

November 2003 Meeting Notes

We had an incredible, unseasonably warm November 1st for our monthly BMWRSM meeting with temps hitting the mid to upper 70's!! It was great to see a parking full of BMW's so close to the end of the year! Several people went on rides in different directions after the meeting, taking advantage of the great riding day. We had about 33 in attendance, including our newest members John Bradbury, from Cumberland, riding a 2003 K1200GT (good choice of ride John!), and Ben Gibson from Portland (Scott Gibson's son) riding the F650 he bought from BMWRSM member Linda Lockhart. Welcome to these new members! I think VP Steve Garrett said we were up around 131 members for 2003, and in an email after the meeting, Steve informed me we already have 53 paid members for 2004! Thanks to those of you who have already sent in your dues. Those of you who still need to pay your 2004 dues can do so by visiting our site on the web and paying directly online via Paypal, or filling out the online form and mailing it to Steve Garrett at the address on the form. Thanks!

I also wanted to thank Steve for filling in for me at last month's meeting. It had been over a year since recovering from the fire at our home and Jane and I took a much needed weekend together at Caravan B&B in Moretown, VT. Caravan is owned by Dave Percival's daughter Penny and her husband John Sutton. John and Penny have been great supporters our our club, donating a free weekend for two to their excellent B&B to our rally. While I wasn't the winner of the free weekend, we had an awesome time and the foliage was wonderful. John & Penny are most gracious hosts and we really enjoyed our stay and will surely return. I highly recommend it as a great get away spot! Visit them on the web and take a look for yourself!

Everyone was reminded that the BMW MOA mileage contest ended 10/14 and forms MUST be received by Carol Patzer by 11/15/03. If you need your form signed, a club officer or BMW dealer can do it with a single signature, or any two other MOA members can do it for you. If you've lost the form, you can print one online by visiting the BMWMOA website.

Our webmaster was home sick with the flu. We wish you a speedy recovery Mike!

A tentative date was decided for our year end party. Last years party was held in January and the consensus was that it was good timing so folks didn't have to try to decide between other holiday parties. The 1st choice date is 1/17/04, with an alternate date of 1/24. Sharon Collin coordinated our use of Westcustago Inn last time, but advised they have changed hands and the prices have gone up a bit. She will be checking a couple other places and try to come up with some possibilities before the December meeting. If you have an idea for a place that could serve us well (must accommodate 50-60 comfortably) drop me an email, and I'll forward to Sharon (should be within 10-15 miles of greater Portland).

I reminded everyone of our member and friend Clarence Falarski who is in a Rehab Center in his hometown of Pinehurst, NC. A few of us rode down to see him the previous weekend and he was very glad to see us. I would ask your continued support in sending cards or notes to Clarence to say hello and wish him well. He still has a long rehab road ahead. The traction on his right leg must stay in place until at least 12/4, so he is far from out of the woods yet. Here's a reminder of his mailing address:

Pinehurst Health Care and Rehabilitation Center
Clarence Falarski - Room 101
PO Box 5309
Pinehurst, NC 28374

We were fortunate to have a couple of "visiting dignitaries" at the meeting. Bob McHatton, President, Granite State BMW Riders (and also BMWRSM member) took advantage of the fine riding day to pay us a visit. Great to see you Bob! Speaking of GSBMWR, check out their new website at <http://www.gsbmwr.org/> (If the handy work looks familiar... it should. Mike Cocks put it together for them. Nice job!) And, Rob Nye, Secretary, BMWMOA also joined us. Rob in also a

BMWRSM member and was on his new R1150GS. Rob brought us up to date on some of the goings on at the MOA. He mentioned that at least the next 3, possibly 4 rallies would NOT have a divided venue for the National rally as they did this year which seemed to be welcome news to most. Thanks for joining us Rob!

Our Ride Boss Jim Salisbury mentioned that Red Cross blood supplies are dangerously low these days, and encouraged all to try to find a few extra minutes to go in and give blood if possible.

Duane Snow from Street Cycles was also on hand and mentioned that he was hopeful that a couple trying to set a Guinness world record for most countries visited via motorcycle may be at Street Cycles this week, possibly Tuesday evening if things work out. If we get a confirmation, I'll send a note to all, or you can check with the Street Cycles staff at 781-4763. The website for the world record tour can be found at www.spiritsofadventure.com

And rumor has it that our Hermit Island "rookie of the year", James Nice was seen sometime after Saturday's meeting sitting in Duane's office at [Street Cycles](http://www.streetcycles.com) talking turkey on a new R1150RS (I was trying to work him into a K1200GT/RS even as paperwork was moving back and forth across the desk...).

That's about it for now. Next meeting is 12/6/03 at Cole Farms, 9AM. Ride safe, and watch our for the wet leaves! Pictures from Saturday's meeting have been placed on our website. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Don Lockhart
President, BMW Riders of Southern Maine
website: <http://bmwrsm.org>
email: prez@bmwrsm.org