

BMW Motorcycle Club
ASHEVILLE BMW RIDERS



The Blue Ridge Breeze

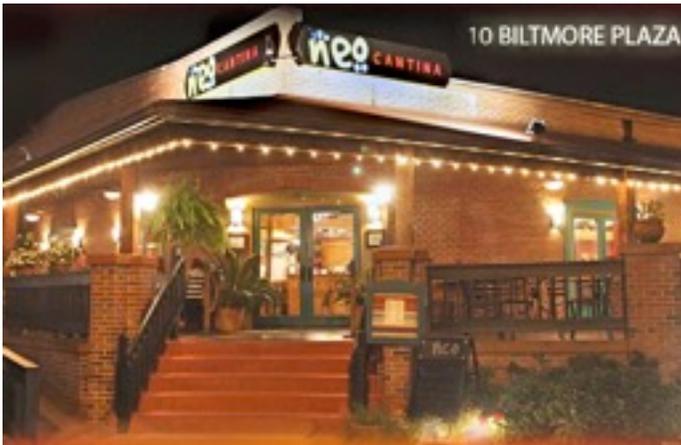
A Publication of the Asheville BMW Riders

BMWMOA Club #353 & BMWRA Club #339



February - 2012

February Meeting at Neo Cantina



The ABMWR February Meeting will be a dinner meeting at Neo Cantina on Tuesday, February 21st at 7:00 pm. We will have our own private room, with wait staff (room holds 30). Ordering will be from the menu, and everyone can receive their own checks. To help offset the room cost, we ask attendees to also donate a dollar "in the hat" when paying. Dinner in the room is limited to the first 30 who RSVP to our secretary, Wayne Zell, at secretary@ashevillebmwridders.org (unless you already signed up at the January meeting). After our cut-off of 30, other members can still eat at the restaurant in the public area. If this occurs, we'll do our best to socialize. Check out this unique restaurant in the historic Biltmore Village at www.neocantina.com.

Get your reservations in early to experience "Handmade Southwestern Cuisine with a twist of Asheville". We hope to see you there.

Asheville BMW Riders Schedule of Club Events

- 2/5 Sunday 11am Social Gathering**
South Asheville - Atlanta Bread Co
484 Henderson Road Asheville 28803
- 2/19 Sunday 11am Social Gathering**
South Asheville - Atlanta Bread Co
484 Henderson Road Asheville 28803
- 2/21 Tuesday 7pm Dinner**
Asheville Membership Meeting
Neo Cantina Restaurant
10 Biltmore Plaza in Biltmore Village
- 3/3 Saturday 9am Social Gathering**
Hendersonville, Atlanta Bread Co
147 Highlands Square Drive, Hendersonville
- 3/18 Sunday 9am Social Gathering**
Waynesville, Clydes Restaurant
2107 S. Main Street, Waynesville
- 3/21 Tuesday 7pm Membership Meeting**
Eurosport Asheville
30 Bryson Street, Asheville, NC 28803



Beemer Snow Plow... Courtesy of Perry Hebard

Mark Your Calendars Other Upcoming Events

February 25th 2012

Progressive Int'l Motorcycle Show
Charlotte, North Carolina

Any ABMWR members interested in riding, carpooling, or meeting up in Charlotte, please post in the "forums" section of our website (www.abmwr.org).

March 10-17th 2012

Daytona Speedweek
Daytona Beach, Florida

May 4-6th 2012

Georgia Mountain Rally
BMW Owners of GA
Hiawassee, GA

May 10-13th 2012

Asheville Bikefest and Blue Ridge Run
WNC AgCenter, Fletcher, NC
www.ashevillebikefest.com

May 17-20th 2012

RawHyde Arizona Adventure Rally
at the Overland Expo 2012
"Price is a paltry \$325 for 4 days of great fun and riding".
www.rawhyde-offroad.com

