

BMW Motorcycle Club  
ASHEVILLE BMW RIDERS



# The Blue Ridge Breeze

A Publication of the Asheville BMW Riders

BMWMOA Club #353 & BMWRA Club #339

March - 2012

## March Meeting Features BMW Performance Center

Our March membership meeting will be held Tuesday Night, March 20th at Eurosport Asheville. Ross McKinney from the BMW Performance Center in Greer, SC will be there as our special guest speaker. Ross will tell us about the Motorcycle Rider Training courses the Center has to offer, which range from one day to three. Be it a one day on or off road class, or up to a three day "adventure tour" ride, the training center has a lot to offer. The curriculums for this BMW Motorcycle training facility are on par with the training facility in Hechlingen, Germany, and are bound to improve skills exponentially for all attendees. One of only two in the USA, we are fortunate to have this facility right down the road from Asheville and look forward to Ross' presentation.

Additionally, Justin Roberts at Eurosport is working with Ross on a "special package" to offer our club riders. Details of this will be announced at the meeting.

In the words of the Center "*Great riders are not born. They are forged in the dust and wind, on the road of challenge. If you're a rider who wants to face these challenges and hone your skills further, the BMW Performance School is a must. Both off-road and on-road classes cover balance, body position, throttle and clutch control, and other safety techniques. You'll learn the*

*secrets to being a great rider from certified BMW instructions and conquer road or trail like never before.*" For further information Check them out at: [www.bmwtraining.com/motorcycles](http://www.bmwtraining.com/motorcycles)

Note New Locations...

### ☀️ March 3rd Gathering

Our first Social Gathering in March kicks off the start of our "warm weather season" schedule. Please note the 9:00am start time, the fact that it's at the **Atlanta Bread Company in HENDERSONVILLE** (not Hendersonville Road), and that it's on a Saturday! It'll be exciting to start our road tour of gathering locations for 2012 with this event. After the social gathering, Kent will be heading out on a nice loop of NC and SC. Pace will be casual, roads probably a little flatter and straighter than some of our other rides. There will be a lunch destination, and we're hoping for a good turn-out.

### ☀️ March 18th Gathering

On Sunday, March 18th, we'll meet for a social gathering at 9:00 am at Clydes Restaurant in Waynesville. Post-gathering ride plans are yet to be determined, but for sure Waynesville is a great jumping-off spot for all kinds of on-road and off-road activities. Maybe we can get two groups heading out that day.

**Reminder: The 18th is the first day of Daylight Savings Time.** Be aware of the time change to be sure you're on time.

## Mark Your Calendars Other Upcoming Events

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](http://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](http://www.rawhyde-offroad.com)

May 18-20th 2012  
Overland Expo 2012  
Flagstaff, Arizona  
[www.overlandexpo.com](http://www.overlandexpo.com)

May 18-20th 2012  
European Riders Rally  
Burkesville, KY  
BMW Motorcycle Club of Nashville  
[www.bmwcon.org/rally.php](http://www.bmwcon.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

August 9-12th, 2012  
Annual Dan'l Boone Rally  
KOA - Boone, NC  
Carolinas BMW Club (Charlotte)  
Pre-registration opens in March  
[www.carolinasbmwmoa.org/annual-boone-rally/](http://www.carolinasbmwmoa.org/annual-boone-rally/)

### Future Long-Distance Ride

By Kent Skoug

I believe that many BMW riders enjoy long distance riding. I know that when we filled out the application for membership in the Asheville BMW Riders, many of us put down that we enjoy long-distance touring. I have been thinking about setting up a Saddle Sore 1,000 later this summer. This can be a Iron Butt Association qualification. To achieve this there are some rules and regulations and some forms to be filled out.

I would like to do this sometime in late July or August when the days are longer and warmer. I would be willing to get all of the paperwork together and make sure everyone involved is familiar with the rules.

If this sounds like something that you would be interested in, please let me know at [kent.skoug@gmail.com](mailto:kent.skoug@gmail.com). I will then get everyone into a mailing list and see if we can come up with a time frame to accomplish this.

## Featured Member-March

By John Koenig, Editor

### Wayne Zell



This month we'll learn more about one of our Board of Directors, Club Secretary, Wayne Zell.

