party 2004	(65.45)

Total Expenses (\$177.01)

Balance on February 28, 2005 **\$5,314.20**

Spotlight on New Members

By Beverly Ruffin

They're quite distinctive. They each ride 2003 K1200's. He's on a GT and she sports around on an LT—with a Hannigan sidecar, no less. They are not who you might think of as typical BMW riders. In fact, there is nothing typical about them at all.

She grew up on the West Coast, he on the Third Coast. But they were both service brats and had much in common. They moved to Houston in 1975 and in July 1981 purchased their live aboard cutter, *Scudder*. They are Jimmie and Joan Buchanan and they have made Kemah and the Watergate Marina their home ever since.

Like many of our generation, he started riding motorcycles in junior high school; she, on the

Spotlight (Continued.)

other hand, didn't get started until a few years ago—1995 to be exact. They didn't start out riding BMW's, but they switched as soon as they could. Jimmie came around in June 2003 with his purchase of the GT. He then persuaded Joan to trade *in* (dare I say "*up*") her '99 Harley Road Glide and HD sidecar for an LT the following December. They both joined our club in August 2004.

You could say that they are reformed Harley riders at heart. Well, maybe not completely reformed—he still has his '99 HD Road Glide. But they are enthusiastic motorcycle riders and that's what counts. In a slow year, they put 10,000 miles on the bikes; 20,000+ in a good year.

Joan is a group insurance underwriter for Aetna; Jimmie is a one-man show dba, Buchanan Marine, handling everything from the bright work to diesel engines.

They are both avid sailors. Often crewing on a Trintella 42, they have crossed the Gulf numerous times to Florida and Mexico. They are quite happy aboard their Westsail 32 with their Schipperke, Tenzing. But Jimmie confesses that lately they've started looking at landlubber accommodations of the more traditional type.

Editor's Corner

Newsletter Articles & Assistant Editor sought

Would you like to contribute to the newsletter? If you have an article, or idea for articles, please submit them to the Editor. In particular, this Editor would like to solicit from the membership, an assistant Editor (or Assistant Editors). For an article to appear in any given month's edition, please submit to the editor's email address on, or before the Friday following the business meeting. Thank you. Robert Cline, Editor: blackbeemer@fastmail.fm

Just Ruffin-it

A message from the president

By Beverly Ruffin

Simply stated, there are so many destinations, and so little time. There are destinations like Bike Week in Daytona, the Texas National at Lake Belton, a campout in Louisiana, the races in Alabama, the April Fool's Rally in Florida, the Dogwood Trail Rally in Mississippi, the Texas Hill Country Rally in Kerrville, the Trail of Tears Rally in Missouri, and the First Annual BMW Veteran Motorcycle Rally in Sturgis, Mississippi. And there are endurance rides like the 48-Plus, the 50-CC, the Border to Border, and Saddle Sores and Bun Burners to numerous to mention. Whew. It's exhausting just thinking about them all.

And as we stand at the threshold of our really great riding season, it's time to start planning

our rides—past time, actually. If you're like me, you need at least one significant ride a year—something that fits your riding style and satisfies your emotional needs. For you, it may be the national rally in Lima, Ohio. For me it's an endurance ride, like the Saddle Sore 5000.

I suspect that most of our members are limited by time or money. And some (like me) are limited by both. So it will come down to picking which opportunities to jump on and deciding which ones to let pass.

Planning is easy. Just grab a pencil and a calendar and check out our club website. Then turn to the *When and Where* section of your monthly ON magazine. If you're an adrenaline junkie like me, you'll also check out the IBA website. Count your vacation days (if you're cursed with the chore of earning your living) and list the holidays. Scheduling vacation and a ride close to a company holiday will add bang to your buck.

Continued on page 9.

California Superbike School

By Robert Cline

Club members Robert Cline, Linda Waalen and Harold Hollister enrolled in Keith Code's *California Superbike School* held at Texas World Speedway this month. Linda

rode her R1150RT. Riding was fun and provided a great opportunity to learn new skills. Code's school offers four levels of riding, each level building on skills taught in the previous level.



Code instructs Robert Cline on position transition.



Linda Waalen signs up for the Superbike School.

Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2005

By Charlie Storer, Treasurer

Balance on December 31, 2004		\$4,914.66
Receipts		
Membership Dues	\$24.00	
Club Promotional Items	\$28.00	
Total Receipts		\$52.00
Expenses		
Newsletter Copies	(\$164.54)	
Name Tags	(\$18.94)	
Misc.	(\$10.00)	
Christmas Party Expenses	(\$25.97)	
Total Expenses		(\$219.45)
Balance as of January 31, 2004		<u>\$4,747.21</u>

Just make sure that you account for those “don’t want to miss” events. If there’s time left over, include the long week-enders. And while you’re at it, don’t forget these important events:

- **Improving your Riding Skills.** The best riding plan always includes an opportunity to improve your riding skills. And there’s no better way to do that than by taking the ERC course from MSF. So we’ve arranged with the Motorcycle Training Center in Rosenberg to do just that—host the Experienced Riders Course exclusively for our club members. Space is limited, so reserve your spot now.
- **The National Rally of Texas** at Lake Belton—A renegade rally hosted each year by the BMW clubs across Texas. It started after a couple riders felt that the MOA continually overlooking our great state when planning “The National.” For the past few years, DFW’s own Michael Moon and Beaumont’s



Johanna Liska-Sabido, daughter of Danny Liska, presents to BMW Club of Houston.

