
❖ Gulf South BMW Owners Club, Inc. ❖

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JUNE - 2003



A WORD FROM THE: *BIG MAN*

June, 2003 President's Message

The Gulf South Picnic was a great success and the near 50 members that showed up had a great time. The food was excellent and the lie telling was the best that I can remember for a long time. I did miss Ted Gillman's dog being chased into the muddy bayou...maybe next time!

If you have not noticed...it is really turning hot quickly! Dealing with the heat is a necessary evil here in the New Orleans area. Please be sure you drink lots of WATER and don't try and push yourself too far when making long trips. Stopping every 100 or so miles to stretch and drink water is the smart thing to do.

When making long trips out West or here in the Deep South I suggest the use of a Platypus or similar hydrating system. It is a small backpack like device fitted with a water bladder that can be filled with ice and water and refurbished at every stop. It comes with a piece of clear plastic hose that has a bite valve that enables you to drink as you ride. The pack is fitted to your back allowing the ice water mixture to both cool and provide cold drinking water at the same time.

Riding around in shorts and a tee shirt is not the answer to staying hydrated as you are depleting the body fluids at a faster rate through evaporation and you are now at risk from sunburn and as we all know severe road rash. Wearing your protective clothing keeps body fluid evaporation in check and provides the necessary safety wear and sun protection at the same time. Please remember to ride smart this summer and stay safe.

See you on the road;

Charlie

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FOR SALE

THE NEWSLETTER WILL RUN ADS FOR THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE MONTHS ONLY—ADS MAY BE RE-SUBMITTED AFTER THE THREE (3) MONTH LIMIT—FORWARD ALL ADS TO ADAM GRAFF-504-833-0690—AGRAFF3@COX.NET

For Sale— HJC Silver SYMAX Helmet-size XL Single-button release allows chin bar/face shield to be opened with one hand. DuPont Cool Max removable/washable liner. Excellent condition New on internet \$209.00, sale price \$150.00 ContactAlden @ aldenb@rtconline.com or 504-487-7865.(5/03)

This space is available to any member wishing to place a want or sell Ad.

LAW OFFICES OF JIM BATES

NOTARY

3236 METAIRIE ROAD

METAIRIE, LA 70001

PHONE AND FAX; 504-833-5998

E-MAIL: bateslawoffice@cox.net

I have represented individuals in the general practice of law for over 30 years, and would appreciate the opportunity to help you with your legal affairs. A substantial discount will be given to members of the Gulf South BMW Club.

Up-Coming Events

May 15th—Hot Springs, Ark. Roy and Karen Accord will leave Thurs, May 15 for a 2 leisurely day ride there and leave Sunday am for a 2 day return. Contact Roy @ 504-288-1133 for add'l info.

May 22nd-25th—Rocket City Rally

May 23rd -26th—49er Rally-Augurn, Ca. just east of Sacramento.

May 30th-June 1st.—Hiawatha Rally-Money Creek Haven Campground, Money creek, MN.

May 30th-June 1st.—Land of Oz Rally-Lycynge, Kansas at Linn County Park.

May 31st—Lexington , Miss. Bob Froboese's son will host a ride thru Miss. back roads. Leaving his house in Miss. at 9AM. Contact John Froboese for details, 662-834-0536.

June 12th-15th—Iowa Rally- Windmill Ridge campground, just south of Kalona, Iowa. They'll have 2 refrigerated **beer** trucks there.

July 10-13, 2003—BMWMOA International Rally in Charleston, West Virginia.

July 18-20, 2003—AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course near Lexington, Ohio.

Oct. 2nd-5th—BMWRA Rally— This rally will be held at the Barber Raceway in Birmingham. More info as the date gets nearer.

Frogg Toggs Rainwear

In the, never ending search for the perfect rain gear, this article was taken the May 2003 issue of 'RIDER' magazine written by Clement Salvadori. **Submitted by Alden Bienvenu**

When it rains, you want to stay dry...which is what these Frogg Toggs are intended to help you do. However the purpose and approach of this Froggy gear is somewhat different from regular motorcycle rainsuits.