Our group wouldn't be the same without him. I first met Wayne at one of our clubs's formational get-togethers early last summer, where we all sat around on 5 gallon buckets in a then-unfinished Eurosport Asheville. We were forming a steering committee to bring our club into reality. Like the rest of the group, I didn't quite know "how to take" Wayne, with his strange joking around and his different personality. Low and behold, he's since become addictive to all of us and has become a cornerstone of our leadership!

Wayne has lived in California most of his life, mostly in L.A., then the Bay Area. After a stint in the Navy, followed by another stint at Cal State Northridge, he spent many years in business management. As a senior manager for a call center practice, Wayne has had plenty of exposure to the fast life of travel and politics working for a global company. In 1999, he was offered a contact center position with a company in Durham, bringing him here to North Carolina. In 2005, he and his wife Lynn moved

to Black Mountain for retirement. Wayne's kids and grandkids are still out west, so an occasional trip to L.A. is in order.

In earlier years, Wayne wasn't a motorcyclist. He bicycled, played racquet ball, hiked, and such. During the gas crisis in 1977, he bought a used Honda CB350 for commuting, with no plans for motorcycle recreation on his radar screen. Many years and several bikes later, he bought a K100 RS to ride across the country (a road trip he still fondly remembers). He chose a BMW because it was more reliable and more suitable for long distance riding.

During his years of BMW ownership, Zell has been a member of several BMW clubs, including the Bay Area Clubs and the Tarheel Travelers in Raleigh-Durham. He enjoys attending rallies, and has been to many MOA and RA national events. Wayne enjoys camping. Two of his favorite local camp-rallies are the Georgia Mountain Rally in Hiwassee, as well as the Dan'l Boone Rally in Boone, NC.

Now living in Black Mountain with wife Lynn and their 3 dogs, Wayne is content with hanging low, smoking good cigars, and riding down Highway 9 on his black R1100 RS. Wayne loves riding the Parkway and nice country roads. He says "This is not to be confused with fast Canyon Roads". After one canyon carving club jaunt last fall, I can quote Wayne as saying "F\*\*k Little Switzerland" several times since then!

Wayne Zell is thrilled to be an ABMWR member. He's honored to serve on our Board of Directors and be able to help make this club the best that it can be. His club secretarial duties are many, and include taking meeting minutes, updating our By Laws, and keeping general rosters together. Wayne's the Jester on our Board, always has an opinion, and keeps us laughing. He loves our social gatherings (whether he rides or not), enjoys tire kicking, and lives for local riding. We're fortunate to have him in our club.

## Asheville BMW Riders

### Schedule of Club Events

- 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
- 3/20 Tuesday 7pm Membership Meeting**  
**Eurosport Asheville**  
30 Bryson Street, Asheville, NC 28803
- 4/7 Saturday 9am Social Gathering**  
**South Asheville** - Atlanta Bread Co  
484 Henderson Road Asheville 28803
- 4/15 Sunday 9am Social Gathering**  
**Black Mountain** - Dynamite Roasting Co  
3198 US Hwy 70, Black Mountain
- 4/17 Tuesday 7pm Membership Meeting**  
**Eurosport Asheville**  
30 Bryson Street, Asheville, NC 28803

### 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

### Get Well Steve!

Sorry to hear that club member and riding buddy Steve Jarrell went down recently. He was riding on a nice little dirt road on his F800 GS when he met a flying white van in a blind curve. Missed a head-on, but caught his right crash bar on the right side of the van. Ended up with a collarbone broken in 4 places and a little added metal after surgery. Steve reports that he's now home, completely off pain meds, and on the mend. Here's wishing him a speedy recovery.

### Travel Tales

**Member Kurt Nugent** is planning quite a trip to Mexico and beyond. He'll join back with other travelers at the Overland Expo in Flagstaff in May. Looks like an interesting itinerary. Follow Kurt's plans and adventures on his blog at...

[www.kurtsmototravel.blogspot.com/](http://www.kurtsmototravel.blogspot.com/)

### 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.

## **Guest Writer Article** By Kent Skoug

Yesterday, Saturday February 18, I spent the day with some of Henderson County's finest. This was voluntary on my part, I was attending Bike Safe NC, a training program designed to "invite motorcyclists to participate in Rider Skills Days that offer assessment on present skills and advice to help make their riding in North Carolina safer and more enjoyable." Please note, this is not designed to teach you how to ride, but how to improve those skills you already have.

