



# SANTA BARBARA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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

BMW MOA CLUB #165  
SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER...136 HP, THAT IS!

Volume 22, Issue 9

September 2022

## Member News and Rides

The August meeting at the Creekside Restaurant had about 14 attendees.

Our discussion for August focused on the proposed guidelines from BMW MOA with respect to logo, club name and website.

We also decided to put in an order for more Club hats. Chuck will source the hats to try to get the same color and materials as the previous hats, and with the same or similar embroidered logo. They will be available for purchase by Club members and friends of the Club.

**Chuck, Oscar, Jeff, Enzo and Jim Schmidt** rode to the Top O' the Rockies rally in Paonia, Colorado. It was a large rally with about 650 attending. There were different types of rides to do every day, and Chuck reported that it is a wonderful area to ride in. The rally serves the entire Paonia community as a fundraiser for the next graduating local high school class. Pictures of Chuck's trip are on Pages 10-12.

**Phil** went to the John Day rally in Oregon. It had about 450 attendees and Phil had a good time.

The August campout was at Campo Alto at the top of Mt. Abel. **Steve, Fran, Cody and Stefan** went on this campout. Pictures are on Pages 8-9.

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**Phil and Averill** rode north up the coast to Memorial Park, located near Loma Mar. Read Averill's entertaining and interesting story on Pages 4-7. Link for more information on Memorial Park: [Memorial Park](#)

**Bob P.** will lead a ride to Ragged Point on Wednesday, September 7. Contact Bob for details and if you want to ride along: [bphinney63@gmail.com](mailto:bphinney63@gmail.com)



## NHTSA Investigating Tesla Crashes

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is investigating two separate crashes where Tesla automobiles, apparently running on autopilot, struck and killed two motorcyclists. Two separate NHTSA teams are investigating nighttime crashes on highways in Riverside, California and Draper, Utah. According to ABC News, NHTSA suspects that Tesla's partially automated driver-assist system was in use during both collisions.

The first crash under investigation occurred on July 7, 2022 on State Route 91. A Tesla Model Y SUV was driving east in the high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane. Somewhere ahead of the Tesla was a rider on a Yamaha V-Star motorcycle.

According to the California Highway Patrol (CHP), somehow, the two vehicles collided. Whether the Tesla's autopilot was in use is still being investigated by the CHP.

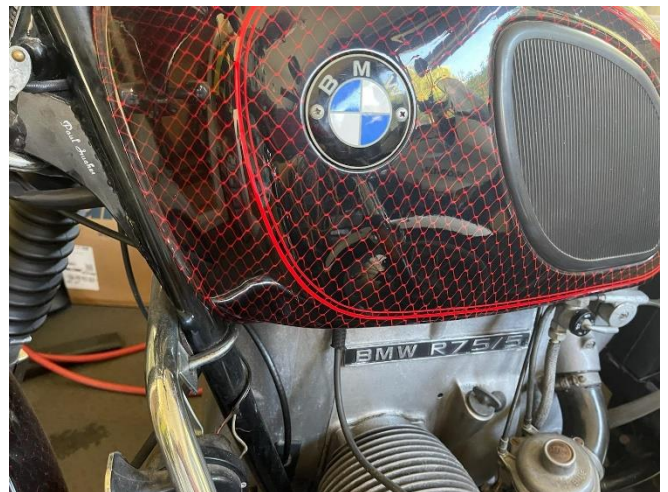
The second crash occurred when a Tesla Model 3 sedan struck a motorcyclist from behind while both were traveling in the HOV lane. The crash happened July 24, 2022 on Interstate 15. The Tesla driver said that he had the Tesla's Autopilot setting on.

The NHTSA will include these two motorcycle accidents as part of a larger investigation that was started in August, 2021, looking at 12 crashes, and has risen to 16 as of August 2022.

