

May Meeting Minutes

We certainly had a record setting May meeting! Steve signed up member number 100 for 2002 and we had 52 people in attendance for the meeting! Welcome to new members Mike Allen of Winterport who rides a 2002 R1150RT, Jim McDevitt of Scarborough who rides an R100/7, and Tom Raynor of Bar Harbor who rides an R1100RT and an R100. I think there are a couple more applications in progress at this writing. Welcome everyone!

Bill "Flameout" Parker ran the 50/50 raffle as Joe "Swap shop" Saunders was dealing with the flu. The winner was Dave Stone who split a \$60 pot with the club. Thanks to those who participated! (Dave thanks you too!) Joe wanted everyone reminded of the swap meet at the rally. If you have larger items, those of you local can make arrangements to get them to Joe, or just take a picture and description sheet to the rally and make arrangements for pickup after the rally. Joe wants everyone to clean out their closets and bring something for sale to the rally! Questions on the swapshop? More information [HERE](#) or Email Joe at JohnS48742@aol.com

New Directors:

We voted to accept all 5 people who had volunteered for the Board of Directors. They are as follows: Eric Davis, Mike Cocks, Jim Salisbury, Shawn Blair, and Buck Avant. I'm going to call a meeting of the board soon and I hope they're all ready to go to work! <grin> Thanks for stepping up to the plate and volunteering guys.

Hermit Island Rally:

We're barely a week away! Hardly seems possible. Bob Collin and his smooth running rally machine have been hard at work. Pete Beliveau has done a top-notch job on shirts, hats etc this year, and had the rally shirts for sale at the meeting... a long line ensued! I have a couple leads, but still nothing solid on a PA system. Even a decent boom box with microphone would do if anyone has any ideas, email me at prez@bmwrsm.org. More great news was that Jim Salisbury confirmed that Dave Percival WILL be available to host us at his museum as one of our Saturday rides! This is great news... thanks for paving the way Jim! Speaking of paving, Dave has just had the driveway paved, and depending on the weather, Jim said we may be asked to take our shoes/boots off before walking around in the museum.

Group Riding Presentation:

Cathy Rimm, State Coordinator for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) gave a very good talk on group riding dynamics. We tallied up how much riding experience was in the room and I think it was 1800 or more years... Amazing! Cathy showed a video and we followed along with a study guide type sheet and discussed each section. Lot's of good information was discussed. Many thanks to Cathy for making the chilly ride from Belfast, early in the AM to give this talk to the group. Very worthwhile!

A couple more items of note while not from the meeting.

Track Day at NHIS, 4/24/02:

A couple members asked me about Track Day. About 15 BMWRSM members attended the 2nd annual Track Day at Loudon. The weather was great (a bit nippy early in the AM). A bunch of us left Gray Toll commuter lot at 6AM, and we picked up riders in a few places on the way down. This years event was much better organized than last year. They were pretty clear up front, that if you weren't pre-registered, you wouldn't get in. Upon arrival, we all checked in and received a large black (BMW) bag with a bunch of goodies in it. Included were a hat, t-shirt, Video which included scenes from last years Track Day and other events, tire gauge, Track Day stickers and your personal number for your bike, a laminated name badge. Riders were divided into 15 groups of 12 and took turns on the track and in the slow riding class, which was excellent! You were pre-scheduled for all your events based on your number and group. Unfortunately, the oval part of the track was being paved, so we were relegated to the "upper" track only... but it was still a blast. The slow school was EXCELLENT. One of the instructors has spent 30+ years on the Metro Dade PD and over 25 of those on the MC squad. We all learned a lot about slow speed maneuvering which is far more difficult than tooling down the interstate at 70MPH. BMWNA put on another top notch event and is to be highly commended. A great job by Laurence Kuykendall (event coordinator), Marjorie Charney, and all the BMWNA staff. Thank you!!! (Photos available [HERE](#))

MSF ERC Class, 5/5/02

Well, we graduated 12 BMWRSM members from the 1st ERC class in the state for 2002. We all learned a thing or two during the class, and I personally was very glad to have had the opportunity. Cathy Rimm, State Coordinator, was a pleasure to work with and everything went very smoothly. I'll get some pictures posted soon! I also wanted to mention that I called my insurance agent, and found out that the ERC class qualified me for a 10% discount, and my AMA membership (which I bought to get a \$25 discount for the ERC class) got me another 10%. I think the ERC class is good for 3 years, so if you attended one last year and didn't let your agent know, it may be worth checking!

The spirit of the BMWRSM

Last but not least... I want to talk about why I love this club. The BMWRSM was founded in 1988 by a few individuals who wanted to share their love of riding, touring, BMW's, and friendship with other enthusiasts. I have found this most evident in our club, and want to give you a great example which happened during our May meeting. Many of you know Clarence Falarski, a BMWRSM member who comes to our rally each year from NC and works very diligently with Paul Emerson helping everyone register at our rally. Last week, I found a bike in NC that I really wanted to buy. After talking with the owner and seeing some pictures, I was convinced it was a good deal and I wanted to pursue it. I called Clarence and asked him how far away he lived from the town the guy lived in. Turns out it was less than an hour away and he said he'd be very happy to go look at it and test-drive it for me. So at 9AM, as I kicked off the BMWRSM May meeting, Clarence was arriving at this guy's house, and taking the bike for a ride (in the rain) as well as going over it with a fine tooth comb. His timing was good as he called my cell phone during the meeting just as I turned the meeting over to Bob Collin to talk about the rally. I got a glowing report on the bike, and the individual selling it from Clarence, and he even put down a deposit

for me and cemented the deal. I called the owner later that day and made final arrangements, and will be picking up my new K1100RS this Saturday in NC. Member Dave Swisher (recent recipient of BMWNA's 1.1 million mile award - see recent MOA news) found out we'd be traveling down his way to pick the bike up and extended an invitation for a meal and a room for the night if we needed one. It just doesn't get any better than this folks... This is what it's all about!

My riding buddy John Reimann is driving down with me for moral support and company on the trip. And this is Déjà vu for the 2 of us as we made a very similar trip in March 2001 to pick up my K1100LT, also in NC. Folks, I've been in a lot of clubs and organizations, but have not found this level of dedication, camaraderie, and friendship. I can't thank either of these guys enough. Clarence for taking time out of his busy schedule when he was about to leave the following day to start north for our rally, and John for his willingness to suffer 2 days of non-stop driving (and my snoring) to help me procure my purchase (of course John is also to "blame" for my purchase as he gave me the swift kick in the pants to actually go after it as I sat there drooling over the pictures of it). Anyways... I do ramble on. Sorry about that. I'm sure though, that many of you have similar stories... maybe not purchase related, but where someone went way over and above the call to help you out with your bike, a breakdown, or some other event. These stories would be great to share if you have them... send them to our hard working [webmaster](#) to be posted! Thank you Clarence, John and Dave! You guys are what it's all about!

As always, my electronic door is open to you by writing me at prez@bmwrsm.org
Please let me know if there are any errors, omissions, or corrections for these May meeting minutes. Ride Safe!

Don Lockhart, President, BMW Riders of Southern Maine