



THE CENTERLINE

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Georgia, Inc.

February 2005

Chartered by the
BMW Motorcycle
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the BMW Riders
Association and the
American
Motorcyclist
Association

President

Jacqueline Flood
678-464-3452
president@bmwmoga.org

Vice President

Jeff D. Anderson
678-910-9580
vp@bmwmoga.org

Secretary

Keith Anderson
770-516-9624
secretary@bmwmoga.org

Treasurer

Norma Wiles
706-835-1260
treasurer@bmwmoga.org

Ride Captain

Vince Eugenio
404-277-2426
roadcaptain@bmwmoga.org

Director

Ian Schmeisser
770-995-9003
ians@bellsouth.net

Director

Roger Brooking
478-994-1113
huaum@earthlink.net

RallyMaster

Jane Moore
770-761-1939
rallymeister@bmwmoga.org

Newsletter Editor

Claudia Griffiths
404-241-6069 Home
404-241-6098 Fax
editor@bmwmoga.org

2004 Totally Random Mileage Contest Results

By Jeff Anderson & Jackie Flood

The 2004 Totally Random Mileage Contest stats are in the book for another year. We already have over 20 people signed up for the 2005 challenge of "rough bums" as Larry (of Les Marmitons) so aptly put it at the banquet. He must have heard about the Iron Butt and that was all he remembered. I expect the competition will get wicked up a notch this coming year.

12 out of 14 original participants posted their mileage and we want to acknowledge the efforts of these riders.

For some people it's difficult going to the store to buy milk without going through 2 or 3 other states. Sometimes there's a destination in mind when you throw your leg over the saddle, while other times you just keep riding to see what's around the next corner. Our hearty congratulations go to the winners of the 2004 Totally Random Mileage Contest. Here are the results:

Roger Brooking covered 34,072 miles on his Honda ST1300; Carol Youorski was 2nd with 23,319 miles on her 2003 K1200RS; Doug Peters was 3rd with 15,074 on his BMW & Ducati, and Jim Gurney was



First place winner, Roger Brooking.

4th with 14,311 miles on his 1995 R1100GS.

The remaining eight fell in order with mileages from 4,938 to 14,256 for the high end. Notable mention goes to Ellen Welter, a brand new rider with one year under her belt. She logged 12,663 with a couple of months out for surgery.

I did my best Joan Rivers to find out the secrets why they ride like they do.

Roger said, "It's the wind. The wind sings to you as you ride. There is a zone of reality where you can become one with the wind and one with yourself. A runner, a mountain climber and a skydiver all know a form of this. It doesn't matter what happened yesterday or the minute before you went for a ride. While on the ride you have to be in the now and you must be ready for change in that now. The now I am talking about is not on the bike but some place in the sight line in front of the bike. On the days you can get there you don't want to stop riding. It is also great to ride with others who like to ride because it becomes a fellowship of people in that now."

Carol told me it started with the BMW-MOGA. "When I joined the club as a new rider, people like Bob Richards, Dennis

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High mileage winner #2, Carol "Skert" Youorski (center) with Mini "Skert" (left) & JoAnna Murray (right).



Club Events...

The calendar is current as of the day of publication, but new events are being scheduled all the time. Please check the website at www.bmwmoa.org to see the latest information.

Sunday, February 6th – Club Meeting

The February BMWMOGA meeting will be held at Stallions Steak & Seafood (formerly Cowboys) in Rutledge, GA. 11 a.m. for the meeting, with lunch to follow. It's family style buffet for \$11.95 per person. Stallions Steak and Seafood, 7180 Hwy 278, Rutledge, GA 30663, 706-557-9822. Exit 101 off 20, 3 miles north of interstate.

Sunday, March 6th – Club Meeting

Time TBD. FDR State Park, Pavilion #1.