Read more: [Tesla Crashes Killed Motorcyclists](#)

## SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Monday, September 19: Monthly meeting at Creekside Restaurant & Bar, 4444 Hollister Ave., Santa Barbara. Meeting starts at 6 p.m. Get there at 5:30 if you want to order dinner.
- ❖ Monday, October 17. Monthly meeting at Creekside Restaurant & Bar, 4444 Hollister Ave., Santa Barbara. Meeting starts at 6 p.m. Get there at 5:30 if you want to order dinner.
- ❖ Any other activities or rides scheduled, let me know! [djkrohn1@gmail.com](mailto:djkrohn1@gmail.com) **Note my new email address.**



*Chuck took this photo of a beautiful R75. The tank and fenders have this incredible spiderweb paint job like no other. Who did this incredible paint work?*

*Answer on Page 7.*



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## Upcoming Events

- September 9: 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Bavarian Mountain Weekend Rally, Vadito, NM. [37<sup>th</sup> Annual Bavarian Mountain Weekend Rally](#)
- September 16-18: MOA Getaway at Cedar City, Cedar City, UT. [MOA Getaway at Cedar City](#)
- September 30-October 2: Gathering of the Tribes in Sequoia National Forest. [Gathering of the Tribes Sequoia](#)
- October 20-23: Aerostitch Pop-Up Event, Pleasanton, CA. At this event, you can go and get sized for an Aerostitch suit, jacket or pants, or just get an in-person look at their merchandise. [Aerostitch Pop-Up Event](#)
- October 23-27: Adventure Training with West38Moto in Borrego Springs, Borrego Springs, CA. [Adventure Training with West38 Moto Borrego Springs](#)
- October 28-31: 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Bad to the Beach event at Manchester KOA. This is an Airheads event, camping at Manchester Beach in northern California. [Bad to the Beach Manchester](#)
- November 3-6: Pahrump NV ADV Rally, Pahrump, NV. [Pahrump NV ADV Rally](#)
- November 11-13: Salton Sea Rendezvous – Return to Mecca Beach. [Salton Sea Rendezvous](#)

## Memorial Park Ride 2022

By Averill Henry

Greetings to all SBBMW Rider members:

I am very happy to have joined the Santa Barbara BMW Riders club after finding out about it last year through Phil, when we met and chatted while our bikes were being serviced at BMW Motorcycles of Ventura. I have to say, it is a pleasure to be around like-minded motorcycle enthusiasts, i.e., men and women adventurers who don't mind sharing their experiences, tips, and encouragement. Phil has been that kind of person to me...he is like a riding mentor sharing his time, tips and friendship. A true gentleman indeed.



Since purchasing my bike in 2017, it has been my dream to ride the Pacific coastline up to the Canadian border and visit all the State and National parks along the way. I have an affinity for seeking God's creation in nature, particularly the giant redwoods and sequoias in the north, along with visiting the Hoh Rain Forest, Oregon Caves, and several other natural wonders along the coast.

I have very little experience traveling hours on end on a motorcycle, but that is what I need to do to overcome my apprehension and procrastination. During the past year I planned several times to set out on an excursion and something serious came up preventing the trips. I could say in hindsight that it was probably for the best at the time, due to my lack of preparedness.

However, in September, 2021, I managed to escape the mundane and rode to Monterey Bay via PCH, and camped at a local KOA. It was a short trip that I wrote about in our newsletter several months ago and emphasized a few lessons learned along the way. That experience taught me to pack my panniers with the essentials readily accessible in the event of an emergency. And on a positive note, I recalled how refreshing it was to awake early morning and breathe in the cool moist clean air and the fresh smell of nature. Since that time, I have become very anxious to travel further north to visit the Crescent City Redwood National Park, and on to the Oregon Caves, and continue north to the State of Washington with the destination to camp in the Hoh Rain Forest, see the giant Redwoods and hike some amazing trails if time permitted.

Expressing my desire to Phil last month, we sat down and planned a route to ride northeast to the Sierra Nevada range via Highway 41 to Oakhurst and on to Mariposa to Ebbetts Pass (Highway 4), and ride on to Alice's Restaurant in Woodside, California, for a five-day short trip so that I could gain some experience before traveling the distance to another state. However, we quickly became aware of the Oak Fire near Yosemite that would make for poor air quality, so we decided to take the coastline north and look for a campsite near Alice's Restaurant. Phil was very familiar with the roads there having family living nearby.



