



THE CENTERLINE

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Georgia, Inc.

March 2005

Chartered by the
BMW Motorcycle
Owners of America,
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 Marsh
404-241-6069 Home
404-241-6098 Fax
editor@bmwmoga.org

The Junk Man

By Fred Veator

I would like to thank Bill Haycock for his efforts to bring together the GCHC (Georgia Courthouse Challenge). Although I've passed through many Georgia towns dozens of times, for several, it's the first time I ever took a look around the town while looking for the courthouse. The club members who live in middle Georgia finally get an advantage by living in the middle of the state. New club members David and Teresa Sheppard only started around the middle of January and by the end of the month had 38, in some of the worst weather of the season.

With the courthouse challenge in mind Helen and I left middle Georgia headed for her house in St. Augustine, Florida. With the temperature at 33 degrees we were both riding on the Triumph. When it gets cold Helen parks her BMW and we both ride on the Triumph. With a full fairing and a car sized alternator to run our electric coats and gloves it works. We rode south and picked up Bleckley, Dodge, Jeff Davis, Telfair, Bacon and Brantley counties. By the time we left Nahunta the sun was out and the temperature had warmed to the low 60's. The Triumph turned over 139,000 miles as we motored through the flat pine tree lined road. Through miles and miles of pine forest, with only the drone of the Triumph for company, we watched our shadow grow longer in front of us as we rode on. What a great ride! I didn't want the day to end, it was just one of those kind of riding days.

We stopped in the town of Callahan, Florida, to get a cup of coffee and add a few clothes for the last 65 miles to St. Augustine. As we pulled off I heard a metal-to-metal grinding sound coming from the rear wheel. As I turned the rear wheel while on the center stand, the rear wheel bearing dust seal came out and little round steel ball bearings were exiting the rear wheel. There would

be no more riding the Triumph this day.

I have towing on my Progressive insurance and have never used it, now was the time. The lady at Progressive couldn't have been nicer. Said she would send a tow-truck from Jacksonville, but would take a couple of hours and I was only covered for the first 15 miles. Maybe it was time to go to plan "B." While I was talking on the phone I noticed a flatbed wrecker at a business across the street. She said if I could get one locally that would be O.K. We decided that if we just went to Helen's mother's house in Jacksonville it would only be 40 miles instead of the 65 to St Augustine. We could come back and get the Triumph the next day with her truck. The guy that drove the wrecker for Callahan Paint and Body had gone home for the day, she called him at home. He must not have liked what his wife fixed him for supper, he was not in a good mood. He said he would carry us to Jacksonville, he got \$100.00 loading fee and \$2.50 a mile minimum 50 miles. I told him I had a motorcycle and would load it myself. He said that yes, I would load my own motorcycle and provide my own tie downs and he would not be responsible for the motorcycle in any way. I would still have to pay him the \$100.00 "loading fee" and he was the only one in town "take it or leave it"!! Words were said, and by the time I had hung up the phone I had burned that bridge behind me.

Not long ago I was wanting this day not to end, now it looked like it never would. It was getting dark and the temperature was dropping. We were now on plan "C." We walked into the 7-11 and asked the woman if she knew anyone who had a wrecker. She didn't, but one of the customers heard us and said he knew an old guy who had a flatbed wrecker. He would stop by his house on his way home and ask him to

continued on page 7

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, March 6th – Club Meeting

Twelve noon, 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.

Friday, March 18th - Sunday, March 20th – Pogo's Possum Trot to Okefenokee

Club ride led by Jim Hawks. Camp at Stephen Foster State Park located in Okefenokee Swamp on Friday and Saturday nights with a tour of the swamp in john boats on Saturday. Moderate touring pace. From meeting in the Northlake area to Perry will be about 115 miles and then from Perry to Stephen Foster SP will be another 175 miles. Some members can originate in Perry. We will take I-285 to I-675 to I-75 to Perry and then take scenic South GA back roads to Stephen Foster State Park. From Northlake to Perry will take approximately 2 hours with no planned stop and then from Perry to Stephen Foster