Sunday, March 13th – The Great Northwest Georgia Courthouse Ride

The purpose of this ride is primarily to visit nine Georgia County courthouses following the historic Highway US 27 – Martha Berry Scenic Highway. See the following web site for information on Martha Berry Scenic Highway: <http://www.hwy27.com/tour.html>. Although designed as a Courthouse Challenge Ride all club members are welcome to ride along and enjoy the historic small town county courthouses. Ride will be lead by Bill Haycock, the Courthouse Challenge Sponsor. Ride rendezvous at International House of Pancakes, Bullsboro Road (a.k.a. Hwy 34), just off exit #47 from I-85 S. It's on the west side of I-85, the phone number is 770-252-3998, and grid coordinates are N33 23.811, W84 45.289. Arrive at IHOP for breakfast at 9:00 a.m., departure for ride at 10:00 a.m.

The group will visit nine Georgia County courthouses along the Martha Berry Scenic Highway. The pace will be generally moderate. The length of this ride is 180 miles. The ride will take approximately seven hours to complete including two stops. Following is the general route to be followed: starting at the IHOP the group will go into Newnan to locate and visit the Coweta County courthouse. Departing Newnan we travel directly to Franklin (Heard County). From Franklin the route follows US 27 (Martha Berry Scenic Highway) to Carrollton, Buchanan, Cedartown, Rome, Summerville, Calhoun and ending at Cartersville. Ten minute stops will be made at each of the above listed towns to visit and record the courthouse data needed for those participating in the Courthouse Challenge. The ride will end in Cartersville, GA. Map set and route file are from "City Select V6", with "Map Source V6.5". Contact Bill at whaycock@mchsi.com for GPS data if desired.

Saturday, April 2nd – Club Meeting

Time TBD. John Tanner State Park, Pavilion #2.

April 16th – Open House & Swap Meet

It's spring cleaning time! Out with the old, in with the

new...BMW Motorcycle Owners of Georgia and BMW Motorcycles of Atlanta will be hosting a Swap Meet and Open House on Saturday, April 16th, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. til 5:00 p.m. This Open House and Swap meet will coincide with BMW's National Open House. We will have the new R12RT, R12ST, and the radical K12S available for demo rides all day. Bring your goodies along with a table if you need one and you can sell all that extra stuff to the next victim. There will be free hamburgers, hot dogs, "Woolie Chili" and drinks.

We will have three Technical Sessions so you can learn how to properly service your R, K, and F bikes. Vendors will be here with lots of door prizes. There will be a ride the next day, Sunday April 17th, leaving at 10:00 a.m. from BMW Motorcycles of Atlanta led by Bob Wooldridge through the best roads we can find in North Georgia, winding up at Two Wheels Only in Suches, Georgia for a late lunch. COME ON DOWN FOR THE FUN!! For information contact Bob Wooldridge at 770-984-9844 x4.

Other Events...

February 11th-13th – The Great American Motorcycle Show

At the North Atlanta Trade Center in Norcross. Our 14th year!! Show is full of a 2005 foreign and domestic motorcycles from cafe racers to cruisers, custom bike showcase, accessories and more custom chrome and apparel to get you on the open road in style no matter what you ride. Bring a friend or the whole family and spend the day. HOURS: Friday 4-9, Saturday 9-8, Sunday 10-5:30. Admission: adults 15 & up \$12; 6-14 \$7; kids 5 & under free. You can go to our web site www.northatlantatradecenter.com and print out your *\$1.00 OFF COUPON*

Atlanta Motorcycle Schools Experienced Rider Classes

Atlanta Motorcycle Schools is offering an Experienced Rider Class to the BMWMOGA riders on **Saturday, March 26th, Friday, April 8th, and Friday, April 29th**. Interested riders should go to www.jkminc.com and fill out the application on the "sign up" page. For additional information contact Ken and JoAnna Murray at 770-516-0138.

April 14th - 17th – Blitz to Branson

The tenth annual and second longest-held Internet BMW Riders' rally, the Blitz To Branson X will be held from Thursday, April 14th through Sunday, April 17th 2005. We're starting the fun early this year, so if you can make it to Branson on Thursday, plan on being there Thursday. This year we're staying at The Barrington (N 36 40.011 W 93 15.153) just downhill from the Branson Towers. The Barrington Hotel & Suites' number is 800-760-8866 and

Other Events, cont.'d...