This was a very small class. They try to limit the students to twelve but this weekend only three were there. With two instructors that was an excellent student to instructor ratio. The instructors for this class were Deputy Alan Corthell and Deputy Ray Helms. Many of you already know Ray as a member of the Asheville BMW Riders and as an instructor at the BMW Training Center in South Carolina.



Deputy Ray Helms before 1st ride Photo by Kent Skoug

The class started at the Law Enforcement Center in Hendersonville at 8:45. This classroom session was handled by Deputy Corthell and covered introductions, an overview of the day and things we need to be aware of as we ride such as side roads, signage, traffic patterns, change of road surface and a thousand other things. There were also some videos of bike accidents. I'm sorry, if someone is doing 120 on a public

road, that's not an accident, but what can you say about stupidity. About 11:00 we took off for our first road session which lasted about 45 minutes. Students split into two groups with a deputy behind them to observe. I was in the group with two, and about half way through the route we switched so the other could lead. When we returned to Hendersonville we were critiqued on what we did well and what we should try to work on. Then we broke for lunch.

We returned for another classroom session, this one taught by Deputy Helms. This was mostly on breaking, corning and lane positioning to allow for the greatest field of view as well to allow for the best cornering. A little after 3:00 we pulled out of the parking lot for the afternoon road session. This was a longer route lasting about an hour and a half. This was mostly back roads with a lot of curves and some interstate. We returned to the Law Enforcement Center just after 5:00 and we had our second debriefing about whether we had improved and what we may still need to work on.

## **To Sign Up and For More Information**

Bikesafe NC classes include classroom discussion and normal riding in the area. There are No cone courses. You must use the link below to sign up for classes.

[www.bikesafenc.com](http://www.bikesafenc.com)

Deputy Ray Helms  
Henderson County Sheriff's Office  
Traffic Enforcement Division  
100 North Grove Street  
Hendersonville, NC 28792  
828-694-2720 (office)  
704-425-9887 (cell)  
828-697-4981 (fax)  
[rhelms@hendersoncountync.org](mailto:rhelms@hendersoncountync.org)  
[www.Hendersonsheriff.org](http://www.Hendersonsheriff.org)

## **Down the Road** President's Message

### **Hey Gang...**

Just a quick note this month for the Newsletter. We had a great turnout for the dinner meeting. It really was not a meeting in the usual sense, but more of a "meeting" of club members getting to know each other. We had some regular faces, some we have not seen in awhile and some brand new ones. It was really nice just being able to sit around and shoot the breeze and break bread together.

Our club is about motorcycling, but it is also about the blend of people with various backgrounds coming together, getting to know each other, form friendships and share adventures. This has all been made possible because of our common interest in this sport. The International Motorcycle Show has just passed and I know a few club members came together and enjoyed it. A year ago this was not the case, so just think how far we have come in this short time with the friends we have added. Our club is growing every day and I look forward to all the future events I will share with current members and those that will become members.

March starts our new social schedule of Gatherings and it looks to be exciting with the routes that Kent and Rob are setting up for us. I will miss this month as I will be away on vacation, but I look forward to April and getting back to riding with my club. Have a great meeting in March and make sure not to miss the BMW Performance School offering that will be presented at the meeting.

So, get those bikes gassed up, tighten up any loose bolts and hit the road.

Ride safe and I will see you down the Road.

Jim McMains, President ABMW

[president@ashevillebmwridders.org](mailto:president@ashevillebmwridders.org)

## **Editor's Ramblings** by John Koenig

It's been a short, busy month for me as we head toward March. I've been pre-occupied with building a personal residence in South Asheville for the past 8 months, and it's all now coming to a busy end. Jill and I plan to move in, partially furnished, about March 12th.

Although we had some great riding days in February, I didn't have time to get out much. I did, however, attend the February meeting at the Cantina, and thoroughly enjoyed it. We filled the room at 30 people, and had a great time. Thanks, Jim McMains, for the idea and the work in putting it together. It was cool to have a relaxing meal meeting away from Eurosport, yet still have the company of Thomas, Justin, Sam, and John there. These diversions keep our club interesting, and I look forward to a few more scattered in along the way.