The traditional suits pretty much seals you up between the neck and ankles, making sure that no rain gets in while you are hurtling along on your Yamaha FZ-1 for three hours in a driving storm. Frogg Toggs has a more casual approach, what I call the "touring bike" rainsuits, which presumes that you will have an adequately sized fairing or windshield in front. I like that. If I'm going to go cross-country on a Harley-Davidson Electra Glide or Honda Gold Wing, this is the suit I would take.

The original concept behind Frogg Toggs, which have been around since 1996, was to protect hikers and golfers from rain. Then Bill and Karen Marshall, the owners of the company, began advertising in the moto-mags and displaying their gear at the bigger motorcycle rallies. (continued on page 5)

Minutes for Gulf South BMW Club Meeting

May 7, 2003

Meeting was called to order at about 7:01 pm. Paul Vegas introduced our guests.

Old Business: Chuck House's Grand Opening of his new bike shop was well worth the trip.

As an added benefit, Chuck is a great cook also!! His shop is spacious and clean.

- The club picnic was a great success. The food was great and the weather was just right. We had about 50 members present and food sufficient that plenty was left over. Bruce Conlay suggested that we look into a change in venue for next year's picnic. He suggested Metairie Playground where we could all sit in more of a community fashion. The site rental is \$110. This is more than the \$40 we pay for Bayou Segnette, but the difference would be offset by the individual bike/car fee of \$2.00 that each individual currently pays. He will check further into this.

New Business: Charlie will be on the road for our next meeting as might Paul Vegas in which case, a substitute will be assigned to conduct the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Balance is \$1359.95

R.A. Report: No news. Rally still on for October 2-5th

MOA Ambassador's Report: No news. Lyle is recovering well from his recent surgery. He walks about 1 ½ miles a day. The brace will come off the beginning of July and he plans on boarding a plane to make it to the National Rally!!!

Newsletter Editor Report: SEND ARTICLES.

Web Site Report: John reports that we receive about 300-350 hits a day on our website.

Dealer's Report: Hebert's is presently over stocked in GS's and GS Adventures and R1150R and R1150R Rocksters. They now have Certified Pre-Owned Motorcycles. This adds service protection for an additional 24,000 miles to the original warranty.

Reports on Rides or Rallies: Kenny reported that the Georgia Mountain Rally was great with about 500-700 attendees. Weather perfect with only a couple of showers. Went to the Wheels Thru Time museum in Maggie Valley. It was impressive.

New Rides/Rallies:

- Road Atlanta will be May 16, 17, & 18.
- Hot Springs, Ark. Roy and Karen Accord will leave Thurs, May 15 for a 2 leisurely day ride there and leave Sunday am for a 2 day return. Contact Roy for add'l info.
- Rocket City Rally, May 22-25, Huntsville, Ala.
- May 31, Lexington, Miss. Bob Frobese's son will host a ride thru Mississippi back roads. Leaving his house in Mississippi at 9 am. Contact him for details. John Frobese, 662-834-0536.
- 49er Rally May 23 to 26th, Augurn CA, just east of Sacramento.
- Hiawatha Rally May 30 to June 1st, Money Creek Haven Campground, Money Creek, MN.
- Land of Oz Rally, May 30 to June 1st, LaCygne, Ks, Linn County Park
- Iowa Rally, June 12th to 15th. Windmill ridge Campground, just south of Kalona IA. They have 2 refrigerated beer trucks!!!
- Dock of the Bay ride on the drawing boards.
- RA Rally in October

50/50: Pot was \$16.00 and won by Charlie O'Malley who contributed it to the upcoming Club picnic expenses. Meeting was adjourned 7:41pm

Members present at the meeting held on May 7, 2003

Roy Accord, Michael Beebe, John Bettinger, Peggy Bienvenu, Mike Borchers, Bruce Conlay, David Fontenot, Bob Froboese, Jackie Graff, Adam Graff, Lyle Grimes, Maury Guillot, Brian Johnson, Victor Labat, Jim Markey, Charlie O'Malley, John O'Malley, Ken O'Malley, John Petty, "Dutch" Prattini, Debra Randolph, Randy Randolph, Tony Reso, Carmelo Rodriguez, Paul Vegas, Joe Wilbert