Dolly is in charge of reservations. Be sure to mention that you are with the Internet BMW Riders for the \$35 per night rate.

Robert Munday will host two meals this year, which have become a Bunny tradition in Branson. For those of you arriving Thursday, join him that evening for Thai Bunny. Friday at noon we'll observe the annual Bunny Lunch at Mickey Gilley's Texas Cafe.

Details of activities and ride routes will be made available later. There are great Missouri and Arkansas roads to ride on Saturday for the adventurous, or plenty of outlet mall shopping and live shows for the weary.

The BMW Motorcycle Owners Of Alabama, as part of the 2005 Rocket City Rally, will be raffling a 2005 BMW 1150 Roadster (non-ABS). Tickets are \$5.00 and Robert will have them available in Branson. Ticket purchasers need not be present to win. The drawing will be during the rally on Saturday, May 28th, 2005.

If you plan to celebrate the tenth annual Blitz To Branson, send your name and home city and state to Robert offlist at RWMunday@juno.com. You must write...he's not going to "assume" you're coming. Also let him know if you can attend Thai Bunny and/or the Mickey Gilley lunch.

June 5th – Ride for Kids

Start location: North Point Mall, Alpharetta, GA. Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. Registration closes: 9:15 a.m. Rain or shine!! Ride travels through scenic countryside, with police escort. CELEBRATION OF LIFE program at endpoint includes award presentations to individuals, chapter/clubs and festivities. GRAND PRIZE: Honda VTX 1800. Free coffee/donuts and light lunch. See the Ride for Kids site for more information:

<http://www.ride4kids.org/atlanta/index.htm>

July 12th – MDA's Rolling On Ride

3rd annual Rolling On Ride to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. We would love for your chapter of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Georgia club to join us. The money raised at the ride will help fund local patient service programs including cost-free clinic visits at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and the Emory University Center for Rehab Medicine, MDA Summer Camp for children, and the purchase of wheelchairs and leg braces. Most of all, your participation and contributions offer hope through worldwide MDA-funded research. This year is sure to be an exciting event with motorcycle enthusiasts gathering to have a good time for a great cause. For more details please call 770-621-9800.

July 14th - 17th – Atlanta Summer Bike Fest

At Lakewood Fairgrounds/Exhibition Center, www.atlantabikefest.com or 877-247-3337. Demo rides, vendors, music, charity ride, girls, volleyball, stunt show....you name it, looks like they've got it!

2004 Totally Random Mileage Contest Results

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McNeal, Tim McGee, Mac McEnheimer, and Walt and Lydia Sweat encouraged me to keep track of my mileage. I had no idea the excitement I would feel at the end of a year was a disease. After many years of 25K miles per year I realized it is just the way I am instead of the way I have to be."

"When I'm heading for a destination on my motorcycle, my wheels roll away from any problems I thought I had. Those miles filled me with a serenity, which became quite addictive. I love the uniqueness of being a woman on a bike and meeting the most wonderful people everywhere I go. I take pride in knowing I just rode through 5 or 6 states while sitting comfortably watching the sun set far from home. It has become a passion rather than an obsession."

Ellen our newest long distance rider, who only started riding a year ago said:

"As I got more confidence, I found that I was looking for excuses to ride. I ride because I enjoy the sense of freedom it gives me. Riding horses for the last 20 years gave me enjoyment outdoors and moving fast. With no horse here in Atlanta, I transferred my passion to the iron horse. On either horse you see and smell things you don't in a car."

"Most of the time I have at least a general destination in mind. It may only be a ride somewhere for lunch, and I just start out going down the road or highway looking for something that strikes my fancy. Or, in the case of long trips, it can be very detailed, including a GPS mapped destination. On occasion, I have a need to 'get away from it all,' and I know that riding (either horse) requires my full concentration, so I climb aboard and head in a direction without anything in particular in mind. Some of my best rides were like that. Some were like that as I followed others down new roads."