will take about 4 hours with 2 planned stops. Atlanta area riders will meet at a restaurant in the Northlake area, TBD, for a 10:00 a.m. departure. We will then ride to Perry, GA where we can meet riders from that area at a restaurant, TBD for lunch and a 1:00 p.m. departure. Riders will need to make their own reservations for camping and boat rental. Camping is \$17 per night and hot showers are available. Some cabins are also available for those riders who don't wish to camp. There is a \$5 vehicle pass required which is good for 6 days, however, riders with a National Park pass do not have to pay this charge. The boat rental is \$40 for 8 hours and the boats will hold 2-4 people depending on personal preferences. Boats will have to be picked up by 8 a.m. on the morning of use. There are also canoes available for those wishing to use them. The swamp is not composed of stagnant water. There is a fairly strong current that runs through the waterways, so if you rent a canoe, you will necessarily see less of the area and will have trouble keeping up with me and the others. There are a couple of restaurants in Fargo, which is 18 miles away, but you will probably need to carry some of your own food for lunch on Saturday. There are places to stop in the swamp for a picnic lunch. There is a gate at the entrance to the park which closes will close at 8:30 p.m. Here is the URL for the park's website: <http://gastateparks.org/net/go/parks.aspx?locationid=22&s=0.0.1.5>

For more information contact Jim Hawks by email at jbhawks@comcast.net or by phone at 770-777-4184 and cell 770-843-0883.

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.

Club Events, cont.'d...

April 29th - May 1st – 15th Annual Georgia Mountain Rally

BMWMOGA is returning to Bald Mountain Park, 751 Gander Gap Road, Hiawassee, Georgia for the 15th Annual Georgia Mountain Rally. Mark your calendar now to make plans on attending and volunteering. Pre-registration is still \$30 per person (postmarked by 4/08/05). Rally fee is now \$40 per person at the gate. Early registration guarantees a chance to win a one-of-a-kind Kermit chair. Camping before and after the rally continues to be separate fees paid directly to Bald Mountain Park Campground Resort.

http://www.bmwmoaga.org/2005gmr/05_gmr_registration_form.pdf. Print the registration form now! Mail completed registration form and rally fees to: GMR 2005 Rally Registration, BMWMOGA, P.O. Box 1089, Smyrna, GA 30081-1089. Watch the website for updates to include vendor listing and door prize sponsors. For more information contact Jane Moore, 2005 Rally Meister by phone at 404-364-7819 or by email at GMR2005@bellsouth.net.

Other Events...

Atlanta Motorcycle Schools Experienced Rider Classes

Atlanta Motorcycle Schools is offering an Experienced Rider Class to the BMWMOGA riders on **Saturday, March 26th, Friday, 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.

March 19th & 20th – Buell Demo Rides at TWO

They're back! They did this last year and those who attended had a blast....ha ha "A Buell Blast!" March 19 & 20, 2005 at Two Wheels Only, straight from Daytona, Buell demo rides – "Own the Corners." Sponsored by Stone Mountain HD/Buell.

Early & Late April – Adventure Motorcycle Tour from Atlanta Motorcycle Schools

This spring, Atlanta Motorcycle Schools offers a new riding experience designed especially for riders of bikes which fall into the class known as "adventure bikes." Triumph Tigers, BMW GS models, KLR650's, Suzuki V-Stroms, Honda Transalps—unkindly dubbed the SUV's of the motorcycle world, the uninitiated often look at these bikes and ask, "What's the point?"

We've got the answer! If you own one of these great bikes, you're in luck. Let us guide you on a two-day scamper through northeast Georgia, western North

Other Events, cont.'d...

Carolina, and eastern Tennessee which will mix pavement and unpavement in a way that entwines well-maintained gravel roads with deliciously twisty back roads. While we might explore a scenic dead-end or two just for the fun of riding beside a trout stream, the objective will be to show riders new to this genre how to string together gravel roads which actually go somewhere.

On the universal Ten-Point Scale, the degree of difficulty rates between 2 and 3. Where it might help, we will do a little coaching on techniques you may find helpful. While unpaved, these roads will be no rougher than could be managed in a 2-wheel drive pickup with decent ground clearance—no rocky boulders to jump; no bottomless mud holes; no Evel Knievel capers required—but you might have to wash your bike when you get home. For sure, the scenery will be other than what you're accustomed to seeing from the Interstate.