May 18-20th 2012

Overland Expo 2012
Flagstaff, Arizona
www.overlandexpo.com

May 18-20th 2012

European Riders Rally
Burkesville, KY
BMW Motorcycle Club of Nashville
www.bmwmcon.org/rally.php

May 25-28th 2012

ROK Rally
Del Rio, TN
BMW Riders of Knoxville
(Between Knoxville and Johnson City)

June 14-17th 2012

BMWRA Rally
Copper Mountain, Colorado

July 19-22nd 2012

BMWMOA Rally
Sedalia, Missouri

Member Pre-Sale

The ABMWR "Member pre-sale" has started at Eurosport Asheville. They are giving us a jump on the sale below that they will announce to the public later in the month.

EUROSPORT
ASHEVILLE

828.255.6600
eurosportasheville.com
30 Bryson Street - Asheville, NC 28603

Apparel Blowout Sale!

Now Through March 1st
30% off Select BMW and
Rev'it Jackets and Pants
While Supplies Last!

The advertisement features three images of motorcycle gear: a white jacket, a yellow and black jacket, and a black jacket with orange accents. The background shows a motorcycle parked on a dirt trail.

Featured Member February

By John Koenig, Editor

John Hendrickson

John Hendrickson “grew up in a garage”. His family owned a Chrysler dealership in Logansport, Indiana for 80 years, and John was born into this scene. Learning the ropes of such a business came with the territory as the dealership grew. And bikes were also part of his life early on. When John borrowed money to buy his first bike (a 1974 Honda 550-4), the loan officer made him promise not to tell his dad where he got the money from! As John shared stories of a family business with it's many challenges, I could really relate.

Taking over the auto business after his father's death in 1991, John continued with several brands for another 15 years. Those years afforded him the opportunity to own many motorcycles, probably about 35 all together. His garage held two R100 RS's plus a K-100 during that time.



John and wife Pam

He sold the business and moved to Indianapolis in 2006, where he intended to “semi-retire” with his wife Pam. And Pam is yet another part of this interesting story. While back in Logansport, she grew up in a paralleling business right next to John's family car dealership. She did all of John's detail work... washed their whole inventory. And Pam was a gear head as well, a real enthusiast of the muscle cars back then. So there they were, moved to Indy, where John kind of stumbled into a Triumph and Victory shop in 2007 as the shop was taking on the BMW line. Getting involved with this shop, John “was the sales department”.

But Indy weather wasn't spectacular, and riding in that area left something to be desired as well. When John was sent down to the BMW Performance Center in South Carolina for training, he met many guys down here, learned about the area, and wanted to move South.

Biding time in Indy, he worked with a Ducati dealer for a year, then returned to the BMW dealer. Keeping in touch with some contacts from the South, he was offered a job at Touring Sport in Greenville in 2010. Pam and John made the decision to move in just a matter of days. Moving to Easley, SC, they lived in a cabin in the woods, and started their Southern Appalachian lifestyle. As work evolved, it also included a short stint at the Charlotte BMW shop. During his time at Touring Sport, John met Thomas Montgomery and Justin Roberts. He learned of their plans to open a BMW dealership in Asheville and John's excitement flared. The prospect of starting work in a business with a clean slate was appealing, and he was really fired up. He now loves working at Eurosport Asheville, and looks forward to its development into a “destination store”. He's never worked in a place with such a lack of personal conflict, a rare thing in today's world. Hired for sales, John works service when needed as the dealership evolves. His official title is “BMW Advocate”, and he is responsible for displays, demos, database, and assisting Justin with anything day to day.

John now lives in North Hendersonville. He loves having Sundays and Mondays off for local riding, often with Pam. They also like to take at least one long motorcycle trip each year. With a Ducati Monster, Triumph Bonneville, and a Road King in the garage, he's now been eying up the F650GS or F800GS machines. Pam prefers to ride pillion, and is an associate member of our club.

What are his favorite rides? He likes Hwy 197, from the Jupiter exit over to Burnsville. He also likes many of the rides around Boone. John has belonged to several Ducati and BMW clubs along the way, and is excited about joining the ABMWR.