Guests present:

Gabriel Reynier, Skip Bordelon, Wayne Lyons, Kelly Garrison

Frogg Toggs Rainwear

(continued from page 3)

The material is three layers of polypropylene, which keeps water out and has a certain breathability. I presume that the Frogg name comes from the fact that the texture of the polypropylene resembles a frog's shin somewhat—maybe, maybe not. The seams are all "welded" by some ultrasonic contraption; they seem to hold up well, and I have felt no leaks after six months of intermittent use. The weight of a small-sized suit is less than 12 ounces.

The front of the jacket has a full-length plastic zipper, covered by a flap that secures with five snaps. The wrists/cuffs have elastic holds. A hood is attached, which rolls up into a neck protector. The pants have a drawstring at the elasticized waist, short zips and elastic at the ankles. Two slash opening at pocket level have single snap closures, allowing you to reach into your street pants pockets to get that forgotten ignition key.

These openings are really the essence of that "casual", or "touring bike" definition. In a howling storm on an unfaired bike, water will get in through the pocket openings, even seep a little through the front zipper; when you are behind a fairing, this won't happen, at least not while you're moving, or only happen a negligible amount.

The suit is easy to get on and off, always a major point with me. Who wants to struggle into raingear when you are in the middle of the Great Plains, cars coming with wind-shield wipers on, a black cloud racing toward you, and no cover within ten miles?

The price of a Frogg Toggs rainsuit is a reasonable \$59, and comes in six discreet colors. Sizes go from XS-4XL. If your local dealer doesn't carry them, contact Frogg Toggs directly at 1624 Blount Ave, Guntersville, Alabama 35976; (800) 833-4685, or run up www.froggshop.com on the old computer.

Georgia Mountain Rally

May 1-5, 2003 - 1,715 Miles

By: Ken O'Malley

I figured that two weeks at home after the Easter on the Blue Ridge gathering was all that I needed to satisfy the "War Department" demands to complete some of the projects on the "honey-do" list. The Georgia Mountain Rally with the steak dinner "cooked the way you like it" motto seemed to be just the ticket.

I needed to stop at a few northeast Alabama cities for the President's Tour of the Americas so I decided to leave home a day early on Thursday, May 1st. I managed to wander around the mountain roads of Alabama and get pictures in Cleveland, Madison and Grant. Grant was my favorite town hidden off the main roads in the mountains. After crossing over into Georgia to find a room for the night, Summerville was just the ticket with a \$37.50 clean and quiet motel located across the street from the town's popular family restaurant. There were severe weather warnings out for areas north of me but despite dark clouds Summerville remained dry that night.

The next morning I enjoyed a beautiful 140-mile drive across north Georgia to the small town of Hiawassee. The rally was located just outside of town at the Bald Mountain Park Campground where there was lots of grassy camping mixed in with the park's "permanent" campers who didn't seem to mind the plague of bikers. There were a few short rain showers in the afternoon but they did not deter the main rally activities of beer drinking, story telling (BS'ing) and eating. Speaking of eating, the beer was great for washing down the chili dinner provided by the rally organizers. There was a large bonfire accompanied by live music to while away the evening.

There were lots of great riding choices for Saturday but I decided to combine riding with a visit to the Wheels Through Time Museum of Vintage Transportation in Maggie Valley, North Carolina. The museum is located about 100 miles from the rally in the Smokey Mountains near the Blue Ridge Parkway, Cherokee and Asheville. The 38,000 sq. ft. facility houses over 250 rare antique American motorcycles and many rare antique automobiles. Two of the finest examples are a 1903 Indian motorcycle and a 1929 Duesenberg Roadster. Oh, I forgot to mention the Harley-Davidson powered airplane on display! It took me over two hours to ogle and photograph many of the machines and I think that I actually stopped to look at every one on display. Over 90% of the vehicles are run regularly and I was fortunate to hear a 20's vintage Henderson Four and a '47 Harley (with a muffler) running. The Harley was completely restored and is being raffled off to benefit the museum. I strongly recommend a stop at the Wheels Through Time if you are in the area or even if you are not and must take a detour, as it is unique and very interesting. The museum is open 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily, June through October and a reduced schedule during the remainder of the year.