"Another reason I ride is as a challenge to myself. I've been told I am competitive, which is an accurate statement. Growing up with a younger brother and a slightly younger male cousin I was always told they were better than me and could do more things. I guess I'm still trying to prove to myself that I am just as good as anyone else. I push myself but not to the point of getting in over my head. To me, challenging oneself to be better is very important. Guess that is why I ride with you guys!"

Doug responded the way he rides – quickly, with no wasted motions or thoughts: "Various reasons. The thrill, enjoyment, freedom of motion, power and acceleration, speed, cornering, practicality and efficiency of motorcycles. Ease of parking, better gas mileage, camaraderie. Love of motorcycling in general."

Whatever our reasons for riding, they can be compelling. With renewed excitement in the club over the Challenge Rides and spring just around the corner, we expect to see many people logging a lot more miles this year. The Goodyear & Michelin gods will be pleased.

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From the Road Captain

By Vince Eugenio

I am delighted to announce that we have three fantastic 2005 Ride Challenges in store for you!! But before I go further, I would like to recognize Bill, Charlie and Wes for all their hard work in making these challenges happen for the club :

Bill Haycock for being the overall 2005 Ride Challenge sponsor, maintainer of the Challenge website and developer of the Georgia Courthouse Challenge.

Charlie Brooks for developing and sponsoring the Georgia Depot Challenge.

Wes McCann for developing and sponsoring for the Five Corners of Georgia Challenge.

For further information about each of the below challenges, visit <http://www.bmw-moga.org/challenges/> and use the menu on the left side of the page to click on the Ride Challenge of your choice.

Bill's Courthouse Challenge: visit as many Georgia County Court Houses as you can during the year 2005! There are presently 159 counties located in Georgia.

Charlie's Train Depots Challenge: visit 50 Georgia train depots during 2005! There is virtually a train depot for almost every letter of the alphabet.

Wes's Five Corners Challenge: ride to the five corners of Georgia including two via's within 48 hours!

It looks like 2005 is going to be a great year with lots of interesting rides and involvement from the club membership. We have already had a great ride that Bill led in south Georgia. He is already planning to lead another in the next several weeks as well as myself leading one in North Georgia for Train Depots. (Charlie, I don't want to steal your thunder. I will ride sweep if you want to take the lead the first depot club ride!)

If you want to lead a club ride this year, please shoot me an email with timing and the general ride concept. If you have never led a ride before, call me at 770-303-6809 and I would be happy to help you plan one out. It is not that hard to do and is a lot of fun, especially with the courthouses and depots to focus the rides!

Bill, Charlie and Wes, again thanks for your hard work!



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From the Prez...

By Jackie Flood

The New Year has started out enthusiastically. The banquet was a truly tasteful & elegant experience. If it had not been for name tags, I would not have recognized you all without helmet hair! You looked beautiful.

Vince Eugenio's group, Les Marmitons, a men's gourmet cooking club, created an affair to remember for "just a bunch of motorcycle riders" under the guidance of Chef Bologna of Chattahoochee Technical Institute's Culinary School. The club partnered with the Les Marmitons and gave the school \$1000 as the outcome of the banquet. This money will be used to buy knives, kits, chef's clothing, books, etc. for students needing help. (A lot of them are in this situation at the school.)

Kathy Glisson organized, set up and took care of the arrangements and made sure everyone was comfortable. Kathy, we can't thank you enough – it was perfect. The club is about riding

and promoting events of common interest, such as this one. We could not do it without the tireless help of volunteers like Kathy.

We each bring our own unique ideas and enthusiasm to the club and by doing so, we inspire others to attain new goals and increase their enjoyment in riding.

It's exciting to see a lot of folks have already stepped forward to get involved in organizing or leading one of the new Courthouse Challenge Rides, Train Depot Rides and the Georgia 5 Corners Rides. Much thought and effort has gone into organizing these events and the participants can set their own goals to accumulate however many points of interest they desire. There will be awards involved in these events, including, but not limited to the most prestigious President's Award, awarded for a picture of a courthouse and a Judge. (In the event of a tie, the tiebreaker will be a picture of a courthouse and a

Judge on your motorcycle.)