This guy is obviously another gear head, through and through. A business brain, a mechanical inclination, and a hell of a nice guy. After interviewing John Hendrickson, I've come to realize what an attribute he must be to Eurosport, and what an extra flavor of personality he brings to our club. Welcome to the group, John



Wayne Busch

Photo by Perry Hebard

January Meeting Presentation Well Attended

Our January meeting drew 36 attendees, a surprisingly large group for a rainy night in the middle of winter. It might have had something to do with our presentation for the evening. Wayne Busch, owner of America Rides Maps, showed us his line of motorcycle maps detailing our region. In addition, he shared with us some of his favorite roads and loops, even a few hip-pocket secrets! We thank Wayne for giving his well-received performance.

Who's Who

Board of Directors

Jim McMains, President
Perry Hebard, Vice President
Dan Falkenstein, Treasurer
Wayne Zell, Secretary
John Koenig, Newsletter Editor
Dan Thompson, Merchandising Director
Phil Weinmann, Webmaster

Sergeant at Arms

Adam Stewart

Ride Captains

Kent Skoug
Rob Colasacco

About The ABMWR

Members of our club share many things in common, including a love of riding, being outdoors, a fondness for BMW motorcycles regardless of type or age, and the camaraderie of our sport. We are a social club, focused on riding, and take full advantage of our area's beautiful roads and scenery. Although our club is based in Asheville, North Carolina, membership and participation from all surrounding areas are encouraged.



An Afternoon Stop

Photo by Perry Hebard

Down the Road President's Message

What a Winter so far for riding....

What a winter so far for riding, and spring is just around the corner. Who could ask for more! We have been getting some nice turnouts for the meetings and gatherings and this weather sure was what we asked for.



Our February Dinner meeting is coming up on 2/21/12 (There are a few spots open for the limit of 30, so please RSVP if you can join us). All the details are available on our website www.abmwr.org under the Events calendar. While on the subject of the website, I still want to ask that everyone please sign up and start going there to communicate and keep current with the club. We are trying to transition everyone there and a good start is looking at the Events and using the Forums. If you are having any problems with the site please contact webmaster@ashevillebmwriders.org for assistance or ask one of the Club Officers.

We will be looking for some volunteers to work as online moderators for our forums, so if you have an interest please let me know. It will only take a little of your time to check in on the forums and make sure things are running smoothly. If you volunteer, we will show you everything you need to know to help moderate, plus it is a great way to get involved in the club activities.

I hope you all are excited for the new schedule of Gatherings that start this spring. It will open whole new areas of exploring for us, and I know our Ride Captains have some great routes in store for us. Please come out to the Gatherings, enjoy the friendship and have fun on the roads. I bet we all have found some interesting new areas to explore after Wayne Busch's fine Map presentation at the January meeting. I picked up a few of his nice maps and plan on putting them to use myself!

Our club grows each day as new applications arrive and I look forward to seeing these new faces at meetings and gatherings. If anyone has any kind of expertise that will help with the club or our sport of motorcycling and you are willing to share, please don't be shy, let us know. We are always looking for all the help we can get to make this club the best it can be. There is a nice mix of offerings heading our way at meetings this year that should please everyone. Our V.P. Perry is hard at work lining up this "entertainment" for our benefit, so please show your support by attending the meetings.

New membership cards, with our officially approved logo went out to all members with a letter explaining Charter member status etc. If you have not received your card please notify us.

I say it every time, but you cannot truly know how much hard work your Officers and Board members are putting into this club. All they ask in return is that you show support by participating and coming out to the meetings, gatherings and other events we may set-up. There is nothing better than showing up at a meeting with a full house present, or pulling into a Gathering and seeing a bunch of other bikes, it makes all the work worthwhile :-)

Thanks, and I will see you down the road...
Jim McMains, President ABMW

Guest Writer Article

Group Riding (Part 2)

By Kent Skoug

Last month I spoke about group riding in general. This month I want to discuss the responsibilities of the leaders, charley (or the back door), and the group in general. Yes, the group in general also has responsibilities!