We haven't selected the final route as of press time, so we can't promise a gourmet lunch either day. Noon may find us so far off the beaten path we'll be lucky to find a Bubba-store for a big orange drink and a Moon Pie, but we'll make it up at supper. We'll sleep (like babies) somewhere in the Robbinsville, NC area, which means overall miles won't be killer, but we suspect you'll be ready to crawl off the bike by day's end both days. For that reason, we don't recommend the smaller dual-sport

continued on page 4



Mayberry's Sherpa Service

Hotel Services for the Camper

Now supporting the Georgia Mountain Rally!
April 30th - May 1st

We'll set up a dome tent, air mattress, sleeping bags, pillow, and chair. Includes daily towel service, coffee, and more!

Single: \$30 Double: \$45 (if paid before 4/15)
Price includes both nights.

For reservations and more info, go to www.sherpamayberry.com

German Master Tech, Inc.

*Your alternative source for service and
repair on BMW motorcycles.*

- Trained and certified technicians
- Familiar with 2 and 3 wheels
- Convenient location in NE corner of greater Atlanta area
- We are also fully equipped to service your European car such as Audi, BMW, Mercedes, Volkswagen and others

5870 Atlanta Highway (Highway 9)
Alpharetta, Georgia 30004

678-366-6145

www.germanmastertech.com



ERW Computers

Computer Training & Technical Support

Ellen R. Welter

1020 Compass Pt. Chase Phone: 678.319.0483
Alpharetta, GA 30005 Cellular: 818.634.3235

Email: Ellen@ERWComputers.com
www.erwcomputers.com

Atlanta Motorcycle Schools

Professional, Personalized Lessons

Ken and JoAnna Murray

Office: (770) 516-0138
Cell: (678) 777-3611
jkminc98@bellsouth.net

www.JKMinc.com



Other Events, cont.'d...

bikes, which usually don't have the all-day comfort or fuel range for a tour like this. We also will discourage bringing a standard street machine. If you aren't sure of your bike or your own abilities, give us a call.

For some extra help in developing off-road skills, check out our DS-202 Dual Sport Riding for the Street Rider or the MSF Dirt Bike Course offered by Atlanta Motorcycle Schools. For more information visit <http://www.jkminc.com/tours.html#Adventure>.

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. 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 Dolly is in charge of reservations. Be sure to mention that you are with the Internet BMW Riders for the \$35 per night rate. For more information, or if you plan to attend, contact RWMunday@juno.com.

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!

Where will you go today?



February 2005 Finance and Cash deals for BMW's

<i>Motorcycle Model Or - Cash Sale Allowance</i>	<i>0.9% Financing and BMWNA makes the 1st 5 Payments</i>
2004 K1200RS \$2,000	Yes!
2004 K1200GT \$1,500	Yes!
2004 R1200CLC \$2,000	Yes!
2004 R12 Montauk \$2,000	Yes!
2004 R1100S \$1,500	Yes!
2004 R1150 R & RA \$750	Yes!
2004 R115 Rocksters \$1,000	Yes!

Whatever the destination, start at
BMW Motorcycles of Atlanta

The Southeast's premiere BMW dealership.

- Service department has one of less than 40 Master Technicians in the entire USA
- One of only 40 BMW Retail Apparel stores nationwide
- The largest selection of new models in the area
- Family-owned business dedicated to taking care of our customers

Make Plans To Attend the April 16th Open House and Swap Meet!

Ride the new 2005 models. Free hotdogs, hamburgers, Wooly Chili & drinks. Vendors will be here and the BMW Of Atlanta Technicians will be doing technical presentations/services on the R1200GS, K1200LT, and F650 Dakar.

Come on in for a demo ride – great deals available!

BMW Motorcycles of Atlanta

**Hours: 9 – 6 Tuesday through Friday, 9 – 5 Saturday
 Closed on Mondays**

**1750 Cobb Parkway SE • Marietta, GA 30060
 770.984.9844 • 866.984.9844 • bmwma@bellsouth.net**

Do You Hear What I Hear?

By Jackie Flood, Club President

I may be President to some and Highness or Majesty to others; basically I'm a Mom. Moms protect their kids and give them guidance, nurture their interests and endeavor to give them the tools to pursue as many activities as possible.

I am finding my job as club president is about listening. I need to forget the cute little quip just waiting to pop out and instead give the individual all my attention. "What I'm hearing you say is...?" is more important than telling you my smartness. Listening to what you want from our club, and keeping in mind "is this for the greater good of the group & will the majority benefit?" are my highest priorities in making decisions.

