



SANTA BARBARA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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

Volume 25, Issue 2

February 2025

Member News and Rides

We had about 20 attendees at the January meeting at the Creekside Restaurant.

Pippa was able to make the meeting despite her broken arm! She was riding on Camino Cielo, came around a corner and met up with a rider coming around the corner from the other direction. Nevertheless, she has future plans to go to Guatemala for more travel.

Chuck talked about the "Events" menu on our website and mentioned that it is available for any member to post up an event. Future events are planned to include a spring event, possibly on Fort Hunter Liggett at the Hearst Hacienda Lodge, and riding to the coast from there. **Cody** will probably plan for two campouts during the year. **Oscar** would like to plan for a fall event, possibly northern California/southern Oregon, or the California coast.

We got news that long-time member **Harvey Rawn** has died. Chuck spoke with Harvey a couple of months ago, and Harvey mentioned that he enjoyed the Club and members greatly. More about Harvey from Club members on Pages 8-11.

Rest in peace, Harvey, and condolences to Harvey's family and friends.

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SB BMW Riders Elections

At our January meeting, we asked for volunteers for the various Board positions. In February, the election slate will be presented, and voting will take place in March, as per our bylaws.

Those who volunteered are:

President: Wayne Beckman (or maybe Oscar?)

Vice-President: Cody Cook

Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Diane Krohn

Treasurer: Chuck Beatty

Technical Discussion: BMW Driveshaft Saga

Owners of BMW R1200 and R1250 models were receiving letters late last year from BMW informing them of an unusual addition to the maintenance schedule of the K5x series. Driveshafts will now be checked and regreased every 12,000 miles and replaced every 36,000 miles, all at no charge to owners.

There have been complaints about premature driveshaft failures for several years. BMW has been investigating the problem for some time and have been adding one-way rubber vent valves to Paralever assemblies to avoid condensation which leads to corrosion and premature failure.

In 2022, BMW issued a service bulletin (not a recall) to examine driveshafts the next time the bike is in an authorized shop. Those model numbers included R1200 GS models from 2013-onwards, as well as R1250 GS machines and R1250 RT tourers.

Why were the bikes being called in? Information from BMW at that time described a special testing device that replaced the rear wheel and detected abnormality in the final drive. If the device detected a problem, then the driveshaft would be examined for damage, particularly corrosion-related damage. As part of the

SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Monday, February 17: Monthly meeting at Creekside Restaurant & Bar, 4444 Hollister Ave., Santa Barbara. Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. Get there at 5:30 if you want to order dinner
- ❖ Monday, March 17: Monthly meeting at Creekside Restaurant & Bar, 4444 Hollister Ave., Santa Barbara. Meeting starts at 6:00 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

service work, a drain hole in the swingarm would be installed, which will allow the user to detect water intrusion, which would in turn point to possible corrosion. Bikes built in the fall of 2021 and onward are designed to prevent build-up of internal condensation, and thus, no corrosion problems.

Bob P. commented that he did not see rust on his R1250; Chuck saw corrosion on the spline and U-joints on his R1200. Steve has bought an after-market driveshaft, and he also put in a moisture valve on his bike.

Steve had looked into this reason for the driveshaft check and replacement and found that it is possibly due to a rider on a GS had the rear lock-up, he went down and died. However, this is not known for certain.

What Does This Have to Do With Motorcycling Anyway?

There seems to be a lot of news lately about “social capital,” that is, the connections between people and their friends, family, neighbors, clubs and community; and how it’s good for both your mental and physical health.

Decades ago, Americans were more involved with community and friends, but many changes in work, family structure, computers and other factors have resulted in a decline in social engagement.

So, what does this have to do with motorcycling anyway? Well, our Club meets regularly for conversation, a meal, a party, going for a ride and on trips with fellow Club members. All in-person! Social connections that are good for all of us. Cheers!



Upcoming Events

- March 6-9: Airheads Death Valley Rendezvous, Furnace Creek, Death Valley. [Airheads Death Valley Rendezvous](#)
- March 19-23: ADV Rider Death Valley Noobs Rally 2025, Panamint Springs Resort, Death Valley. [ADV Rider Death Valley Noobs Rally](#)
- March 27-30: BMW NorCal Death Valley campout, Furnace Creek, Death Valley. [Death Valley Campout](#)
- May 1-4: ADV Rider WARPED Rally, Kernville, CA. [WARPED 2025](#)
- May 23-26: The 53rd Annual 49er Rally, Mariposa, CA. More details to come later.