I managed to make my way back to the rally before dinner (Rita taught me to never miss a meal!) at 5:00. After forming the required meal line common at all rallies we were given a raw steak to cook on a grill over a long open fire on the ground. If I must say so mine was done to perfection! I then got in the second line for the green beans, potato salad and bread and found a seat in the large pavilion with the other 500 or so rally-goers. As Dave Poindexter would often say, "it don't get no better". After the meal we had to endure the longest two-hour awards ceremony I have ever experienced at a rally... the only blemish on an otherwise fine rally.

On Sunday I headed out following my brother, Mike for breakfast at the local Shoney's then a ride on some of north Georgia's finest roads. We took our time getting back to Marietta and enjoyed nearly perfect weather and light traffic, as the "squids" were not on the road that early. We found time to enjoy more beer Sunday afternoon and then Mike grilled excellent hamburgers for dinner.

On Monday, after Atlanta rush hour traffic let up a bit I headed south on the Interstate through downtown. I had five stops to make for the President's Tour on the way back to Mandeville and managed all but one at the town of McKinley, Alabama that I was not able to locate. Despite the 100 or so extra miles on rural roads I made it home in time for dinner.

One man, two wheels-a million miles

By Bill Andrews submitted by Ken O'Malley

Mar. 26 - Charter Life member Lyle A. Grimes, like most of us, has a thing for riding. He must. How else could you explain over 1 million miles of saddle time in 52 years?

The 73-year-old from Westwego, Louisiana, started on his million miles at the age of 22. "I got my first real motorcycle in 1951," Grimes recalls. "It was an Ariel square four, but I didn' t get very far on it-maybe a thousand miles. The bike couldn' t hold a head gasket in it."

Since then, Grimes has owned many makes and models. But he says the real heavy mileage was logged on BMWs, which is how Grimes is able to accurately determine his achievement. You see, he' s also the current mileage coordinator for the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America (for the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America (BMWMOA)).

How long would it take to go 1 million miles? To achieve 1,000,000 miles in a hurry, you' ll need to ride at an average of 50 mph, 24 hours a day, for a little over 833 days straight. Or to put it another way, that' s approximately two years, three months and 13 days of constant riding.

If you' re getting about 5,000 miles out of a tire, you' ll need to replace it 200 times.

If you' re going 6,000 miles between oil changes, and your bike requires 3 quarts per change, you' ll need about 500 quarts of oil and roughly 166 oil filters.

"I' ve got the mileage all written down in a spiral bound notebook," he says. "I put 216,000 on brand ' X' bikes, like Hondas, Yamahas and a Triumph, but for the most part I' ve stuck with BMWs."

In fact, the bike that put him over the million-mile mark is his current ride-a 1995 R1100R with 297,000 miles on the clock.

Grimes does a lot of traveling, of course, but he says most of his miles stacked up from repeat trips to Oregon to visit his family.

Grimes love affair with German motorcycles began in the mid-1980s, when he was just looking for some good, reliable transportation, to ride up to Oregon and back with.

"In 1985, BMW was offering a three-year unlimited mileage warranty on their bikes," he says. "That' s the reason I justified the expense of that first BMW, so I bought a K100RT for roughly \$8,000. In those days, that was expensive."

But for his trips, he liked the added assurance.

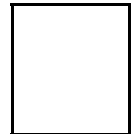
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The Want-Ads Section is free for any club member to advertise items for sale or items wanted.

Please forward all ads. to Adam Graff—504-833-0690—agraff3@cox.net—846 Helios Ave., Metairie, LA, 70005. These ads. are not meant to include items bought for resale. Paid

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 BMWMOA Charter # 161
 BMWRA Charter # 90
 AMA Charter # 6130



Our next meeting will be held on
June 4, 2003 at the
Piccadilly Cafeteria in Kenner .