It seems my life these days is spent on the computer sending emails, fielding emails, following the flow of conversation trying to stay abreast of what's happening while chewing on my fake fingernails.

Getting things done sometimes feels like pushing rope; the process can be slow when you are waiting for responses to questions—especially when people are taking advantage of the sun when it's shining. But when committees form and work out solutions to create better Ride Guidelines and organize different types of rides, it's makes it absolutely worthwhile. I sit back like a proud parent watching my "children" thrive and have fun.

Decisions like those in a family have to be made for the good of the "family" or group, not necessarily for the good of one person. Most people in the "family" are as different as day and night.

But we are not children. We choose the democratic process. We are all grown up and have our own very different and sometimes strong opinions on subjects near and dear to us. Unless we're chilled out on Prozac, it stands to reason when you get a bunch of us together, no two people

are going to agree totally on something, even motorcycles.

"Because I said so!" doesn't work in dealing with children for long and works even less in organizations like ours, especially volunteer organizations.

We are seriously tackling different areas of interest for the club, one at a time. The next one is some type of track day/track school event and I encourage all of you to participate in some way. We haven't worked out the details yet, but when this happens there will be a ride-in/campout/support and cookout. It will be so much fun—I already have my hammer and crescent wrench ready to go.

Keep giving the Board your ideas for ways the club can have fun together. It is our job to listen to what you want and facilitate to help you fully enjoys your membership—we serve at your pleasure.

Love,
Mom

Mountain Property Prices are LOWER in the Winter! Call me.

**Talk with a Realtor® Who Rides in the North Georgia,
Western North Carolina & Tennessee Mountains**

- Deal's Gap & Cherahola Skyway
- Richard Russell Scenic Highway
- GA Route 60 & T.W.O. Resort
- Endless paved & Dual-Sport roads
- Hiking, fishing & golf...and more!

**Vacation Cabins
Residences
Acreage
New Construction**

Norma Wiles, REALTOR®

Member MLS

Majestic Mountain & Lakes Properties, Inc.

Representing Greenbriar Homes, Inc.

Young Harris Highway, Blairsville GA 30512

877.869.3275 or 706.379.1269 Office

706.835.1260 Home / 706.835.7318 Cell

norma@rogerwiles.com • www.majesticmountainproperties.com

**Member
BMWMOGA**



The Junk Man

continued from page 1

help. We waited around the Triumph for 20 minutes and had about decided to call Progressive back when an old flatbed wrecker pulled up.

Warren is a big man. When he started getting out of the wrecker he kept getting out. He is 6' 6", over 300 lbs. And when he shook my hand, it looked like a 2 year old's hand inside his. Mr. Warren (he is big enough that you call him Mister) is in the scrap metal recycling business (i.e. junk). He said he didn't normally do this kind of towing (no license) but he heard we were in a bind and would help us if he could. He agreed to carry us and the Triumph to Jacksonville. Before I started to do any loading (with the \$100.00 loading fee in mind) I asked him how much? He said he didn't know how much to charge us, what did I think would be fair? He's asking me? The tightest of tight, the master of miserly, the champion of cheap, I decided to go low—I could always go up. I told him \$2.00 a mile seemed like the going rate. He said that was O.K. with him, how many miles did I think it was? Still aiming low I said about 35 miles. He asked me if \$75.00 would be too much. We had a deal! The bed of the truck worked like it should and we had no problem loading the Triumph, the problem was making a path through the stuff (junk) that was in the back of the truck. He had some tie-downs that must have come new with the truck. One broke just as I gave it a final pull and the Triumph leapt over on its side. Luck was on my side as I had taken the saddlebags off before I loaded it to get past the stuff in the back of the truck. The Triumph landed on an old truck mud grip tire...I know it was a mud grip because I saw the tread pattern on my side cover the next day. The rubber tire protected the Triumph and not a scratch. Mr. Warren broke out a ball of bailing twine from the cab and when I got through with my tying it looked like a spider web, but the Triumph wasn't going anywhere.

We climbed in and headed for Jacksonville. Helen and I could see very little, the dash was piled high wall to wall with all kinds of stuff. I had a good view of a left hand work glove and some of last week's issues of *The Florida Times Union* plus other important papers that he might need someday. He had no trouble seeing—he is a big man!! The wrecker had 300,000 miles and made some strange noises. Helen gave me some worried looks, but I wasn't worried, it was a Ford. It would get us home.

