

BMWRSM August 2003 Meeting Minutes

For our August meet, we gathered at the home of Bill & Jeannie Parker in Bowdoinham. I think we had about 20-25 members there although I didn't take an official count. The weather looked dismal in the AM when I got up which probably dampened attendance a bit, but it had stopped raining by the time we were to head for Bill's house. Bill & Jeannie put on an excellent breakfast which was enjoyed by all. Thank you very much for having us! I posted a few pictures from the meeting on the website.

Coming up in the next week:

8/7/03 6PM Bob Collin will be leaving Kittery Maine to start an Iron Butt "48 Plus" ride, where he will touch all 48 continental US states and also Alaska in 10 days! I propose that this week, instead of the ice cream ride, you rsvp to Bob at 781-8095 or write to me at RGPC@aol.com Several people have written to me since I announced Bob's ride and asked me where the sendoff point is. Bob didn't tell me, so you'll need to write or call him to find out. But he will be leaving from his new house (don't forget he recently moved) between 4-4:30 that day. Bob sent us his tentative ride schedule and we'll post it on the web. We'll get back to an ice cream ride next week.

8/9/03 2nd annual Tri-state BBQ luncheon at Curtis BBQ, Putney VT. I've posted a ride on the ride board, with a 7:15AM departure from Exit 11 (ME Pike) commuter lot, with pickup spots at Reynolds Honda, Buxton and Hannaford's in Waterboro (both on 202). Please arrive with a full tank and an empty bladder! This will be a fun ride. Turnout was good last year for the first time event, and is expected to be even better this year. Email me if you have any questions. If it's a hot day, throw a swimsuit in your bag and we may be able to stop by our camp in NH on the way home and take a dip if there's interest.

Other club news:

On a sad note, Bob Collin told me he is stepping down as our DownEast Rally Chairman, so we're looking for volunteers who might be interested in taking this on. John Reimann and Pete Beliveau indicated they might work together but could use 1-2 more. Once we know who's interested, we'll have to all sit down and work out the details. I'd also like folks to be thinking about club elections. I've had 2 years as President, and it's time for someone else to take a turn at bat. I've really enjoyed the job, and have really appreciated everyone's support, but want to plant the seed now to get you thinking about volunteering for an office this year. If you want more detail, shoot me an email and we can chat.

We talked about rides that members had been on. Several spoke about the MOA rally, and I think the general consensus was that although they tried very hard, the format they used of spreading the venue around was not liked and the

extreme weather didn't help matters. Comments from attendees ranged from "It was OK" to "I'd never go again if it's going be like that". Next years rally is in Spokane WA, not far from Redmond where it was last year... Hmmmm. Do you think someone from the site selection committee lives in the northwest? About a dozen of us, who weren't crazy about driving into a furnace in the middle of July, decided instead of the MOA rally, we'd hit the Cabot Trail. We had some great riding weather, the roads on the trail are a blast and the scenery breathtaking. Bill Hayter, from the BMWONS group was gracious enough to meet us Friday morning in Truro and lead us around the trail. Neal Crosson and John Reimann had to drop out Friday as Neal had overheating problems on his R80, but they managed to limp home with his bike. They had an awful experience with BMW Halifax, calling there 4 times, explaining the emergency and long distance cell phone call, only to be put on hold indefinitely (4 times!!!!) and never got to talk with anyone for BMW service or parts. They're also a car dealer, and I guess cars come first! But I highly recommend the Cabot Trail if you haven't done it. Tourism has been down since 911, so they are very glad to see you, and the exchange rate is pretty good too.

New Bikes:

Member Rick Harris traded his 1 year old R1150RT at Max BMW and is now the proud owner of a 2003 K1200RS. Rick joined us on the ice cream ride last week and I snapped a couple pics which are posted in the members new bikes section. John Meisten has also purchased himself a new F650 CSA with photos posted also. Congrats guys!

Coming events:

August 18 - Iron Butt checkin at Reynolds Honda, Buxton (trying to get details, watch event list)

August 31st Owls Head Antique MC festival (watch ride board)

Sept 5-7 Finger Lakes

Sept 6 - BMW RSM meeting back at Cole Farms

Sept 12-14 BMW MOV Rally

Sept 18-21 Bar Harbor mini rally

That's about it for now. Remember to RSVP to Bob if you're interested in riding down to send him off on his 48 Plus ride! As soon as I get news from Sharon

during his ride, we'll get it posted on the web. (There won't be photos as Bob won't have time). I'll setup a day next week for an ice cream ride and send a notice out this coming weekend. Hope to see many of you this Saturday on the Tri-state BBQ ride!

As always, email me with any questions or comments at the email below.

Best regards,

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