Reaching our destination in approximately five hours, we made camp at Memorial Park in the County of San Mateo, California. This park was gorgeous with many tall redwoods and a canopy of redwood branches offering plenty of shade, ferns of various types and other foliage throughout the park ground that made me think I would likely see Sasquatch. Our campsite, like all the others, was pristine, large enough to accommodate my 17-foot Redverz Atacama tent and Phil's smaller Redverz Hawk tent, with plenty of room to spare. In addition, each campsite included two large picnic tables, a fire pit, and running water and drinking fountain nearby. Furthermore, there were restrooms and showers

conveniently located throughout the park, an amphitheater and an unusual sight: a telephone booth located near the entrance, perhaps due to the lack of cellphone reception. There were approximately 170 campsites and they were nicely spaced apart in my opinion. The Park was serviced by Park Rangers and patrolled frequently. I was blown away that such a park full of redwood trees was within a five-hour ride north from Santa Maria. I believed I could only see a park like this near Crescent City California, Oregon, or Washington states. Moreover, we rode Highway 35 (Skyline Blvd.) and Highway 9, which had miles of fun twisty roads with scenic views overlooking valleys and dense forest redwood trees. I recommend that the SBBMW Riders club plan a trip to Memorial Park this year or the next. A Park Ranger said late September would be best, or early May.



Alice's Restaurant, located on Skyline Blvd. in Woodside California, was just as I read it would be. It clearly is a destination for motorcyclists, exotic cars, and folks on horseback that stop for a bite to eat. While we were there, we observed all three forms of transportation by patrons. They served typical American cuisine for breakfast, lunch, and dinner along with some Mexican American breakfast specials. On that day, the temperature in the area was in the 90's, but the Park, which was at a lower elevation, was considerably more comfortable under the shade of the trees.

This trip was not without a few hiccups. While riding Pescadero Creek Road at Alpine Road Phil stopped on the side of the road before a T-intersection. The portion of the road on which he stopped was off-camber, sloping downward on the right a few degrees with a gulch and small stream of water approximately 40 feet below. As he came to a stop and placed his feet down on the ground, the slope caused him to lean to the right, and down his bike went. The bike he was riding was his BMW 1000XR. Unlike a GS with the motor cylinders extending out to the sides, his bike fell flat. I pride myself on physical fitness, but we both struggled to pick the bike up and managed to do so with great effort, which brings me to "Lessons" learned along the way.

*Lesson 1: Avoid stopping on off-camber roads, if possible, because you risk both yourself and your bike toppling over and sliding down a steep embankment into a gulch and having to be rescued.*

Once Phil re-saddled his bike with the intent to ride a few feet forward to fairly even ground, he accelerated slowly and suddenly the bike must have stalled and he quickly toppled over to the right again. This time he fell and slid partway down the embankment toward the gulch below as his bike fell on its side with the handle bar and tank slightly pitched downward. Phil managed to stop himself from sliding further with his boots and scratching and crawling the ground with his hands to slow his slide. I stepped down toward him to give him a hand to pull him up. Phil managed to survive the ordeal unscathed except for a few splinters in his hands from the scratching and crawling. This time we needed assistance to stand his bike up because it was in a precarious position, as we were on the side of an embankment, unable to plant our feet to a solid surface. We were blessed to have assistance from another rider that happened to be passing by from the opposite direction.

