



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

Chuck, Steve, Marten, Cody and Lee and Nancy Husband rode to Death Valley for the Airheads Rendezvous. Chuck rode his new R1200 GSA which got properly dropped on a tight turn on Caliente-Bodfish Road on the way to Death Valley, and then again on a gravel berm on Titus Canyon Road in Death Valley.

In fact, there seemed to be a fair number of dropped bikes in Death Valley. Titus Canyon got Lee and Nancy Husband also. Fortunately, no injuries to anyone.

Steve rode to Chloride Cliffs by himself. The road got increasingly steep and rocky. He walked part of the road and saw that he needed to turn around. Back on the bike, he saw a Jeep coming up the road. As he turned his head to look, he lost focus and fell down. The bike stopped, but Steve slid down the hill a bit. The Jeep drive stopped to help get the bike back up. See the photo on Page 5!

Steve, John and Phyllis, and Deb are planning on attending the BMW National Rally in Great Falls, in June.

Phil, Marten and Steve are planning to attend the 49'er Rally in Mariposa, in May. Phil has offered to take **Chris** to the rally in his sidecar.

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Chuck and Steve at a mine in Death Valley

February Topic: How Much Planning Do You Do?

Do you just get on the bike and go? Do you have all stops planned for the night? Or is it a mix of some planning and some winging it?

Steve said that he just plans a direction and heads that way. **Marten** does some research to see if there are points of interest to look at along the way; areas or places that you might ordinarily miss unless you knew that they were there. **Cy** mentioned this same approach, using Wikipedia or some other resource, to find out about the areas you will be visiting. You can do this in real time on your phone as you travel.

John W. said that when he and Phyllis travel in Europe, they make reservations for the next night's stay. **Eddie** travels with a Plan A, Plan B...and maybe even a Plan C, depending on circumstances.

Everyone agreed that much of this depends on the group size: just you, or you and your partner vs. a larger group, especially with riders who you are not as familiar with. One advantage of traveling alone, or with just your partner, is that it is easier to chat up the locals.

Traveling with camping gear makes less up-front planning necessary, of course, but it depends on the areas of travel. Spontaneous camping is relatively easy on BLM land or Forest Service land, but not feasible the further you travel from the western states.

One aspect to be mindful of with unplanned routes, especially with the wide-open areas in

SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Saturday, March 7: Spring Tech Day. Contact Marten for details: 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.
- ❖ Monday, April 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

the western states, is distances between gas stations and your gas tank capacity and gas mileage. (It seems that one of the longest paved stretches is between Ely and Tonopah, NV: 168 miles on US-6. But it is doable on an R1200 GS two-up!)

SB BMW Riders

Election Results for 2020

At the February meeting, we had voting for the nominated Officers and At-Large Members for the club. The results are:

President: Steve Miller

Vice-President: Michael Kramer

Treasurer: Chuck Beattie

Secretary: Diane Krohn

At-Large Members: Veronica Hansuld, Marten Walkker, Tanja Stoyan, Eddie Vertucci, and Deborah Walker.

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.

This Tech Day will focus on lights, brakes and other safety equipment. If you want to change oil, let Marten know in advance.

If you want, bring coffee, donuts and other goodies to share with everyone. Lee and Nancy Husband will be providing lunch.

Have questions or need more information? Contact Marten: marten@cox.net



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Now closed on Sunday and Monday
Open Tuesday- Friday, 8 a.m. to 6p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Upcoming Events

- 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, 16th Edition, Panamint Springs, Death Valley, CA. [ADV Rider Death Valley Noobs Rally](#)
- April 17-19: Motobird Carrizo Rideout-Hideout/Co-ed/Choose Your Own Adventure. [Motobird Carrizo Plain](#)
- 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 18-21: 42nd Annual Chief Joseph Rally, John Day, OR. [Chief Joseph Rally](#)
- June 25-28: BMW MOA National Rally, Great Falls, MT. [BMW MOA National Rally 2020](#)

Remembering Doug Cowin

Member Doug Cowin passed away on February 3, 2020. He was 84 years old. At the February Club meeting, many members reminisced about rides, parties and other club activities with Doug. Chris had many memories of rides with Doug: she remembered that the first thing he wanted was coffee; a chili size and coffee. He was very obedient to the law and always came to a complete full stop at stop signs.



John W. remembered that Doug had filed down the kill switch on his bike's handlebar. Doug loved his early English bike and then went on to sidecars, becoming the first member of the Club to get a sidecar.

Steve said that Doug always brought wood to the Club picnics. Doug was the reason that Steve joined the Club, around '94 or '95. Doug also introduced John T. to the Club around 1986.

Doug was also the first newsletter editor! Raise a glass to Doug and go on a ride in his memory.



Photos courtesy of John White.

Death Valley Pics

Photos by Chuck, Steve, Marten and Lee



*On Chloride Canyon Road.
Steve says: "Always keep a sharp focus!"*

All packed up and ready to go.



Cody points out an abandoned mine.



Oh no! The pristine R1200 GSA gets dropped on Caliente-Bodfish Road.