Mr. Warren has lived all his life in Callahan and only been out of the state a couple of times. He was as small town country as grits and cornbread. But he has probably seen more in 35 years in the junk business and picking up other people's stuff than we have traveling the world. He kept us entertained with his stories all the way to Jacksonville. In no time we had the Triumph unloaded at Helen's mother's house and I pulled out my wallet. Mr. Warren said he had been thinking about charging us \$75.00. I thought here it comes the "loading fee." He said we seemed like good people and he didn't want to take advantage of our bad luck. \$60.00 would be fine. Sixty dollars!! We agreed to \$75.00, but he wouldn't take it, we haggled back and forth. I even told him it might be closer to 40 miles than 30. Finally I talked him up to taking \$80.00. I had to stick the other \$20 in his shirt pocket. I hope it made him feel good, I know I did.

On the way to St. Augustine, in Helen's mom's car, Helen said "I can't believe you. You told that guy at Callahan Paint and Body you would 'push your motorcycle to Jacksonville before you paid him a 100 dollar loading fee.' Then you turn around and give him 20 dollars more than he wanted." I said Mr. Warren will probably be driving that old wrecker until he dies and will never make as much money as the driver at Callahan Paint and Body. He has something that no amount of money will ever buy. He is a good man!!

Great News, Members!

Thanks to Woolie, BMW Motorcycles of Atlanta is extending a 10% discount on parts to all members in good standing. Keith Anderson has updated the membership list through March 31, 2005 and submitted it to Maury Ball, Parts Manager at BMW Motorcycles of Atlanta.

If you have not yet sent in your renewal for 2005 and are not on this list, when you renew and get your card in the mail, please take it in with you so Maury can enter you into their system.

Georgia Train Depot Challenge

By Charlie Brooks

The enthusiasm for the Georgia Courthouses Challenge is exciting. Please consider the Georgia Train Depot Challenge as well. Meeting the requirements of each can be accomplished at the same time. The Jasper depot is adjacent to the courthouse. The Winder depot and Barrow County Courthouse can be framed in the same picture. Ten still-standing Georgia depots pre-date the war. What war you ask? You're obviously not from around here! Where are those antebellum depots? How could Sherman have missed so many? Where is a replica of the Atlantic & Western station that Sherman did burn in 1864? Which is the oldest depot in Georgia? Which courthouse is the oldest? Participating in these challenges can answer all of these questions. Accept the challenge.

The Club page has a link to the Ride Challenges. The goal of the Georgia Train Depot Challenge is to visit 50 depots representing as many letters of the alphabet as possible. If you would like to participate in this challenge, or if you have questions, please email me. From time to time send me a list of the depots you have visited and I will update the rider progress page on the challenge site.

I am planning a depot ride through northwest Georgia for the spring.

S-t-r-e-t-c-h Out!

On those long BMW trips - with

The Talon Bracket for Oilheads



Only \$49.95 + S&H

Installs in minutes using existing bolts

- Powdercoat finish matches your engine
- Fits all Oilheads
- Low, sleek profile
- Allows for offset of cylinders



Hawks Products International

Call: 770/777-4184

or visit hawksproducts.com

"Over the Rainbow"

Part Two

Continued from last month's issue.

By Jackie Flood

Lahaina on the western side of Maui is a fun, old-fashioned tourist spot. The downtown area has a nifty assortment of small shops where you can easily walk in each one and leave a trail of "green" behind. Right in the middle there's a park with huge banyon trees creating a giant shady canopy for craft vendors below and big perches for kids to climb up onto.

The inter-island planes "bus" people from island to island and you can't get to any of the islands without first making a stop in Honolulu. Before the new passengers embark, those left on the plane rush forward to get a better seat closer to the door. About the time the flight reaches peak elevation on a 30-minute trip, it's time to start the descent. The flight attendants have to hustle to pass out juice and collect the trash before you land.

There's quite a difference in the dress code between those who visit the islands and those whose business serves them, such as the crews on Aloha Airlines. The male attendants wore open neck, flowered shirts while the female attendants looked quite formal in suits and hose. Even the pilots weren't wearing jackets on the plane and most of the passengers traveled in flip-flops.

continued on page 10



Two Wheels Only Motorcycle Resort
Serving the Touring Motorcyclist Since 1982
Camping & Lodging in the Blue Ridge Mountains
Open April 13, 2001. Serving meals 7 days a week.