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Road Report: Nacimiento-Fergusson By Diane and Photos by Wayne

After being closed for almost 4 years, Nacimiento Fergusson Road opened on November 15, 2024. Wayne and I decided to take a short trip up north to check out the road, and also to enjoy other attractions along the way.



Above: Female elephant seals having a dispute. Right: Wine cellar at Hearst Castle.

First, we stopped at San Simeon to view the Elephant Seals at the Piedras Blancas Rookery. Lots of females with pups, and a few males. Other times we have visited, there have been more males and more fighting. But this time, it was pretty quiet, except for territory disputes among the females. It's always surprising that the pups don't get squashed by the adult seals. At least we haven't seen that happen!

After visiting the seal rookery, we stopped at the Friends of the Elephant Seal Visitor Center in San Simeon; small but informative. In the afternoon, we went on a Hearst Castle tour, the Cottages and Kitchen tour. We got to see the well-stocked wine cellar (just for show, these days), a couple of guest cottages and the very large kitchen. The amount of artwork and craftsmanship at Hearst Castle is always mind-boggling.



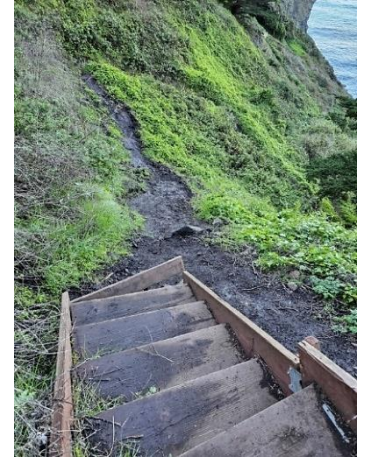
Above: One of the guest cottages at Hearst Castle.

We spent the night at Ragged Point Inn. Many of us have stopped here previously for lunch, to take a short break and for fuel, but Wayne and I had never spent the night here. Highly recommended! It was especially quiet this time of year, and we got to choose what type of room we wanted. The food was really good—a new chef—and with an ocean view, it was a memorable dinner.

A note on the Ragged Point Inn: they have a set of rooms in The Cliff House, which has private rooms and bathrooms, with a communal living room space and kitchen. Something to keep in mind for our Club outings if we want to spend the night here.



Left: No RV's on this section of Highway 1! Right: The very exciting staircase to the ocean at Ragged Point. We stopped short of the falling-apart steps.



The next day, we drove north on Highway 1. There was some traffic, mainly trucks for the road construction work north of Lucia. Nacimiento-Fergusson Road has a lot of repaired sections; it is understandable why it took almost 4 years to get the work done. The road is still rough in a lot of areas, so even though it has good curves, it's a bit too rough for speedy driving for us – but if you have a GS, hey, no problem! **BUT** this road is narrow and has traffic coming in the other direction, so use caution. While we were on the road, 7 very large construction vehicles passed us on their way to Highway 1. We guessed that they were coming from points north of King City, and for whatever reason, thought that taking Nacimiento-Fergusson Road was faster than going farther south on Highway 101, then north again on Highway 1.

From Nacimiento-Fergusson Road, we went through part of Fort Hunter-Liggett via Mission Road, then Jolon Road and then onto Highway 101. This routing does not require you to go through the Visitor Control Center because you bypass the base.

We had beautiful weather for this trip. The hills are just starting to green up, but after this series of rainstorms, the area will be even prettier. It's a good time to take a ride on Nacimiento-Fergusson!



Right: A view from Nacimiento Fergusson Road.



Left: One section of repairs on Nacimiento Fergusson Road. The road had many repaired sections.

Below: The road by Camp Nacimiento.

Below left and right: Apparently, putting locks on this fence at Ragged Point is a tradition for visitors, especially wedding couples.

Links to points of interest on this route:

Elephant Seals at San Simeon: [Friends of the Elephant Seal](#)

Hearst Castle: [Hearst Castle Tours](#)

Ragged Point Inn: [Ragged Point Inn](#)



Jalama Beach Ride Photos, January 30

Photos by John Alexander



Above, L to R: John B., Phil, Don, unknown, John A., Chuck, Dana, Marilyn, Steve and Eddie.

Below: L to R: John B., Chuck, unknown, and Steve.

Right: Along Jalama Road.



Remembering Harvey Rawn

Photos from John White, Bob Phinney and Wayne Beckman



Harvey on Highway 1.

Harvey was one of the very first people I connected with in the club back about 2002. He was always such a cheerful riding and camping companion. What a wonderful person. His smile and cheery attitude will live on forever!

