



SANTA BARBARA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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BMW MOA CLUB #165

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER...136 HP, THAT IS!

Volume 24, Issue 1

January 2024

Member News and Rides

Unfortunately, our December Holiday party had to be postponed due to illness. We hope that we can have a party within the next few months, to make up for the missed one.

One of the items on the agenda for our January meeting is nominations for Board positions: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Ambassador (formerly Member At Large). Chuck and Diane are happy to continue with their positions (Treasurer and Secretary/Newsletter editor respectively), BUT if someone else wants to fill these positions, please speak up. Steve has been President for 6 years and would like a break. Discuss with Steve if you are interested. All members are encouraged to consider any Board position.

Another item for discussion at the January meeting will be group camping at the National Rally. If we want to, we can get a reserved area for our Club members. Chuck will ask for a head count of members attending the Rally and see if a group campsite makes sense. See Page 4 for more details.

Marilyn will be riding in India in January! She will be joining Ravi Verma of the NorCal BMW Club, who is organizing the trip. This trip will last an estimated 3 weeks, and riders will be on Royal Enfields or similar. It sounds like it will be an amazing trip and we will be looking forward to hearing about it from Marilyn.

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Creekside Status

The Creekside Restaurant, where we have our monthly meetings, has informed us that they will be **closed** on rainy days. But we have an alternative! Wayne and Diane's house is available for "rain days" and it is only a couple of blocks away from the Creekside. In the case of rain, or threatened rain, members will be notified and we will meet at 180 Nogal Drive instead.

Technical Topic: Riding in the Rain

By Steve

With the rainy season arriving, here is a list of tips for survival (or even enjoyment) of rain riding.

Most of us don't ride in the rain on purpose, but sometimes we are caught and need to adjust our skills for the conditions. We had a club member years ago who actually enjoyed riding in the rain and would seek out wet riding. Last I heard, he is living in Seattle area presumably optimizing his opportunities!

The most important tip for rain riding is staying dry! This seems obvious, but not always easy to accomplish while riding a motorcycle. Being dry helps you keep warm and allows you to focus more on your riding. Today's wet weather riding gear is much better than in the past; I have used Gore-Tex for over 20 years and it my favorite by far.

Visibility is critical, as sight distances drop in the rain. SOLAS reflective strips on bike and clothing are highly effective. Bright auxiliary lights are good for others to see you, but may not be great for your vision due to reflections from the moisture. Always position yourself on the road for best visibility.

Helmet visor fogging can be significant in wet weather and the pin-lock visor system can be quite effective at keeping visor clear. However, for those wearing glasses, it is still

SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Monday, January 15, 2024: 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, February 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.
- ❖ Any other activities or rides scheduled, let me know! djkrohn1@gmail.com

not enough. I have used Rain-X for years on my visor and glasses; it negates the need for the pin-lock system that adds another lens to look through. (less distortion over the field of view)

Wet road traction is typically 80% of dry. If you have ABS, it is amazingly effective in the wet. Next time you're in the wet, mash the brakes and marvel at how quickly you can stop. Buy tires that have water shedding tread and don't drop the pressure for "better traction" as we did with the old bias ply's. Beware of the slippery road film that arises with initial light rain.

Ride with a relaxed arm position on the bars and avoid sudden corrections as you might make when it's dry. Try to stay in tire tracks to optimize traction.

Finally, if there is significant diesel fuel on the wet road, you're probably going down. I have a friend who is an expert rider and he could not avoid crashing under these circumstances. My only advice here is to maintain good Karma!

Highway Updates

Highway 33: First, it was opened in mid-December (with five sections of one-way traffic control), then it was closed again on December 19! The heavy rains that occurred in December resulted in more road damage. No further word on when it will re-open again.

Highway 1: Caltrans has announced an estimated date for a full re-opening of Highway 1 will be late spring 2024.

Highway 1 remains closed at Limekiln State Park for northbound travelers; and for southbound travelers, closed 0.6 miles south of the town of Lucia.



*Paul's Slide on Highway 1, looking north.
Photo by Caltrans.*

For those of you looking for a curvy road fix, keep in mind that Foxen Canyon, Harris Grade, Tepusquet, Jalama Beach, and Casitas Pass roads are all open (among many others in our area).