My interest is the future of this club. I want to maintain and enthuse the long time members and encourage and inspire new members. Below is a list of some of the things on our agenda for 2005.

We'll be bringing back "Whack Packs." These are wrenching sessions where we perform varying types of maintenance on our bikes under the watchful eyes of those more experienced in these areas in someone's garage; we will be taking a closer look into the feasibility of track days at one of the racetracks; holding an experienced rider class in conjunction with Atlanta Motorcycle Schools; an overnight, on/off road event (GS'ing around). We will have presentations at some of the meetings; such as Dr. Dave Westfall (First on the Scene), Rick Alembik (The Law & You – see me now or see me later), and Judy Mecham from She-Rides will bring her

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BMWMOGA 2005 Courthouse Challenge

By Bill Haycock

BMWMOGA has sponsored a number of new and exciting rides for 2005! Besides the Train Depot and Five Corners Challenge there is the Courthouse Challenge.

The Courthouse Challenge began shortly after the first of the year. The challenge is to set an individual goal for yourself on how many courthouses in Georgia you plan to visit. The goal is up to you! All one must do is visit a county courthouse and take a picture of you or your bike in front of the courthouse or historical marker near the courthouse.

The Courthouse Challenge has opened up a new horizon for me. It has been very rewarding in a number of ways. First off, it has gotten me out more than I would normally ride. Having a goal and a purpose is a driving force to get out there and ride and enjoy our state, even if it is cold.



Second, it has shown me new roads close to home – back roads to small towns are fun and I have tried to stay off the main highway and stick to the county roads.

Third, the ride has taken me into towns that I have passed by for years. Going downtown to the square has been an interesting experience. Many of these smaller coun-

ty seats are like a time machine to the past. The architectural style of the old homes are wonderful examples of a history rich in style and grandeur.

Finally, the history behind many of these locations has added some interesting pieces of knowledge about our state. For example, meeting Brer Rabbit in Eatonton was a pleasant surprise.

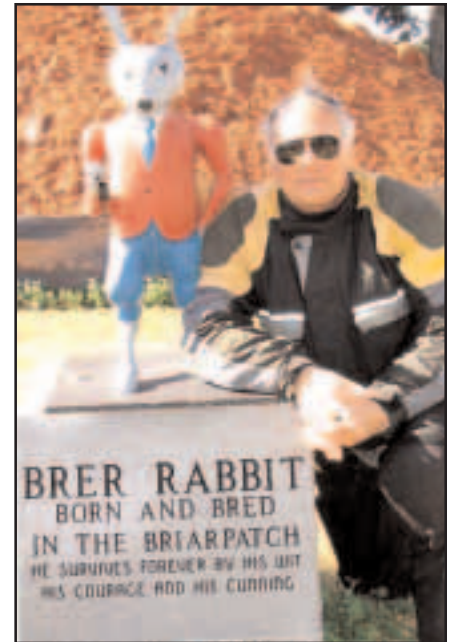
I never knew the creator of Brer Rabbit was a man from Georgia.

Another positive feature of this challenge ride is the opportunity for small groups to travel together. We had a great time a few Sundays ago – ten of us visited nine courthouses. We got to know each other better and enjoyed a great Sunday ride.

So, if you are looking for a challenge – one that you can set your own goals – try the Courthouse Challenge! So far we have sixteen people who have signed up and set a goal. In only the short time of three weeks the group has visited over 108 courthouses.

If you think you might enjoy this 2005 challenge, go to the web site below and sign up. Good luck in 2005!

<http://www.bmwmoqa.org/challenges/>



Courthouse Challenge Addendum...

From Club President, Jackie Flood

This is in conjunction with our Courthouse Challenge. This all new Challenge will receive The Most Prestigious President's Award.

The Challenge is while you are taking pictures of all 159 counties in Georgia and your motorcycle, get an authenticated picture of a judge. (In Judge's Chambers, with his name plate off his desk, must be authenticated in some way.)

In the event of a tie, the more difficult picture to get will win. Such as a picture of an authenticated judge ON

YOUR MOTORCYCLE. In the event of a tie here, if you can get a picture of a judge with his/her hand IN YOUR POCKET, you will win. (Not everyone has a judge in his pocket!)

