

## **BMWRSM Meeting Minutes: September 10, 2005**

There were 29 members in attendance at the September meeting on a gorgeous late summer day. I'm sure many riders took the long way home after the meeting.

### **President's Report:**

James Nice called the meeting to order and started our round of introductions.

He brought to our attention a letter he received from BMW regarding ABS brakes and potential failures after repeated aggressive braking combined with a low voltage battery. BMW indicated that these failures were only observed during training or ABS demos in which the ABS was engaged repeatedly.

BMW dealers are offering a free inspection of ABS brakes for bikes that may be affected. Contact Street Cycles and ask if your bike should be checked.

### **VP Report:**

Jim Salisbury was not in attendance at this meeting. Jim is our club Safety Officer and normally presents information regarding rider safety.

While on the topic of safety, Lia Gaudin who recently traveled to Alaska with her husband Ken, relayed a story of a rider who was hit by a bear and lived to tell the tale due to wearing good safety gear, especially his helmet.

Also, James Nice mentioned that he saw a new plug-in diode board taillight that can be programmed to flash in various sequences. It is much brighter than the standard taillight. See Ian at Street Cycles for more details.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Sandy Bliss informed James that we currently have over \$10K in our account with all of our bills paid. As a result, the Board has discussed the idea of using some of this money to pay for our annual Holiday Party in full, with no charge to the membership. The feeling among the members in attendance was that this was a good idea; however, the Board will need to discuss this before final approval is made.

Also, the idea of donating to the victims of Hurricane Katrina was mentioned. Since our Treasury is in good standing, the Board will most likely approve a donation in the club's name. While we have discussed the issue of club charitable donations in the past, and we have a budget put aside for donations, this event was unexpected and unprecedented.

### **Membership/Webmaster Report:**

Mike Cocks commented on our new message board since the old one was hacked. He informed us that in order to have our board hosted free of charge,

the site we use has a pop-up advertisement that comes up when accessing the board. Most pop-up blockers will catch it, and it is not a dangerous pop-up.

Also, in an unrelated note, Mike put forth the idea of using club funds to purchase some communal tools and equipment such as tire changing and balancing tools. He mentioned this as a club member, and not as a director to get a feel for the idea. The members in attendance agreed this would be a good idea, but naturally there would be many issues to settle, such as location, access, and liability. Mike will bring this before the Board for discussion.

### **Ride Boss Report:**

Unfortunately Don Lockhart had to leave before the meeting began, but he asked James to let folks know that the MBA Tour is in full swing. Check out more details on the website and see who is currently leading the tour.

If anyone has any late summer or fall rides planned, please let Don know at [rideboss@bmwrsm.org](mailto:rideboss@bmwrsm.org) and he will make sure it gets out to the membership.

### **Bar Harbor Weekend:**

The Mini Rally at Tom Raynor's is scheduled for September 24/25. Contact Don to RSVP if you are interested in going. More details are on our website.

### **Bikers With a Heart:**

Someone at the meeting (sorry, I didn't note who it was) mentioned the non-profit organization called Bikers With A Heart run by Vas Mihailoff. They run monthly "Rides for Cheer" for seriously ill or handicapped children and offer them rides. While their website says all are invited, they are particularly looking for riders with a sidecar rig willing to give a ride to a handicapped child. More information can be found here: [www.bikerheart.org/home](http://www.bikerheart.org/home)

### **Coats for Kids:**

Dave Manchester talked about the "Coats for Kids" charitable giving campaign. He is going to do more research on this for us, but he thought it would be a good idea if our club could generate some coat donations for kids and deliver them via sidecar rigs in early winter. He will get back to us with more details.

If anyone has any specific ideas for topics to discuss at the next meeting, let James Nice know and he will add it to the agenda. [prez@bmwrsm.org](mailto:prez@bmwrsm.org)

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