Upcoming Events

- March 7-10: Airheads Death Valley Rendezvous, Furnace Creek Campground, Death Valley, CA. [Death Valley Rendezvous](#)
- March 20-24: ADV Rider 2024 Death Valley Noobs Rider Rally, Panamint Springs, CA. [ADV Rider Death Valley Rally](#)
- March 21-25: NorCal BMW Club Death Valley Campout, Furnace Creek, Death Valley, CA. Registration will open approximately 30 days before the campout. [Death Valley Campout](#)
- June 13-15: BMW MOA National Rally, Redmond, OR. [BMW 2024 Rally](#). Note: See Page 4 for information on Chartered Camping at the Rally.

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Open Tuesday- Friday, 8 a.m. to 6p.m.
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Chartered Club Camping at the National Rally

MOA dedicates an area for chartered club reserved group camping at the Rally site, including sign notification. Questions and site-reservation requests must go to Norm Wright, Co-Chair for Group Camping Sites. Reserving a site can include optional equipment rentals, which can be tents, walls, chairs or tables. Equipment rental requests must be made on the BMWMOA website and the deadline for rentals is March 15, 2024. Rental fees include the vendor set-up and teardown fees. Clubs are responsible for any damage to the equipment.

In addition to making rental requests on the MOA website, please inform Norm Wright as to your Club Name, contact person info, and approximate number of attendees, to assure adequate ground space is reserved.

If your Club has its own canopies or tables, you may bring them. However, all canopy, tables and chairs that are rented must be reserved through the MOA website per agreement with the rally site vendor. Reserving Club Space or renting accessories does not include the Rally Attendee Fees, those must be procured separately on the MOA website.

MOA Site: <https://rally.bmwmoa.org/chartered-club-camping/>

iPhone 15 – Oooopppssss! **A Short Story About Mindfulness** **By Chuck**



I went for a nice jaunt with Enzo and Angelo around the valley, ending up at Toscana Restaurant in Solvang. We had a great lunch with no alcohol. We suited up for the ride home. I put my new phone on top of my top case, while I put my jacket on, helmet, gloves, etc.

About a half mile down the road, I felt a bump in my back as I slowed for a traffic light. I immediately realized my lack of mindfulness - my phone slid off the top case, hit me and bounced into the highway! Yikes! I turned around, rode back a short distance, saw the phone in the middle of the road face down, parked my bike, ran back, waited for a traffic break, and picked up the phone. Yep, it had been run over and the screen protector had many starred breaks on it. See photo.

Enzo called me on the phone and it worked! Greatly relieved, but still not sure how much damage the phone suffered, I peeled the screen protector and the case off when I got home, and found NO damage to the screen or the rest of the phone. It's fully functional!

The toughness of the titanium case and overall phone quality says a lot for Apple! My rule is to always put the phone in my jacket pocket before starting the bike and I will never put it on the top case again!

Didn't we have a discussion about Mindfulness at a meeting recently? 🤔🤔🤔

Part 2: The rest of the story: Well, strangely enough, Friday evening my phone displayed a brilliant green vertical stripe over the entire screen. Everything was still functional, but for the very distracting and brilliant green stripe. Research indicated the screen was damaged and needed to be replaced. First thing Saturday morning at the Apple store, that was confirmed. The phone was still under warranty, and the screen was replaced in 2 hours! Awesome!!! Pretty clever of the Apple folks to put that stripe up when the phone was injured!

I decided to buy the extended warranty...



End of Year Ride

Chuck proposed an End of the Year Ride for Sunday, December 31: Highway 154 to Foxen Canyon, then Palmer Road, to Los Alamos for lunch at Plenty on Bell; then a return via Nojoqui Falls, Alisal Road, Solvang and then back to Santa Barbara.

We met at the Chevron station on La Cumbre Road with 8 riders: Robert, Raoul, Enzo, Marilyn, Oscar, Kevin and Eddie. Wayne and Diane joined in the Miata. Robert left at our Los Olivos stop, as he only wanted to get out for a short ride. The day was cool and overcast, but no rain and it was a great way to end the year, with a nice group folks on fun roads. Lunch was good, too!

Lunch stop in Los Alamos: [Plenty on Bell](#)



Above, L to R: Diane, Wayne, Robert, Raoul, Chuck, Enzo, Marilyn and Kevin.

Left: Chuck and Marilyn at our lunch stop.

Photos by Oscar.

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Left, clockwise starting with Eddie: Kevin, Oscar, Diane, Wayne, Raoul, Enzo, Chuck and Marilyn. Photo by Oscar.

Below: With our Club banner! L to R: Enzo, Wayne, Diane, Kevin, Raoul, Oscar, Marilyn, Chuck, and Eddie. Photo by Enzo.

