



# SANTA BARBARA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

[HTTP://WWW.SBBMWRIDERS.ORG](http://www.sbbmwriders.org)

BMW MOA CLUB #165

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## Member News and Rides

**Brian M.** ("New Guy") sold his 2015 R1200GSA to **Chuck**, so now Chuck is busy riding it and, hopefully, getting it properly farked.

**Tanja, Marten** and **Lee H.** went on a New Year's ride on the Happy Canyon Road-Los Olivos area. The dirt section of the road was hard-packed and easy to navigate.

**Deb** and **Cody** attended the Agua Caliente rally over New Year's. They were able to look at the various metal sculptures in Borrego Springs while in the area.

**Tanja** reported that she got new tires: MotoZ, and likes them very much. They are 50/50 for paved/unpaved roads. Read about the tires here: [MotoZ](#)

## Spring Tech Day: March 7

**Marten** will be hosting a Tech Day on Saturday, March 7. The location is 516 Palm Avenue, Carpinteria, and starts around 8-8:30 a.m. If you want, bring coffee, donuts and other goodies to share with everyone. Have questions or need more information? Contact Marten: [marten@cox.net](mailto:marten@cox.net)

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## SB BMW Riders Nominations for 2020

At the January meeting, we had nominations for the Officers and At-Large Members for the club. They are as follows:

President: Steve Miller

Vice-President: Michael Kramer

Treasurer: Chuck Beattie

Secretary: Diane Krohn

At-Large Members: Veronica Hansuld, Marten Walkker and Tanja Stoyan.

## January Technical Topic: Personal Locator Beacons (PLB's)

We all have cell phones that we take with us on our motorcycles, but for reach beyond a modern cell signal, communication is trickier. There are devices that can provide digital, text-based communication, or devices that allow for voice transmission (for example, satellite phones).

One of the most-well known devices, **SPOT Inc.**, uses GPS to determine the user's location and uses the Globalstar Satellite Network to transmit the GPS coordinates to and from others. SPOT can be used to tell others where you are, send pre-selected messages, and can be used to send an emergency SOS to first responders. Some versions have two-way messaging. SPOT does not work in all locations, however. SPOT requires an annual subscription; the basic plan is about \$144/year. [SPOT Devices](#)

The **Garmin Inreach** device uses an iridium satellite network for communications. It has pre-set messages, an SOS function, and it can track your whereabouts to send out to friends. It also allows texting back and forth with any cell phone number or email address. Inreach has both monthly and annual subscription plans. The basic plan is about \$15/month. Marten owns an Inreach device but mentioned that it is bulky and thus not always convenient to carry on your person. [Garmin Inreach](#)

Two additional iridium satellite network systems include Somewear and Bivystick. **Somewear** is a mobile app and can be used to

## SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Monday, February 17: 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.
- ❖ Saturday, March 7: Spring Tech Day. Contact Marten for details: [marten@cox.net](mailto:marten@cox.net)
- ❖ Monday, March 16: 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](mailto:djkrohn@cox.net)

track your route and text to others. It has an SOS function. Subscriptions can be monthly or yearly; the basic monthly cost is about \$15/month. [Somewear Labs](#)

**Bivystick** is a device and mobile app that provides tracking and sharing, an SOS function, and can send and receive text messages. The base plan is about \$18/month. [Bivystick](#)

**ACR Rescueme PLB1** is a PLB that would be used only in SOS situations. When it is activated, it broadcasts your GPS position to search and rescue teams. There is no subscription cost. The device costs about \$290. [ACR Rescueme](#)

One aspect of any type of PLB (or cell phone) is that of access on the motorcycle—or specifically, access to the device if you are pinned by your bike, or hurt, and cannot reach the PLB to send out any sort of message. Something to consider for all of us if we travel in remote areas or on lesser-traveled roads.

## Motorcycle Consumer News (MCN) Folds

Effective as of February 1, 2020, Motorcycle Consumer News (MCN) ceased its business operations, and its last publication was shipped on January 17, 2020. MCN had been published since 1969 and was one of the few remaining motorcycle print magazines. It was unique in that it had no advertising and provided a variety of motorcycle and equipment reviews, medical columns, and other interesting opinion pieces. If you were a subscriber and have paid for future issues by check or credit card, those payments will not be processed. Check the MCN notice in the link for additional information:

MCN notice here: [MCN Ceases Publication](#)

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## Upcoming Events

- February 13-17: Airhead Beemers Club 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Death Valley Rendezvous. Furnace Creek, Death Valley, CA. [28th Annual Death Valley Rendezvous](#)
- March 20-22: GS Giants Event, Song Dog Ranch, New Cuyama, CA. [GS Giants March Event](#)
- March 26-29: ADV Rider Death Valley Noobs Rally, 16<sup>th</sup> Edition, Panamint Springs, Death Valley, CA. [ADV Rider Death Valley Noobs Rally](#)
- April 23-26: ADV Rider WARPED XVI Rally, Mountains and Rivers Campground, Kernville, CA. [WARPED XVI Rally](#)
- May 15-17: MOA Getaway Los Osos, Sea Pines Golf Resort, Los Osos, CA. [MOA Getaway Los Osos](#)
- May 15-17: Overland Expo West, Flagstaff, AZ. [Overland Expo West](#)
- May 21-25: 49'er Rally, Mariposa, CA. [49er Rally 2020](#)
- June 25-28: BMW MOA National Rally, Great Falls, MT. [BMW MOA National Rally 2020](#)
- July 16-18: 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Top O' The Rockies Rally, Paonia, CO. [49th Annual Top O' The Rockies Rally](#)

## Phyllis and John's Toy Hauler Trips Photos and Text by John White



We purchased a Toy Hauler so we could take along our Lab, Winslow. This photo was from California City, one of our first trips. No need to disconnect the truck, this time. The toys store underneath a raised bed in the rear of the trailer. The large rear door is a ramp when lowered.

Phyllis and Winslow at  
Pt Mugu Beach



Chef Phyllis





We were dry camping on this trip which means we were dependent on our trailer's resources. Three tanks, fresh water, grey and black, with a generator for air conditioning, microwave and electrical power. Propane is for the kitchen and heater.

Includes your own comfortable bed!



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Eddie's bike takes a nap in  
Apache Canyon.

*Photo by Eddie.*

