



SANTA BARBARA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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BMW MOA CLUB #165

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Member News and Rides

Bob P. drove to Sumter, SC, to visit family. He brought his GS and bicycle along the way, and rode the GS in various parts of the southeastern US. Report and pictures on Page 5..

Howell recapped his trip to Africa with **Debra**: an 1800-mile trip through South Africa, Botswana and Namibia. There were 5 riders and 2 guides for a 12-day tour. The roads were mostly paved with a few that were hard gravel. The tour was through Ayres Adventures.

Debra and **Howell** also traveled to Sedona and northern Arizona and along a bit of Old Route 66.

Eddie went to the 49'r Rally but missed out on the flat tire episode (photo was in the June 2018 newsletter). He returned via Yosemite - Tioga Road - Bishop (where they were celebrating Mule Days), and camped near Whitney Portal. The next day, he headed south on 395, to 14, to 58, to Tehachapi, then Bakersfield, then 33. He recommends the 24th Street Café in Bakersfield for meals: 1415 24th Street, [24th Street Cafe](#).

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*Wolf's (Pine Mtn. Lodge), Hwy 33.
Photo by John W.*

Technical Topic for June: Tires

The technical subject discussed at the June meeting was tires. John W. has Michelin Anakee 3's, but felt they were not good in the rain. They also seem to be noisy. The majority of R 1200 GS's come fitted with Anakee 3's as standard. Steve M. has Michelin Pilot Road 4's and likes them. Precision Motorcycle Service in Goleta (6150 Francis Botello Road, Ste. B) carries them. Tanja has Heidenau's for her bike; they are good for off-road use.

It was noted that some dual-compound tires will handle differently as the tire wears. The Michelin Pilot 4's are dual-compound. The Anakee 3's are single compound.

If you have tubed tires, it's a good idea to carry a spare tube, tools for changing tires, and a sealant, such as Slime. You can also put the sealant into a new tire as a prophylactic measure. For tubeless, carry repair materials, such as plugs or string. Kits are available for repair.

Finally, Steve reminded everybody that, as a motorcyclist:

Your tires are your life!

Don't skimp on tires and change them before they get too worn. On a trip, examine your tires every evening. Check tire pressure regularly.

SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Monday, July 16: **Club annual BBQ** at Rocky Nook Park, 610 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara. The Club will provide tri-tip and chicken and members to provide sides and desserts. Watch for emails from Veronica for details!
- ❖ Monday, August 20: Club meeting at Cody's Café, 4898 Hollister Avenue, Goleta, CA. Come at around 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. for dinner and stay for the 7:30 p.m. meeting.
- ❖ Any other activities or rides scheduled? Let me know! djkrohn@cox.net

Lane Splitting and Speed Differentials

A question that came up at the June meeting was: what does the law say about speed differential? The original bill proposed that lane-splitting could occur legally if a motorcycle was moving no more than 15 miles per hour faster than the traffic around it, and it prohibited the practice at speeds above 50 mph. The final wording of AB 51 does not contain this language and there is no specific speed in the bill or law: [AB 51](#).

The law grants the CHP the authority to develop and issue guidelines in consultation with motorcycle safety groups and riders.

Santa Barbara Rider Wins Pikes Peak Hillclimb

Sorry, it was on a Ducati...but still!

Local resident and Ducati motorcycle shop owner Carlin Dunne won first place in his Heavyweight division, with a winning time of 9:59.102. He rode a 2018 Ducati MTS1260 Pikes Peak, and his closest rival rode a 2017 KTM 1290 Super Duke R and had a time of 9:59.794. The two BMW's in the Heavyweight division were both 2015 S 1000 R's, with finishing times of 10:16.637 and 10:21.932, respectively.

The race course is 12.42 miles, with 156 turns.