3580 State Hwy 60, at State Hwy 180

P.O. Box 69 Suches Georgia 30572

1-706-747-5151

WWW.TWOWHEELSONLY.COM



MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE
SPECIALISTS
REPRESENTING
DAIRYLAND • AMERICAN MODERN
PROGRESSIVE • FOREMOST

ONE CALL GIVES A COMPARISON
BETWEEN THE FOUR MAJOR
MOTORCYCLE COMPANIES

770-432-0709

2171 OLD CONCORD ROAD, SUITE 203
SMYRNA, GEORGIA 30080

Ultimate shopping experience

www.ascycles.com

The A&S BMW website. Over 6500 BMW motorcycle accessories, riders wear and lifestyle products on-line...all the time.



License plate frame - with two LED bars. Must use license plate hardware kit for LED license plate frames. Available in black or chrome. **\$99.95**



BMW Accessory Plug Adapter - Perfect for charging your cell phone on the road. **\$25.92**



Air Compressor, Mini, Powered by Accessory Outlet - **\$19.95**



Digital Tire pressure Gauge - **\$25.95**

Oversized Brake Pedal



K1200RS, R1100RS, R1100RT, R1150RT, R1150RS, R850 & 1100R- **\$59.95**



Angled Tire Valve Stem - Makes checking tire pressure much easier. **\$9.92**



Cool Max Helmet Liner - Keeps your helmet clean. **\$14.95**



Footpeg & Mounts - Fits all R850, R1100, R1150. Price for one pair is **\$159.95**

Handle Bar Set Backs R1100RT, R1150RT, R850 & 1100R- Sold in pairs with new stainless steel cap screws. **\$69.95**



Helmet Gaurdian Helmet Lock - **\$49.95**



Motolight Black Powder Coated Fork Mount Light - Comes with everything needed to install and operate. **\$310.95**

Sheepskin Seat Cover - Soft and insulating. **\$59.95**



Sideways Funnel - Great for filling transmission and final drives. **\$9.95**



Magnetic Oil Drain Plug from RAD all BMWs, please specify model - **\$14.95**

Windshield Top Add-on Deflector - **\$89.95**



Twin max Sync Tool - Compact. Portable. Easy to use. **\$89.95**

Helmet Speakers - Great sound and compact size. **\$39.95**

Map Pouch for Tank Top from RAD R1100RT & R1150T - Provides visible spot to secure your map. Has a small pocket for items. **\$99.95**



Wee Willy Visor Cleaner System - **\$16.95**

Easy Park from RAD - Perfect if your bike needs to take up as little space in the garage as possible. Rated up to 700 lbs. **\$229.95**

Magnetic Map Pocket for All Steel Tanks - **\$69.95**



A&S BMW MOTORCYCLES

It's About the Ride.

Huge inventory of used BMW motorcycle parts available, please call

www.ascycles.com

1125 ORLANDO AVENUE, ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95661 (916) 726-7334 Toll-Free 1-800-689-9893 FAX (916) 726-3563

“Over the Rainbow” Part Two

continued from page 8

And on the subject of flip-flops—walking around on lava beaches literally chewed up my \$10 pair. I never expected to see them come in at a whopping \$120, but I did. Sturdy models with arch supports in leather & suede seemed a little impractical for a saltwater environment. For that kind of price they should include a small Garmin GPS to find the beaches.

Don't believe what anyone tells you, chickens are the state bird of Hawaii. Ever since hurricane 'Iniki freed so many in 1992, they are everywhere and totally unafraid! Mother hens show their peeps how to become the cutest little beggars. A hen will stand 2 feet from you waiting patiently for a handout while big males strut around flexing their wings looking for other males to beat up. If you happen to stay somewhere where they crow at 2 a.m. in the morning—get used to it because it will continue. They seem to crow all day long.

Hawaii is 6 hours behind EDT so it's easy to get up very early until your internal clock adjusts. This is a good time to get photos of the incredible sunrises. The best sunrises are on the eastern side of Kaua'i and the best sunsets are on western Maui. You can watch for 10 minutes and get 10 – 15 amazingly different shots.

A trip well worth taking on Kaua'i is the 5 1/2 hour catamaran excursion from Port Allen up the Napali coast and back. The crew had breakfast and coffee waiting when we boarded and lunch (including beer and wine) was provided after snorkeling.