You will get extra credit if you can get the Mayor and a judge from the same town.

Unfortunately, if you are an attorney, a judge or are related to either an attorney or a judge you will have to eliminate yourself from this competition. That would be too easy.

Load up your cameras, get on your bikes and start hunting. Good luck!

An advertisement for "Helmet Head Cycle Gear, Inc." featuring a motorcycle logo and the text "Your Internet Cycle Shop". It also mentions "Manufacturers of The ORIGINAL" and "Patents Pending" for "Helmet Sunblocker". The phone number 1-888-337-4786 is listed at the bottom.

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From the Prez...

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Shoei rep and give us the scoop on the latest in clothing and helmets. Bob Reynolds will share with us his expertise in the field of insurance and motorcycles. It's going to be a busy, fun filled year with many miles to travel.

We are also going somewhere we've never ventured before. We are going to create a "Ladies of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Georgia" calendar. This will be a refined collection of club riders and club non-riders with their own and significant other's motorcycles. I anticipate accomplishing this through several different photo shoots. Hopefully we'll have all the pictures taken by September. The calendars will be printed before December, in time for 2006. If you are interested in finding out more, please email me at president@bmwmoga.org

My humble thanks go to all the members who have held board positions in the past. You have done a tremendous job. My board and I are going to continue to build on what you've done and seek out more fun & meaningful activities in which the club can participate.

Please keep sending us your ideas so we may mutually benefit and let's see if we can make 2005 a truly memorable year for BMWMOGA. We serve at your pleasure.



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“Over the Rainbow”

By Jackie Flood

There are two things you may not know about Hawaii – it’s mesmerizing and it is expensive. The less busy, smaller island of Kaua’i has a lot of appeal for those who truly want to get away from it all. From my standpoint there was more to do on Maui, which had the most incredible vistas and lots of shops and galleries. And an important factor for an avid motorcyclist - the scooters went a little faster there.

Clark Howard is known as the guru for getting the most bang for your buck. Back in June he listed hard to pass up rates to Hawaii on his website. I opted to give up a bike vacation to see what was so alluring about Hawaii. As Clark says, “when the price is right, book first THEN figure out why you want to go there.”

My traveling companion was my next-door neighbor and age-wise, we could have passed for mother and daughter. If you’re not into the digital way of life, I highly recommend traveling with a youngster who is. They can download the zillions of digital images taken daily into their laptops. Amanda hooked up a card reader and culled 900 of our combined pictures, then created a photographic web page at Shutterfly.com. Meanwhile I was waving my camera under her nose saying, “...and how do you delete this again?” Each night we kicked back and watched slide shows of our day’s adventures. Places so recently visited I could almost feel a warm breeze blowing sand into the freshly applied 40 SPF.

Because Amanda’s business keeps her traveling across the country, she knows her way around airports. What a blessing. She also has potential for becoming a good motorcycle rider – she can spot a bathroom or a Starbucks half a mile away. She jumped at the opportunity to rent scooters on the island because a scoot had been her only transportation to school for several years. I couldn’t have picked a better traveling companion!

When I researched renting motorcycles, I found there were only a couple of places available and they rented Harleys, one type of Kawasaki Vulcan and scooters. Or you could choose to “style” around the island in a Ferrari if you had the bucks. I settled on a little scooter since the deposit



Surf spray on Kaua’i.

for a day was a lot less than the \$1000 they wanted for a Harley! Besides, I couldn’t get the Harley off its side stand.

What fun we had on them! We went everywhere and many places cars

weren’t supposed to go. There was an open compartment in the front where we could stick a camera and a bottle of water and a larger compartment under the seat. Once you get used to not wearing a helmet and protective gear, it’s quite exhilarating going full throttle at 55 mph in the bicycle lane in a tropical paradise with low-hanging branches slapping you in the face. (The speedometer lied and said 65 mph but we weren’t going that fast!) What more could you want besides some good sunblock and a pocketful of money? Due to insurance risks, scooters are limited to a certain area. If you venture further and have mechanical problems, you are out of luck.

