



GREATER CINCINNATI BMW CLUB

March 2003 Newsletter

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February breakfast ride. "The park's closed." Getting there was FUN, though! Great ride, Tom!

NHTSA Report

By Jerry Cummins

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration just released a report that discusses the recent trends in automobile and motorcycle safety. I have a copy for anyone who is interested in reading the whole document.

Here is a brief summary of what it says about motorcyclist safety:

- In 2001, 3181 motorcyclists were killed in motorcycle crashes.
- Fatalities for the 20-29 year old age group has been declining, while the rate for the 40 and over age group has been going up.
- Since 1980, motorcycle ownership among the 40 and over age group has increased. Today, 43.7% of all registered motorcycles belong to riders over 40.

- Motorcycle sales since 1997 have increased by 91%.
- Rural motorcycle fatalities have surpassed urban fatalities.
- Half of the fatalities in single vehicle crashes relate to problems negotiating curves.
- Over 80% of all motorcycle fatalities involve the rider and bike leaving the road, either due to loss of control in a curve or from swerving.
- A collision with fixed objects, not cars, is the most significant single factor in over half of all motorcycle fatalities.
- Use of helmets by motorcyclists is down from 71% in 2000 to 58% in 2002. In the meantime, use of seatbelts by motorists is up.

Considering the increase in motorcycle ownership in all age groups, a rise in motorcycle fatalities is almost expected. The over 40-year-old age group is obviously a big market for motorcycle manufacturers, based on this report.

I think this report demonstrates the need for riders to keep their skills at a high level of competency. Taking advantage of MSF courses and the more advanced (and higher priced) super bike courses that are offered around the country is one way of doing it. Practicing basic turning and braking skills in a parking lot is another.

The Prez Sez...

By Bob Ulrich

Your club officers met prior to the February brunch to discuss some issues facing the club. 1) We agreed that the position of web master would be an appointed one. Amendments to the by-laws to address this will be presented soon.

2) Instead of having a separate office for events coordinator we decided that we will solicit volunteers to chair individual club events and that the club vice-president will act as the overall coordinator. 3) We decided that the club didn't need to establish at-large director positions at this time. It's hard enough filling the offices we have without creating more!

I've got to say that I was pleasantly surprised at how well our meeting schedule got filled at the February meeting. We have definite locations for March, April, June, and October with likely candidates for May, July and August. My thanks to everyone who volunteered, you sure make my job easier.

And just in case Jerry hasn't made it clear elsewhere, dues are due by the March meeting. Please do Jerry and Tom R. a big favor and pay your dues in a timely fashion. It's no fun bugging people to pay up.

Dreaming of snow free roads,
Bob

Drawbridge Meeting

By Bob Ulrich

And now for something completely different! Gail and I will be hosting the March meeting at the Drawbridge Inn in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky.

We'll be dining at the nearby Montgomery Inn starting at 5:30. If you would like to join us for dinner, please call (937) 435-0717 or e-mail rulrich551@ameritech.net by Friday, March 7. We will acknowledge all calls and e-mails. If we have eight or more in the party we can get reservations.

We'll try to start the meeting around 7 pm. There may be limited seating so those of you with camp-type chairs may want to bring them along just in case. Otherwise, it should be pretty much like any other meeting.

We hope to see you there!

Directions to Meeting

Drawbridge Inn, 2477 Royal Dr, Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017, At I-75 and Buttermilk Pike (Exit 186) South/East to light at Royal Dr., then left on Royal.
Toll Free: (800) 354-9793; In Kentucky: (800)

352-9866 , (859) 341-2800
<http://www.drawbridgeinn.com/>

And
http://www.montgomeryinnribs.com/site_map.htm for the Montgomery Inn

Club MSF Class

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 8TH! Please contact Jerry if you are planning on attending.

Remember the club will reimburse you for participating!

The class dates are:

April 9 (6-10 p.m.) Classroom
April 12 (7 a.m.-noon) Range exercises
April 13 (8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) Range exercises

Location: Scarlet Oaks Career Development Campus, 3254 East Kemper Road in Sharonville.

April 12 is also the date for the Annual Poker Run. The Poker Run starts at 1:00 p.m. In order to accommodate this event, the range exercise has been moved up by one hour so that it can end in time for everyone to ride down to the Poker Run. Depending on how fast the exercises go, I suspect that we will be finished a little earlier than noon.

The cost of the class is \$25.00 per person. Please see me at any of the February functions in order to fill out the forms. **If I don't have 12 completed applications by the March 8th meeting, I will have no choice but to make any remaining slots available to the general public.**

This is a great opportunity for family members, significant others, etc. to 'test the waters' of motorcycle riding without the financial investment of buying a bike. Everyone who passes the course can use his or her course completion card to obtain an Ohio motorcycle endorsement.

If we successfully fill this class, we can reserve more classes, to include an Experienced Rider Class, next year, much like the Gold Wing and Harley clubs do now.

Speaking of Safety...

By Jerry Cummins

Note: I want this column to be thought provoking. I plan to present a different situation every month, explain a little bit about why things may happen the way they do and let everyone think about how they might avoid a similar situation. As is the case in most real life situations, there may be more than one right answer. Thinking about your safety, when there is no real danger to deal with, may help prepare you for hazardous conditions on future rides.