Hope to see y'all at some of the events in the months ahead. Research the trips, use our club website forums to connect, be safe, and have fun.

John Koenig, Editor

[newsletter@ashevillebmwridders.org](mailto:newsletter@ashevillebmwridders.org)

## **Name Tags & Club Cards**

Our first run of name tags has been distributed, thanks to Dan Thompson. They really look nice, and their distinctive shape should differentiate them from others when we wear them to rallies and events. There will be another opportunity to order soon. For any of you that didn't get in on the initial order, see Dan at the next event.

Perry Hebard has been working hard as well in creating our laminated club membership cards. Now official in BMW Corporate's format, these cards can be shown for discounts at area retailers. Many thanks to Dan and Perry for the time they've spent on these projects.

*"I think the MSF site for motorcycle safety is pretty good and the one most used. Keep a copy and review from time to time."*

Jim McMains



### QUICK TIPS: MSF's Guide to Group Riding

Motorcycling is primarily a solo activity, but for many, riding as a group -- whether with friends on a Sunday morning ride or with an organized motorcycle rally -- is the epitome of the motorcycling experience. Here are some tips to help ensure a fun and safe group ride:

**Arrive prepared.** Arrive on time with a full gas tank.

**Hold a riders' meeting.** Discuss things like the route, rest and fuel stops, and hand signals (see diagrams on next page). Assign a lead and sweep (tail) rider. Both should be experienced riders who are well-versed in group riding procedures. The leader should assess everyone's riding skills and the group's riding style.

**Keep the group to a manageable size,** ideally five to seven riders. If necessary, break the group into smaller sub-groups, each with a lead and sweep rider.

**Ride prepared.** At least one rider in each group should pack a cell phone, first-aid kit, and full tool kit, so the group is prepared for any problem that they might encounter.

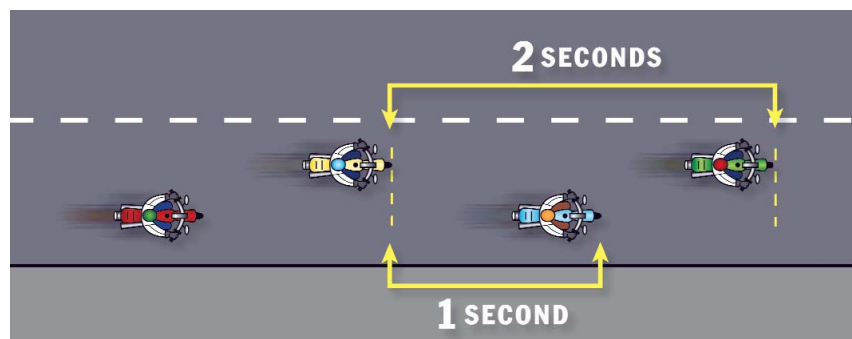
**Ride in formation.** The staggered riding formation (see diagram below) allows a proper space cushion between motorcycles so that each rider has enough time and space to maneuver and to react to hazards. The leader rides in the left third of the lane, while the next rider stays at least one second behind in the right third of the lane; the rest of the group follows the same pattern. A single-file formation is preferred on a curvy road, under conditions of poor visibility or poor road surfaces, entering/leaving highways, or other situations where an increased space cushion or maneuvering room is needed.

**Avoid side-by-side formations,** as they reduce the space cushion. If you suddenly needed to swerve to avoid a hazard, you would not have room to do so. You don't want handlebars to get entangled.

**Periodically check the riders following in your rear view mirror.** If you see a rider falling behind, slow down so they may catch up. If all the riders in the group use this technique, the group should be able to maintain a fairly steady speed without pressure to ride too fast to catch up.

**If you're separated from the group,** don't panic. Your group should have a pre-planned procedure in place to regroup. Don't break the law or ride beyond your skills to catch up.

**For mechanical or medical problems,** use a cell phone to call for assistance as the situation warrants.



For MSF's **Guide to Group Riding: Hand Signals** go to [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org)  
There are great illustrations available on the site.

**2012 ABMWR Gathering Schedule for  
Warm Weather Season (Subject to Change)**

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

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