It was not the time of year for whales but the dolphins didn't disappoint us. An encounter with these beautiful creatures in the wild is truly a memorable experience. The crew cut the engine off several times so we could watch pods of dolphins cruising around. Kids and adults alike were thrilled to see them come up to the sides of the cat but we were ecstatic to see a baby in the group. The boat rocked gently as we watched “spinners” jubilantly performing a free show of jumps and spins for their audience.



Another unbelievable sunrise on the eastern side of Kaua'i.



The author at the helm.

Remember the song “Puff The Magic Dragon” by Peter, Paul and Mary? “...he lived by the sea in a place called Hanalei.” I can now say I've been there. Hanalei is a picturesque little town in northern Kaua'i and the only probable connection between the town and the song is that it rhymed with sea. They do however have the best shave ice delicacy on the island. This is not to be confused with snow cones. My favorite was a big scoop of Macadamia nut ice cream over shave ice with rainbow tropical fruit flavorings, and then that was topped off with condensed milk! Oh my God, brok' da mouf (delicious).

It's hard to resist testing your mastery of the Hawaiian language after a few days. The words flow in a musical way and all vowels are pronounced, which makes it fun and guaranteed to elicit grins out of locals. If you can master the state fish (Humuhumunukunukuapua'a), the rest is easy. Try this: hoo-moo (twice), noo-koo (twice), ah (once), pu (once), and a'a (ah ah). That was one of the most difficult words I tried. People are used to hearing, “fish” and “hoo-moo-moo-moo” without ever finishing the word.

The melodic sounds of traditional Hawaiian music are everywhere and you find yourself unconsciously moving to the music. If you wonder why it sounds so familiar, a lot of popular music has been “redone” by Hawaiian musicians and it just seems to fit.

One highly revered musician who passed away at too young an age is Israel Kamakawiwo'ole. This huge, gentle soul is known only as “Iz”. His pure tenor voice is so recognizable it will stop you in your tracks. Now I've heard his version of “Somewhere Over The Rainbow,” (the soundtrack to several TV movies) memories of Hawaii will float back on the sweet strains of his voice. Fragrant breezes, rainbows touching both side of a blue bay, waterfalls dropping from the clouds, Plumeria in the early morning, smiling faces – this is the land of my dreams.

“Somewhere over the rainbow
Way up high
And the dreams that you dreamed of
Once in a lullaby...”

Good Stuff to Buy and Sell...

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

Corbin Gunfighter Seat from a 1993 K1100RS in excellent condition. All black in color. \$125.00. Contact Greg at 404-307-4147. (3/05)

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 BWM K1200, good tires, bearings recently repacked, asking \$450. Contact Doug at 404-713-2330. (1/05)

Classified Ads

Advertising for motorcycles and related equipment is accepted from BMWMOGA members free of charge. Ads run for four months unless cancelled earlier, and may be repeated. Please send your ad copy to editor@bmwmoga.org.

Arm Chair Touring

By Dave Westfall

As the memories of the Lewis and Clark Trail in July recede into my journal and photo album, the realities of my schedule and the weather have once again forced me to resort to armchair touring.

Today we join three motorcyclists for a journey around South America, stretching across 44 years and 2 books. *The Motorcycle Diaries* relates the journey of the first two—Ernesto “Che” Guevara, then a young medical student, and his older friend Alberto Granado, on Alberto’s 1939 500cc Norton. They left Argentina at the end of 1951 to tour South America, and to see the world for themselves. While the book is interesting, and certainly gives insight into El Che’s formative years, the title is misleading. As one might imagine, piling two people and too much gear on an aging Norton, and then riding (and crashing repeatedly) on very poor roads in all sorts of conditions is not a recipe for motorcycle longevity. Three months into their trip the motorcycle was history, and the remaining 5 months had nothing to do with motorcycles. Admittedly, the story of how they managed to complete the journey with few resources other than their wits and adventurous spirits is intriguing. However, the motorcycle was simply one of their early tools – a means to an end – and not fundamental to the journey or the book.