--Tony Suhrer

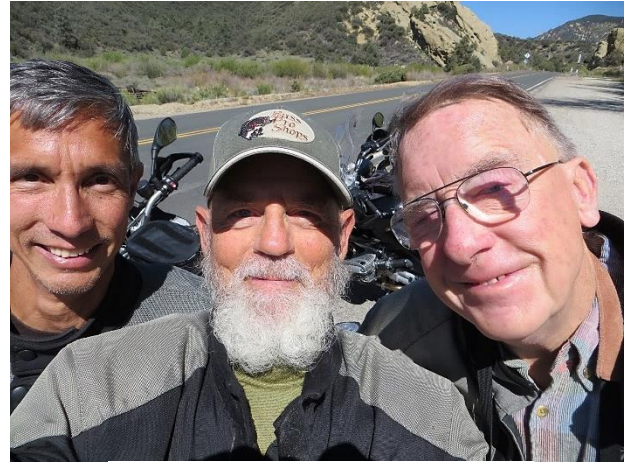


Above: Harvey fishing off of the Channel Islands.



Right: Tech Day at Marten's: Harvey and Suz, with Hank and Chris.





Above: Kimo, John and Harvey.

We had an understanding that Sunday was our Church Ride Day, and we'd meet about 8 or 9 at the beginning of any loop that we chose for the day.

We got to know the roads quite well in our area, the 150 Loop, 33 over to Castaic, Malibu Hills, Santa Monica and Coast Highway Plus.

We even visited local areas of interest, Adamson House in Santa Monica--that's where Suz and Harvey got hitched! Of course, the Rock Store, Wolf's, Vasquez Rocks, Griffith Park, Paramount Western Outdoor Studio, Santa Monica Pier, various photography exhibits, he was a photographer and did win awards for his work.

Those old snaps you take? Take a bit and look them over, will bring a lot of memories back. RIP Harvey Riding Buddy!

Important: I never met another man who could snore as loud as Harvey...

--John White



Left: Somis, Harvey's dog, in a field of Goldfields, 2019.



Malibu Ride, L to R: Bob, Fran, Unnamed rider, Harvey, and Steve.

Harvey Rawn was a friend, Suz' husband, Somis' number one human, a quiet guy, a fun guy, a realtor, a photographer of note and a contracted employee of FEMA. He did each well and without fanfare.

Harvey was a man who knew the back roads of eastern Ventura County and western Los Angeles County like few others. How do I know? I followed him many times on those roads, doing my best to keep up. Thankfully, Harvey, full of grace, would wait patiently at the next crossroad, his 2007 BMW R1150R raring to go some more.

For years, Harvey and his wife Suz were a presence at our club meetings. Harvey was quiet. Suz was not. Harvey joyfully subscribed to her antics. What a gal! After Suz's death, we saw less of Harvey.

Harvey's home was in Somis, near Camarillo. If we scheduled a midweek ride through Ojai, into Santa Paula and over into the Santa Monica mountains, we were sure to have Harvey (and sometimes Lee Husband) join us. Following Harvey down the full length of Latigo Canyon Road was a true challenge. My favorite ride with Harvey remains the day when we took Mulholland Hwy from Hwy 1 eastward to its terminus at the 101 Fwy in Woodland Hills. Then he led me to the western end of Mulholland Drive and on to its eastern end near the Hollywood Bowl. Great ride. Great views.

As Harvey got close to and then older than 80, he still rode but with less fervent zeal. Having him ride with us to the Waypoint Cafe in Camarillo or at Brent's Deli in Westlake Village was a delight.

Harvey: always a good partner on a ride.

--Bob Phinney

I remember Harvey and wife Suz attending meetings when we met in the back room at Sizzler. At the time, they were dog breeders and a couple of their pooches would wait impatiently in the car until one of their people let them out for a piddle. Later, when we met in the back room at Cody's, Harvey would push Suz in her wheelchair into the room where she would take an active part in the meeting. After Suz passed, Harvey brought his dog Somis with him. Somis would sleep at his feet after being admitted, probably surreptitiously, into the meeting area. I also recall that Harvey and John White enjoyed rides in the general area of the Rock Store.

Harvey was not one to draw attention to himself, but his quiet ways concealed a man of talents and accomplishments.

--Chris Lucadello



Above left: John, Kimo and Harvey. Above right: Harvey, John, Diane and Steve at Pine Mountain Inn, May 2019. Below: Suz and Harvey.