Leader's Responsibilities

1. Make sure that adequate spacing is maintained between groups to allow other motorists equal rights on the roadway.
2. Provide direction for the group to make turns, stops, lane changes, etc.
3. Alert group to obstructions in the roadway, tight corners, gravel in the corners, etc. NOTE TO THE GROUP – do not count on this, the group leader may be busy braking and down-shifting.
4. Try to maintain speed consistency.
5. Check with Charlie before making lane changes (or at least check mirrors to be sure THE GROUP has room to change also).
6. Try to keep the group together.
7. Determine riding order within the group.
8. Lead bike should normally be in the left part of the lane – provides the the best visibility for the group.

Charlie's Responsibilities

1. Protect the back side of your group.
2. Constantly check mirrors for traffic from the rear. Alert the group to vehicles that will be passing.

3. Advise group leader on when it is safe to change lanes – flash high beams or riding lights.

Riding In The Group

1. Ride in a staggered formation when on straight open stretches of roadway.
2. Break into single file formation on narrow back roads or on twisty roadways. Do not allow the idea of riding in a staggered formation force you to negotiating a tight corner with an impaired line of sight.
3. Try to allow a 2-second interval between your bike and the bike in front of you, (This is 1-second from the bike you are staggered with, assuming that bike is maintaining its lane spacing.) This should allow you the chance to take evasive action if necessary.
4. If riding with CB's, keep CB chatter to a minimum when directions for turns, lane changes, pull-offs, etc. are likely to be given.
5. Try not to travel any more aggressively than the least aggressive rider in your group.
6. Each rider is on his/her own. Do NOT expect the group to protect you. Ride your own ride!
7. Once riding order in each group has been determined, please maintain that order throughout the ride.
8. Leaving stop signs – two bikes side by side are OK. However, it is an individual decision whether or not to go.
9. Passing – individual decision; do not rely on directions from the rider in front of you.

Con't on Page 7

Con't from page 6

When group riding, if the group gets separated do to traffic lights, stop signs, etc., and you are going straight, fine. However, if the lead part of the group turns, the last person of that group should wait at the turn until the following group catches up so no one will miss the turn. If anyone needs to leave the group to return home, potty stop, etc. make sure to let either the leader or the Charlie know. We don't want to worry that someone left the road somewhere.

Also, if there is an accident, and you can spare someone, sent that someone forward to let the leader know.

Hopefully we can all have many long and safe riding seasons.



Editor John Koenig's F800 GS parked next to 15 feet of snow reminds us how fortunate we are to live in North Carolina!

Editor's Ramblings by John Koenig

I just have a few items to ramble about this month. The first is a reminder to get your bike ready for Spring. Although many of us have been riding a bit through the winter, the riding schedule in this month's newsletter reminds me that many of us will start putting on some serious miles soon. The dealer service departments are reasonably slow this time of year, so dial your bike in now... tires, oil changes, farkles, whatever. Be ready.

In addition to our ABMWR club events, I continue to list "other" upcoming events that you may be interested in. I know you can find this info elsewhere, but I put it here so it stays in your mind. I encourage you to network with other club members on our website (www.abmwr.org) forum concerning these shows, rides, and rallies. It's fun to ride together, attend together, camp together, or even meet up for a meal together during an out of town gig. For instance, who's up for lunch or dinner together later this month in Charlotte while attending the bike show?

Speaking of out of town events, let's be sure to wear our club name tags when attending. Dan Thompson should have the first run soon for those that ordered at the January meeting. He'll be taking additional orders soon; you'll hear about it here or on the website.

I'd also like to share info on a book I recently bought called "Backroads of North Carolina" by Kevin Adams. Although no specifically written for motorcycling, it's a "guide to great day trips and weekend getaways" in our state. Full of beautiful and inspiring photographs it's the perfect coffee table book to read in front of the fireplace this month to plan a Spring escape. It has 29 routes, each one an excuse to get off the couch and on the road.