Our “area” on Maui was up to the point where the Ritz Carlton resides and down to Chez Paul, a restaurant out in the middle of nowhere but highly recommended in “The Book” (see below) at \$55 a head. French restaurants usually have wonderful patisseries and I thought it would be a good place for a breakfast pastry. We sailed in on our little scoots and backed into a parking place. The door was open but I got the impression they were not yet open for business. A man walking back towards the place had the air about him of someone who belonged there. I knew the man was French before he confirmed it by speaking. Let me ask you this, how is it you can take the French out of France, but you can’t take the attitude out of the French? He snootily told us they did not have a bakery. “Oh well,” I thought, “I guess we won’t be eating dinner here either.”

On Kaua’i I found only one scooter dealer and we were restricted to approximately a 4-mile area, which we quickly exceeded. These Aprilia scooters were nicer looking, but had the tiniest jets on them. Mine would only go 40 mph downhill with a good tailwind.

Two books purchased prior to our trip, *Maui Revealed* (referred to above) and *Kaua’i Revealed* were invaluable tools. Annually, the authors review every property, restaurant and activity on the island and give honest opinions of the services, including range of costs. For example, about one property they said, “It’s a dump. They should be paying you to stay here.”

These informative reference guides are well laid out. Since the properties are too numerous to list them all in the

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The author on her rented scooter.

Good Stuff to Buy and Sell...

FOR SALE: BMW Motorcycles

2002 BMW K1200LTE (Elite) Champagne 16,900 mi. EXCELLENT CONDITION. BMW warranty until Oct. 12, 2005, heated seats for driver and passenger, heated backrest for passenger, heated grips, BMW intercom system, one headset for open face helmet, cassette player, six disc CD player with two extra CD cartridges, AM/FM stereo radio, Midland CB radio, FRS connection (I will provide the cord for a Kenwood frs), Passenger radio controls, BMW cruise control, electric windshield, bag liners for the saddlebags & top case, cell phone connection (I will provide the cord for Nokia connection), Garmin Navigator GPS connected to the comm system and speaks to the driver, GPS sunvisor, Piaa 1100X driving lights mounted underneath the cowling, Thompson 115 air compressor mounted under the seat, Z-Technic passenger arm rest, headlight protector, JPEGS (highway pegs), BMW tank bag made for the LT, sheepskin seat covers (driver, passenger, passenger backrest), BMW K1200LT shop manual on CD and hardcopy, security system, all original bike manuals, Paul Sayegh's LT service DVD parts 1, 2, and 3. All service done per BMW guidelines. \$16,800.00 Contact: Jeff Anderson 770-205-1213 or motojeff@bellsouth.net (12/04)

1994 K75, deep red , 42k, just serviced at Atlanta BMW, new battery, soft saddle bags, tank bag and windshield. Excellent looking and running condition. \$3600 OBO. Contact Greg at 404-307-4147. (11/04)

FOR SALE: Motorcycles – Other Brands

2002 Honda Reflex Scooter, adult owned and ridden, always garaged, Extended warranty, perfect mechanical condition, Givi luggage case and light kit, back rest, 4,580 miles, candy apple red, \$3,975. Contact Doug at 404-713-2330. (1/05)

FOR SALE: Merchandise

Widder Electric Vest size 46 includes on/off switch that plugs into accessory socket \$100. **Widder Electric Gloves** size small includes cord to plug into vest \$75. Contact Mac McEnheimer at macstudley@yahoo.com or 770-979-3871 (home). (2/05)

3 Rail Motorcycle Trailer, easily carries my BMW K1200, good tires, bearings recently repacked, asking \$450. Contact Doug at 404-713-2330. (1/05)

RT Cee Bailey windshield, Euro cut #2 ,plus 4 inches, light gray tint, like new \$100, **RT comfort seat**, like new, \$75. Contact Doug at 706-754-1629 or dlongerbone@alltel.net. (11/04)

WANTED

K1100RS used factory seat for a 1993. Contact Greg at 404-307-4147. (2/05)

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“Over the Rainbow”

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book, you can get on the web, plug in an address and password and view the whole island. Your mouse can run completely around the island, allowing you to click on each property and bring up aerial photographs with good descriptions of the amenities. The Internet was a great tool for narrowing down our search and making reservations long before the trip. How did we ever live without it?