Two Wheels to Adventure

By Robert Cline

Johanna Liska-Sabido, daughter of Danny Liska, author of *Two Wheels to Adventure*, published by Bigfoot Publishing Co, presented at the March meeting on her father's adventures.

Two Wheels to Adventure is a motorcycle adventure classic about Danny Liska's adventurous rides throughout the Americas on his R60 BMW. Johanna spoke about her father's adventures, while giving the audience a preview of many of his unpublished and stunning photographs. There is the promise of another book. Johanna is preparing another book for publication on Danny's trips throughout Africa, Europe and India. So, there's more on the horizon for the BMW adventure audience. Long out of print, *Two Wheels to Adventure* is now available in its second edition. It is available at Amazon.com or directly from Johanna. Email Johanna at mohobay@aol.com.

BMW Club of Houston, LTD

Meeting Minutes - March 10, 2005

By Ken Webb, Acting Secretary

Call to Order by Guy Pickrel @ 8 pm.

The minutes from the previous meeting were presented, seconded and approved.

Guests Daniel Seria and Johanna Liska Sabido, Daniel Oliva, Jeff Sweeney, Kirk Onken, Harris Wood and Wes Wessel were introduced.

The Treasurers report of a \$5,314.20 balance was presented and approved.

Marshall Dues has a ride planned for Sunday, 13 March. Meet at Brookshire Truck Stop at 9 am to ride to the Brenham Airport for burgers and 1950 ambiance.

A MSF Experienced Rider Course will take place in Rosenberg on the 16th of April. Cost is \$75 and well worth it.

New Members Jeff Sweeney (R1150R), Kirk Oncken (R1200C), Harris Wood (KRS & RGS), and Wes Wessel (K1200CTE) were voted into the club.

Ben Muller introduced Guest Speaker Johanna Liska Abido, daughter of writer, photographer and adventurer Danny Liska. Johanna talked about her fathers trip from Alaska to Argentina on his R60 back in 1958 when roads were scarce in some places but when adventure was abundant. Danny covered 69 countries on his BMW's, both of which Johanna still owns and plans to perhaps restore some day. Johanna also shared some personal stories about Danny Liska and Johannas mother, and on Danny's other trips around the globe, along with color slides.

Johanna has published a new addition of Dannys Book "Two Wheels to Adventure", and they are available from her at \$59.95. Contact Johanna @ mohobay@aol.com if you'd like a copy of the book.

Winner of the 50/50 drawing was Dan Greenlee, who is \$20 wealthier.

Meeting adjourned.

April 16, 2005



Wild West BMW

22515 Katy Frwy., Katy, TX 7450
(281) 392-8850

Open House & New Bike Introduction

COME AND SEE THE NEW BMW K1200RS R1200RT & R1200ST

ALL BMW ACCESSORIES ON SALE
BMW ACCESSORY CLOSE OUTS

LIMITED DEMO RIDES AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

The "First Lady" of Sturgis dies at 99

By Beverly Ruffin

Pearl T. Hoel, 99, of Sturgis South Dakota, died Sunday, February 27, 2005. In 2004, she remained a high-profile supporter of the Sturgis motorcycle rally, an event that draws as many as half a million bikers from all over the world.

She married Clarence "Pappy" Hoel in 1928. In the early 1930s, they had an ice business, Canyon Ice Co. Each winter, the Hoels would cut blocks from the holding dams in Vanocker Canyon and store them until summer. Then, they would sell block ice to Sturgis residents.

When electricity came to Sturgis, people abandoned their iceboxes. Pappy decided to get into the motorcycle business and acquired the Indian Motorcycle dealership.

In 1938, there were enough young bikers in the area, so Pappy staged a regional motorcycle race as a way to generate interest in Indian Motorcycles and the sport of motorcycling. Each year after the race, the Hoels and others would put on a barbecue for the racers and fans. They fed about 150 people that first rally. That is how the big Sturgis event began.

Pearl was known as the Rally's "Grand Dame" and at age 99, rode on the back of a motorcycle around the short track. She has appeared on national television, videotapes about the rally, and in newspapers and magazines

"First Lady" (Continued)

worldwide. She has been interviewed by National Geographic, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel and other media.

Pearl was recently nominated to the South Dakota Hall of Fame. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church. She was also a member of the Bernice Rebekah Lodge #36, the Meade County Extension Club, the Key City Riding Club, the General Federation of Women's Literary Club, an honorary member of the Jackpine Gypsies Motorcycle Club, the Retread Motorcycle Club, the White Plate Flat Trackers Club, and the Meade County Central Republican Committee.

What a woman.

New Club Members

The Club would like to welcome four new members to the roster this month: Wes Wessles (K1200LTE), Jeff Sweeney (R1150R), Kirk Oncken (R1200C), Harris Wood (KRS & RGS) .