*Lesson 2: Carry a rappelling rope with carabiner for climbers, a winch, or Buddy Tow strap that I carry to rescue your friend when they fail Lesson 1. In addition, Phil fortunately had tweezers in his possession to remove a few splinters from his hands. You just never know when you will need such equipment.*



After Phil failed Lesson 1 twice and escaped falling into an abyss, he recalled his mother telling him that things, bad things, come in 3's. I replied saying that the statement was superstition. This brings me to Lesson 3:

*Lesson 3: Caution – a motorcycle loaded with camping gear raises the center of gravity and drastically changes how it handles especially at slow speeds.*

“Incidentally” the very next day after Phil dropped his bike twice, I, with my bike loaded with camping gear, negotiated a slow right turn in a parking lot. Suddenly I felt the weight of the motorcycle and could do nothing to prevent it from slowly toppling over on the ground. As embarrassment began to overcome my pride, I remembered my “RawHyde” training, managed to keep my footing and switched my bike off before attempting to pick it up. At that time Phil said to me with a slight grin, “Do you remember when I told yesterday what my mother said about things come in 3's?” Very funny COINCIDENCE!

Phil and I also rode a stretch of State Route 236 through Big Basin State Park. This road now open had been closed due to the CZU Lightning Complex Fire in August 2020, which was devastating to the entire area and communities. All the historic buildings had burned to the ground along with a nature museum set to be open in 2021 after over a million dollars was raised for that project. The Park visitor's center lodge and staff homes were also reduced to ash. Seeing the charred redwood trees coming back to life with moss growing on them and grass and ferns on the ground as we rode along was encouraging and great to see the forest recovering.

Overall, this was the best trip I've had since purchasing my bike. The smell of the trees and firewood burning in the pits of some campsites during our two-day stay was absolutely wonderful to me. Although I do plan to ride up the coast to Washington and camp in the Hoh Rain Forest at some point in the future, I truly enjoyed Memorial Park, the twisty roads, and the fact it is was only five hours north via Highway 1. Moreover, the Key-lime pie I ate at Ragged Point was a delicious treat returning home.

Thank you, Phil. It was a pleasure riding with you!

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Who did the beautiful work pictured on Page 2? One of our own members, Hank Hughes!

## Campo Alto Campout, August 2022

Photos by Cody







*Photo right: Stefan enhanced Cody's photo of the night sky to really show off the Milky Way.*

## Chuck's Ride to Paonia Part 1: Santa Barbara to Paonia

Photos and words by Chuck Beattie



**Santa Barbara, July 16:** We gathered at my house Sunday evening to discuss trip plans and to synchronize helmet communications and have a few beverages and snacks. We met at a gas station at 6 AM Monday to head for Las Vegas. Yep, it was pretty warm for the second half of the ride with 106 °F being the high.

**Las Vegas, July 18:** Once we got into the Travelodge motel, we found a Denny's restaurant nearby and had a bite of lunch. Then, the sky opened up for a little while and it's still 102 °F. Go figure.... the prominent billboard outside our motel made me think of all of the opportunities that

are available in this country. Just think, if you lose your ass in the casinos, you have a fallback position by faking an injury and calling your dream team to sue the motel or hotel.



**Hatch,  
July 19:**

From Cedar City, we took Highway 14 to 89 to 12, thru Escalante to Bicknell. We had a little rain over the pass on Highway 12. The aspen groves were gorgeous! Fabulous route! Lunch at Hatch Station. Oscar took a "shortcut" through Zion and met up with us in Hatch at almost exactly the same time. We took a slightly different route.



**Bicknell, UT, July 19:** We pulled into Bicknell, Utah to our motel and settled in. They have a pretty nice pool which we enjoyed. We had heard about a Guy Fieri restaurant in town and went there for Indian pizza and other Indian dishes which were terrific! A very pleasant surprise! The town had a very nice memorial place that we explored and appreciated.



**Hanksville, July 20:** The Hanksville cave market was pretty interesting. Was actually dug out of the mountain.



**Paonia, July 20:** We left Bicknell at 6 AM and arrived in Paonia around 1:30 PM and set up tents. We did a little exploring of the area and had a superb dinner at the Flying Fork restaurant. Paonia is a fairly artsy place. We stumbled on a fantastic metal art studio with some really wild creations. The artist is Sean Guerrero. See his site at <https://www.chromesean.com/chrome-sculpture-artist>



To be continued...