Edhat has a nice article and a video of Dunne's ride: [Pikes Peak Race](#)

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Upcoming Events

- July 12-15: BMW MOA International Rally, Des Moines, IA. [BMW International Rally 2018](#)
- July 19-22: 47th Annual Top O'The Rockies Rally, Paonia, CO. [Top O'The Rockies Rally](#)
- July 19-22: Cascade Country Rendezvous and GS Rally by BestRest, Republic, WA. [Cascade Country Rally](#)
- August 4: 19th Annual 100,000 Foot Ride, Lakewood, CO. [100,000 Foot Ride](#)
- August 16-19: 20th Beartooth Rendezvous, Red Lodge, MT. [Beartooth Rendezvous](#)
- August 24-26: MOA Getaway Copper Mountain, Copper Mountain Resort, CO. [MOA Getaway Copper Mountain](#)
- August 25: Wheels 'n Windmills Car Show, Solvang. Phil Wilson, Dave Hamilton, and Doug Wilson are entering bikes in the motorcycle portion of the show. [Wheels 'n Windmills](#)
- August 31-September 2: 7th Annual XLADV High Sierra Rally, Benton Crossing, CA. [XLADV High Sierra Rally](#)
- September 14-16: 33rd Annual Autumn Beemer Bash, Quincy, CA. [33rd Annual Beemer Bash](#)

Highway 1 to be Open July 20!

Caltrans has announced that State Route 1 at Mud Creek along the southern Big Sur Coast is scheduled to re-open by Friday, July 20 at 11 am.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening will take place at the Ragged Point Inn at that time.

The re-opening of this section of State Route 1 follows a massive landslide on May 20, 2017 which resulted in the movement of six million cubic yards of material and 50 acres of displaced land, including the creation of 2,400 feet of new shoreline. A quarter-mile section of roadway was lost due to this landslide.

“We’re very pleased to share this long-awaited news with everyone who travels along this international destination the many businesses that benefit from the coast highway,” said Caltrans Director Laurie Berman. “Mud Creek is the last closure point so travelers will be able to take Highway 1 all the way through Big Sur for the first time in 18 months.”

This section of State Route 1 was built across the slide material buttressed with a series of

embankments and compacted soil and using protective features including berms, rocks, netting, culverts and other stabilizing material.

The rebuilding effort included construction seven days a week, dawn to dusk for the past year and was completed two months ahead of the initial mid-September estimate.

The contractor for this \$54 million emergency project was John Madonna Construction of San Luis Obispo, CA.



Highway 1 at Mud Creek near Gorda, looking south. Photo courtesy of Caltrans.

Tail of the Dragon

By Bob Phinney

Located east of Knoxville, it is an interesting road, especially for riders in the southeast where the roads are good but mostly flat and straight. The roads of the Blue Ridge Mountain area (eastern Tennessee, Western North Carolina and southern Virginia) are extremely well maintained, cruise through beautiful hard wood forests and are a hoot to ride. Sadly for me, thunderstorms and the tropical storm Alberto brought repeated deluges of rain during portions of my rides.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is wonderful, rightly limited to 45 mph and best done on an early, weekday morning. I was on the road out of Asheville, NC, at 7 a.m. and saw two cars and 10 bicycle riders in two hours; one the two cars was a Tesla. It was chilly and foggy as the road climbed to 5006 feet. Roads leading away from the Parkway are also a delight. Extraordinary farms around Charlottesville, VA, were a pleasant surprise as were two “pop-up” thunderstorms.



The *Tail of the Dragon* is 11 miles of excellent asphalt over what was once an old wagon trail. In my opinion, we have many roads in California that are more challenging but it is a fun drive. Yeah, drive; not ride. Three thunderstorm deluges that day meant I drove it.

Most do it as a loop out of Maryville, TN, taking Hwy 68 to Madisonville to Tellico Plains, Tellico Beach and the Cherohala Skyway to Robbinsville, NC, on Hwy 165/143. The Skyway reaches over 5400 feet in elevation and is a delight, winding through old growth hard wood forest. Beautiful. Turn westward on Hwy 129 in Robbinsville, pass two Tennessee Valley Authority dams and you start the Dragon at Deals Gap. After the 11 miles of bumpy, quick turns, the extremely well maintained road (Hwy 129) evens out and returns to Maryville through green, clean small towns and neighborhoods.

Website with good maps: <https://tailofthedragonmaps.com/tail-of-the-dragon-loop/>

On the Road With Eddie



Coalinga, CA -- 108 °F

...so I didn't exactly forget to put kickstand down. When I put kickstand down I didn't confirm that it was 100% down. And then gravity took over.

Along Highway 33, from Sacramento to Ventura, 371 miles.