Motorcycle Consumer New Features Morris Kruemcke

Club Member Morris Kruemcke is featured in April 2005 issue of Motorcycle Consumer News "M/C Bulletin" for his Iron Butt accomplishment setting a new record for riding to each of the lower 48 states. Morris rode 7146 miles in five days, eight hours and 52 minutes.

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Murphy's Tech Day

Where the Action Was



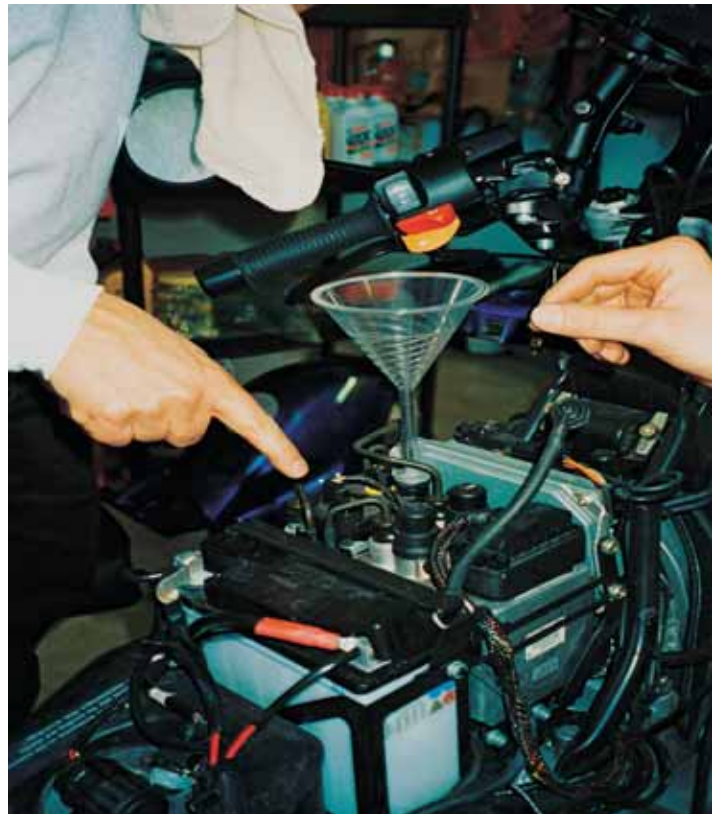
The action took place at Murph's Garage.



Ben Muller and Jesse Murphy break take a hotdog break.



Charlie Storer is having way to much fun at this.



Jesse Murphy instructs how to bleed the EVO brake system.

Ruffin-it

Continued from page 5

finest, Floyd Crow, have spearheaded this effort. Last year's rally was almost a rainout. But those of us who stuck it out had a great time. Not coincidentally, this year's rally will once again coincide with an Open House at Lone Star BMW in Austin.

- And if you don't have reservations for the **Fourth Annual "Ride the 3's"** event in Leakey, well you're almost too late. Accommodations at the headquarters (Frio Canyon Lodge) have been booked up for months. (See? There's that need for planning again.) At last check, there was overflow available at Leakey Springs and River Haven cabins. This event will take you over what some consider the best motorcycle roads in the US—certainly in the southwest. This is one of those events that spouses enjoy—even those not particularly fond of 2-wheel speed.

Without a good plan, you're likely to fritter away your time and money (not to mention engine wear and tire tread) on day rides and long weekends and feel discontent at the end of the riding season.

Snip-its

Life is short, enjoy it!!

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue. Or, as Dave Greenly aptly puts it: "Some times you're the bug, sometimes you're the windshield."

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.



Jesse Murphy balancing the throttle bodies.



This brake fluid needed changing

BMW Club of Houston, Ltd.
P.O. Box 7542
Houston, Texas 77270

Website: *bmwclub.org*

Like Fine Wine

Do you have a classic BMW motorcycle in storage that you would like to show off? BMW Motorcycles of North Houston (aka, the new kid in town) has built out two dedicated museum areas to display just that. So if you have a vintage BMW that is in showroom condition—no non-BMW modifications, please—give ‘em a call. Here is your opportunity to flaunt what you got! Contact Joe Krebs at (281)362-1900 (jkrebs@bmwmch.com) for more information.

Events

Continued from page 2

JULY 2005

Jul 14, Thu

BMW Club of Houston Club Business Meeting, 8:00 PM, Hickory Hollow Restaurant, 101 Heights Blvd, Houston. Members gather around 7:00 PM to eat and socialize before the meeting.

Jul 17, Sun

Monthly Club Ride. To be announced

Jul 21-24, Thu-Sun

2005 MOA INTERNATIONAL RALLY, Allen Fairgrounds, Lima, Ohio. More info at BMWMOA.

Business Meeting - every 2nd Thursday of the Month - 8 p.m. - Hickory Hollow - 101 Heights Blvd.

Social Gathering - every Thurs. 7 p.m. - Hickory Hollow.

Breakfast with the Beemers every Sunday 8 a.m. - two locations: (1) Goode Company Taqueria 4902 Kirby Dr. and (2) Denny's - FM 1960 @ Hwy 290.