That sets the stage for Patrick Symmes to come to the rescue with *Chasing Che*. Subtitled “*A motorcycle journey in search of the Guevara legend*”, this book chronicles the travels of Patrick on a much more appropriate motorcycle for this trip – a BMW R80GS. 44 years after the historic journey of Che and Alberto, Symmes arrived in Argentina with a journalist’s inquisitiveness, copies of Guevara and Granado’s travel journals, and a determination to retrace the route followed so many years before by the two friends. Even though Patrick had the distinct advantage of 50 years of technological advancement under his saddle, he found that there had not been a corresponding advance in what was under his tires. In fact, in some of the more remote locales,



it was as if time had stood still. Symmes was faced with most of the obstacles one would assume would “go with the territory” of adventure touring – lack of fuel, multiple flats, wrecks, lack of adequate maps, unsavory food and unsavory characters, corruption, miles of desolation, etc. However, he and the Beemer were up to the task.

One of Symmes’ primary goals was to bring Che’s past to life, and to explore the connection between Che’s journey and his later revolutionary beliefs. The poverty and injustice that Che witnessed firsthand appeared to have had a profound effect on him, and on his life’s direction. Patrick’s ability to find actual people and places recorded in Che’s journal after so many years was a rewarding accomplishment. Symmes has done a good job relating the political history of South America, and the role that Che played in social revolution in Cuba, Africa, and Bolivia in the years following his trip. In addition, and in contrast to the first book, there is a bonus for the armchair tourist. Throughout the book there is the abiding sense of the centrality of the GS, and the bond between it and the rider. In my opinion, *Chasing Che* really is the “motorcycle diary.”

From The Line



From the BMWMOGA's online message board, *The Line*, earlier this year.

Yesterday (Friday 1/7/2005) was my first Courthouse Challenge Run and I have to tell you all that it was fun! Some things learned: within 75 miles of my house are county roads I never knew existed. Using my Garmin 276C I set the preferences to always take the shortest route and avoid major highways, which usually takes you via the small back roads. I was on some roads that weren't even on the Georgia State Road map. Without the GPS I never would have known they were there, as well as even being able to find them—most aren't even marked. Another fun thing was finding the courthouses. They aren't all that easy to find. Most are right on the main street and generally on a square, but not all. Again, the GPS at fine detail was able to pinpoint exact location and take me out to the main road again. At every courthouse I met at least one local citizen who wanted to talk about their town and courthouse. I asked one fellow who was walking toward the courthouse in Lumpkin/Stewart County to take my picture. He did and proceeded to tell me all about the town and courthouse. After about 15 minutes I told him I had to go but I appreciated all his knowledge. Asked him if he was a historian, he said "Nope, I'm the mayor!"

In Georgetown/Quitman County I was trying to get a picture of my bike in front of the courthouse. I was parked in a yellow zone right in front of the main entrance walk. I was out in the middle of the busy Main Street with lots of traffic trying to get far enough back to take a picture. Well, here comes a police car with his blue light on...I said to myself "Damn! A ticket!" The officer drove up beside me and said "What's going on?" I told him what I was trying to do. He turned on the blue light, got out of the car and stopped traffic coming both ways on the busy main street! I got the picture. Funnier still, he walked over and started talking about the courthouse and traffic was still stopped! After a few minutes I reminded him traffic was still stopped. He walks over, turns the light off and yells out to the cars "Move along

damnit, can't you see you're blocking the street!" I heard one guy say in a good old boy Southern accent that phrase we have all learned to say to Southern law officers: "Yes Sir!"

In Tallbotton/Talbot County I was on a main street again trying to get far enough back to snap a picture. There were stoplights at either end of the street so I just waited till they were both red, then walked out to the middle of the street and kneeled down on one knee to get a shot...of course both hands were up to my face as I kneeled. As the light turned green I was walking back to the bike; a guy in a truck stops and says "I was going to say to you, Praise the Lord! I thought you were in the middle of the street praying!" I assured him I was not! We both laughed. So, my first day was a good one—219 miles—eight counties and met some interesting people and roads along the way.

Bill Haycock,
Challenge Organizer



"Your Internet Cycle Shop"
Manufacturers of *The ORIGINAL* "Want it FAST? Order ONLINE!"
Helmet Patents Pending
SUNBLOCKER
1-888-337-4786



**THE MORE YOU KNOW
THE BETTER IT GETS**

For The Motorcycle Rider Course Nearest You Call Toll Free:
800-245-4410

BMW Motorcycle Owners of Georgia

P. O. Box 1089
Smyrna, GA 30081-1089

Visit our website at: www.bmwmoega.org