Be Safe.
John

**1/1/12 Tentative ABMWR Gathering Schedule for
Warm Weather Season (Subject to Change)**

All gatherings will be held at **9am** For the following Schedule

Day	Date	Location
Saturday	Mar 3, 2012	Hendersonville, Atlanta Bread Co. 147 Highlands Square Drive, Hendersonville
Sunday	Mar 18, 2012	Waynesville, Clydes Restaurant 2107 S Main Street, Waynesville
Saturday	Apr 7, 2012	Asheville, Atlanta Bread Co. 484 Hendersonville Road, Asheville
Sunday	Apr 15, 2012	Black Mountain, Dynamite Roasting Co. 3198 US Hwy 70, Black Mountain
Saturday	May 5, 2012	Waynesville, Panacea Coffee House Cafe 66 Commerce Street, Waynesville
Sunday	May 20, 2012	Hendersonville, Atlanta Bread Co. 147 Highlands Square Drive, Hendersonville
Saturday	Jun 2, 2012	Black Mountain, Dynamite Roasting Co. 3198 US Hwy 70, Black Mountain
Sunday	Jun 17, 2012	Asheville, Atlanta Bread Co. 484 Hendersonville Road, Asheville
Saturday	Jul 7, 2012	Hendersonville, Atlanta Bread Co. 147 Highlands Square Drive, Hendersonville
Sunday	Jul 15, 2012	Waynesville, Clydes Restaurant 2107 S Main Street, Waynesville
Saturday	Aug 4, 2012	Asheville, Atlanta Bread Co. 484 Hendersonville Road, Asheville
Sunday	Aug 19, 2012	Black Mountain, Dynamite Roasting Co. 3198 US Hwy 70, Black Mountain
Saturday	Sept 1, 2012	Waynesville, Panacea Coffee House Cafe 66 Commerce Street, Waynesville
Sunday	Sept 16, 2012	Hendersonville, Atlanta Bread Co. 147 Highlands Square Drive, Hendersonville
Saturday	Oct 6, 2012	Black Mountain, Dynamite Roasting Co. 3198 US Hwy 70, Black Mountain
Sunday	Oct 21, 2012	Asheville, Atlanta Bread Co. 484 Hendersonville Road, Asheville



Asheville BMW Riders Membership / Renewal Application

We are a club of motorcycle enthusiasts sanctioned by BMW Motorcycle Owners of America (MOA) and BMW Riders Association (RA). Our members generally ride BMW motorcycles but **all brands are represented** and **All are welcomed!**

The Asheville BMW Riders annual membership fee is very nominal.
\$20.00 for Regular membership \$10.00 for Associate membership

Please sign and fill out the information below. Bring this form to the next club meeting or make a check payable to Asheville BMW Riders for dues and mail to the post office box listed below. By membership in this Club the member (s) acknowledges the risk of injury to person and property, and accepts full responsibility for their actions while participating in all club events. The member(s) will not hold liable or make claims whatsoever against the Club, its sponsors, any member or staff.

New Renewal Updated Information

Member: _____

Associate Member: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____ Associate E-mail _____

BMW-MOA Member Yes No Membership Number: _____

BMW-RA Member Yes No Membership Number: _____

I'm interested in: Rally's Long Distance Touring Tech Sessions Day Rides

Club Support Preferences: Newsletter/Website Administrative Help with Events Club Officer

Other _____

_____/_____
Member Signature & Date **Associate Signature & Date**

The \$20 Annual Membership covers a period from October 1st to September 30th. Check all that apply:

New / Renewing Member \$20

Associate Member \$10

Make check payable in total to: **Asheville BMW Riders**
Please print a copy of this form and mail the completed form and check to:
Asheville BMW Riders, PO Box 5103, Asheville, NC 28813