Joe is commuting to work. He overslept this morning and he's running a little late, so he elected not to take the time to get his motorcycle out of the garage. Instead, he jumped into his trusty SUV.

On his way, he comes up to an intersection that is protected by a four-way stop sign. He stops and sees a police car with flashing lights approaching. He lets the police car proceed through the intersection. As it goes through, he turns his head, and wonders, "I wonder who he's after?" He then turns to look at a second police car, just as it's about to hit him in the side.



After the accident, the officer approaches Joe. The officer can't believe Joe pulled out in front of him, especially since Joe was looking at the officer as he did this. "What were you thinking?" asks the officer. Joe responds, "I didn't see you."

Is Joe telling a lie? Probably not. As the first police car traveled through the intersection, Joe's attention focused in on it. He was thinking about the first car—where it was going; who it was after—and he was also thinking about getting to work on time. Even though he turned to look, his mind didn't register the second car was also approaching.

This type of accident is a common one involving emergency vehicles. This is a perfect example of how drivers can pull in front of assumingly highly visible vehicles with multiple flashing lights.

How can it affect a motorcyclist? Think about what might happen the next time you are in a group ride. Is it possible that the first motorcycle in the group might draw the attention of an admiring motorist enough to miss seeing the rest of the group that is following?

Is it enough to make eye-to-eye contact with the motorist that's waiting to enter the intersection?

If motorists can't see an emergency vehicle with all its flashing lights and sirens, what chance does a motorcyclist have of being seen? What can you do to improve your odds of being seen? What can you do to avoid being hit by or crashing into a distracted motorist?

GCBMWC Meeting Minutes 1-11-03

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Jerry read the minutes and they were approved. Tom gave the treasurer's report: the club balance is \$1350.58. The club had expenses of \$790.39 and took in a total of \$279.00 during the month.

Business discussed:

- The monthly Breakfast Rides will start back at 9:00 a.m. in April. It was felt that the weather should be warm enough so that we can enjoy an earlier ride.
- Tom mentioned the 30th Original Mini-Rally that the Battle Creek club is hosting in Sturgis, Michigan during May 2-May 4, 2003. The cost is \$12 per person and this includes coffee, donuts, tea and an opportunity to win door prizes. Saturday evening there will be a pig roast and a live band. For more details, see Tom Raybuck.
- The officer's meeting was discussed. For more see The Prez Sez above.
- Future meeting locations were set.
- The 15th Rocket City Rally, which is held in Huntsville, Alabama, was mentioned as another good nearby rally to attend. The dates are May 22-25, 2003.
- Jerry mentioned that there are 5 people currently signed up for the MSF class. He reminded everyone that we need 12 riders for the class.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
George Nyktas won the 50/50 pot of \$10.50.

Club Calendar

Thank you, George Nyktas for hosting the February meeting!

Mar 2: 11:00 a.m. Brunch Ride at Pearl's

Mar 8: 7:00 p.m. Meeting, Montgomery Inn by the Drawbridge Inn

Apr 6: 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Ride. **PLEASE NOTE** that we will be changing the time to 9:00 a.m. in April.

Apr 9: 6:00 p.m. MSF Class, Scarlet Oaks

Apr 12: 7:00 a.m. MSF Class, Scarlet Oaks

Apr 12: 1:00 p.m. Poker Run, Kentucky

Apr 12: Meeting at Tom Collin's after Poker Run

Apr 13: 8:00 a.m. MSF Class, Scarlet Oaks

May 4: 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Ride

May 10: 7:00 p.m. Meeting

Membership Dues

Please pay your membership dues by the March meeting. Dues are as follows:

\$15.00 for a single membership

\$18.00 for a couple

Checks are to be made out to: **GCBMWC.**

Please mail dues to:

Tom Raybuck

7703 Shady Tree Dr.

West Chester, OH 45069

513-759-0889

GCBMWC Market Place

2000 Suzuki SV650, with 3.3K miles, Givi bag mounts and windshield.

Needs nothing, ready to ride. Red paint. Gel seat and stock.

List price \$5800. Asking \$4300. Bought new in 2001.

Jim Smith 513-539-5311



"Hey guys, I'm bored, don't we have some riding to do?"

1999 K1200 LTS – 15K, Champagne color, 2K on Metzeler 880s. Includes Kathy's Bag Liners. All services current and BMW performed. New windshield in September 2002. Garaged and never down. \$10,900

Allan Smith 513-738-2930

Pete Tsipis is selling his two bikes.

1995 K100LT Metallic Grey 44K miles, excellent condition. Includes BMW Tankbag, Seang Night Cutter Driving lights, Hard bags (lids repainted), one-year-old BMW batter. \$7000.00

Number two is:

1983 R100RT Maroon 90+K miles, good condition. Includes hard bags. Fairing has been repainted. Windshield is about 4 years old. \$3200.00

Newsletter Deadlines

If you wish to include something in the newsletter, the deadline for submission will be midnight on Friday, the weekend before the club ride. The newsletter will come out on the Wednesday evening before the club breakfast/brunch rides.

Please send your submissions to my new e-mail address: jerrycummins@earthlink.net.