The books also tell you if a property has been a little “optimistic” about their proximity to the beach. One property had their location on a beach belonging to a neighbor who just happened to be on the other side of the road and a lot closer to the water.

At the time we went, (August 25, 2004) it seemed the largest percentage of visitors were young marrieds and old marrieds. School had started in most states but there were a few families with kids and they seemed to have at least 3 or 4. I can only imagine how expensive it is to ship, feed and accommodate the whole family. To take a family of four on a one-hour helicopter ride around either island would cost

about \$800 plus tax. For a three-hour trip, you're looking at \$1,475+. Hotel tax is 24.72% and I didn't enquire about tax on other items, I just paid it.

Only persons of Hawaiian blood are true Hawaiians. All others born there (except whites, who are called haoles) are locals. Native Hawaiians' beauty must stem from a blend of their Polynesian, Asian and white heritage. This is apparent when you see a raven-haired beauty with mocha or golden colored skin and startling blue or green eyes. The islanders have their own time, “Hawaiian time” and it's a relaxed, no worry time easy to fall into. After a few days, even I let people cut in front of me without so much as batting an eye. (Tourists new on the island seem to be the only ones in a hurry.)

Hawaiians and locals have an appealing laid-back style and many radiate an inner peace. Reasons enough for Captain Cook and Marlon Brando to fall in love with the islands. Understandably, numerous movie stars own property on Maui. On the tight, windy road to Hana in northwestern

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Maui, (way off down a dirt road) Mick Jagger is reportedly one of several “well-known” property owners. When you least expect it, you may see a famous face in the local grocery store in Hana. Charles Lindbergh said he had found heaven on earth when he found Maui and his final resting place is in Kipahulu.

The magic of the islands is felt everywhere. As you step outside in the early morning you are enveloped by a heady green lushness; the fragrance of Plumeria fills your senses. Tropical rains, which come quickly from a constantly changing sky, refresh the beauty of the most delicate exotic flowers. A magnificent sea surrounds this tropical paradise. As the waves crash up against the craggy, black lava rocks, the alluring greens and iridescent blues of the water beckon, “Come on in...if you dare!”

The number of homeless people who live in Hawaii is not known. Because of the climate and abundance of fruit (bananas, guava, passion fruit, etc.) growing everywhere, they don't go hungry. We pulled over and I picked fruit right off trees at the sides of the road. Amanda wrinkled up her nose at eating it but whatever it was tasted good to me.

Besides the Road to Hana, another recommended sight



Eden on earth, from the Road to Hana.

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is Haleakala. This is a volcanic crater that goes straight up above the clouds to 10,023 feet. Actually what they really recommend you do is get up at 3:30 a.m., drive to the top of Haleakala in the dark to see the sunrise, freeze your butt off, then ride a bicycle straight down for about 38 miles!! The road is a lot like Hwy. 129 to Deal's Gap and I wouldn't do the Gap in the dark either. The “handling package” on the Chevy Celebrity left something to be desired as the tires squaled across the centerline countless times. It didn't lean very well either.

The very top of Haleakala looks like every picture I've ever seen of the moon. Some skeptics say we never really landed on the moon but instead, they “staged” it up there! Daytime temperatures at sea level are around 86°. By the time you reach the top of the crater, there is no such thing as “too much” clothing to counteract the howling, windy 40° temps. The only living plants up there are called Silverswords and look like silver sea anemones. They may live up to 50 years, but after reproducing once, they die.

If you have an abject fear of heights as I do, after driving down Haleakala, stop at the Tedeschi Winery and knock back several free samples. This will not only improve your state of mind, but also prime you for purchasing extra bottles to bring home.



A Silversword atop Haleakala.

Part two of “Over the Rainbow” to appear in next month's issue.