

**Publisher Beth Schwartz Issue No. 5
MAY 2003**

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May Meeting:

Meeting is MAY 17th at
**HARRISON LAKE STATE
PARK.**

This is our campout weekend.
Come one come all to the great
spring campout with the BMW
Riders of Toledo, Campout
begins Friday May 16th to
Sunday May 18th. Meeting will
be Saturday evening 6:30pm or
after dinner.

Come join in the fun!!!!

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of
each month with the exception of a
function.

For more info. Contact any club officer
or see our website at:
bmwridersoftoledo.org

Officers

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Webmaster

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419-352-0866

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Minutes For April 2003

Minutes for March were accepted as printed in newsletter.

Delbert called meeting to order.

Presidents Report

Delbert welcomed every one to meeting. We began meeting with membership. Newsletter had a great article from Bob Wood. Delbert then went over the usual event schedule for the beginning of the season. Dates in the Calendar of events..

Vice-President Report

Midwest motorcyclist is a free publication at the bike shops. There is a list in the back where the clubs are listed. Michel would like to list us in this publication. This was motioned to the floor and accepted. With the misfit saying no. For Spring campout anyone wanting to set up a run contact Delbert or bring route sheets to campout.

Secretary

News constitution and by-laws complete if you were not present at meeting contact me and I will give you a copy at next meeting you attend or send you a copy. Several mailings sent to club were passed around to club meeting. Most were events in Calendar. Cleveland club newsletter also passed around. Our copy of patch does not look good looking for a hard copy to put picture of patch in newsletter.

Treasurer Report

Sonja gave report accepted as given.

Road Captain

Gary gave a report of a swap meet near Chicago coming up, he is going if you can not go and are looking for something call Gary. Date April 27th. Spring Campout Gary is going out early pick out our area and put out direction signs.

Webmaster

Wade gave report of statistics for website. Site is being looked at. This is positive.

Membership

We have one new member that has been present to 3 meetings, Marc Woodward. He was voted in with Gary's usual vote. Tom Tann was a previous member of the club he was also voted on and accepted. Wayne Conkey was also a former member accepted as well.

Welcome all new members.

Edward Kovaleski attended his first meeting with us welcome. Kirk and Valerie Monday also attend their second meeting with us.

Welcome everyone!

Membership is growing and we are getting only positive comments.

Old Business

Spring campout dinner Friday hobo stew, Dinner Saturday chili Gary of course in charge. Call Gary with what you are bringing for Friday stew. Nametags we will be taking orders. Price will probably be \$5.00. Ed is the badge master. Ed absent at this meeting maybe at spring campout. Banner being checked on, T-shirts also being checked into. Membership card maybe next meeting. Hope dale will be Saturday meeting and ride on September 13th. We are looking for a meeting place in ~~Findlay~~ *Freemont* or that direction any suggestions bring to next meeting. Pony express update at next meeting.

New Business

Dale presented that application for membership be voted on by secret ballot. Club members voted this down because we have not ever voted anyone down in recent history.

What happened to the gentleman checking into club cards to pass out to potential members? We will check into it.

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Technical articles being sought for newsletter. Antics or adventures in working on motorcycles.

The following article was reprinted from the April 2003 AMA magazine.

Street survival 101

Want to stay alive on the road? Hey, who doesn't? That's why we put together a list of 32 tips that will help you ride smarter this season, pulled from the experienced riders and motorcycle safety instructors on the AMA staff.

Some of what you find here is right out of the rider-training manual. Some of it comes from combined riding experience that amounts to centuries. Either way, we think you'll find plenty of practical tips you can use when the new riding season begins.

- ✓ Every time you ride, **give your motorcycle a quick visual inspection** for things like loose parts, leaking fluids or obviously low tire pressures. Regularly, give it a more complete check using all necessary tools.
- ✓ **Clear your mind before you even start your bike.** We all get preoccupied by work, issues at home, even the outcome of a basketball game. But when you're on the bike, you have to focus on riding. Each time you switch on the ignition key, switch on your brain, too.
- ✓ From the moment you get on the road, train yourself to use the Motorcycle Safety foundation's **SIPDE** method for staying out of trouble: **Scan** all around you. **Identify** potential hazards. **Predict** what will happen. **Decide** how to avoid problems. And **execute** your plan. Do it all the time, and you'll drastically reduce the number of dangerous situations you face.
- ✓ Another exceptionally valuable technique is also one of the simplest: **Look where you want to go**, because the bike will go where you look. Don't stare at that upcoming pothole-instead, look at the clear pavement next to it. Don't fixate on the car turning left in front of you- instead, focus on the opening being created as it moves past, since that's your escape route. At times, it may take a real mental effort to pull your eyes away from an obstacle, but if you can see your way through trouble, chances are you can ride there.
- ✓ It should go without saying, but **don't get on your bike if you've been drinking.** Your odds of being involved in an accident go up enormously.
- ✓ **If you're on a bike that's new to you**, or you're riding under unfamiliar conditions (mountain roads, rain, ect.), you're statistically more likely to crash. Slow down, focus and take extra care.
- ✓ Need to tune up your skills after a winter of layoff or to get more comfortable on a new bike? Find a deserted parking lot and **do some tight figure eights and brake tests** before you face the real world. Keep at it till you feel truly in control of the machine.
- ✓ Be aware that nailing the brakes isn't the only way to avoid a crash. Sometimes, **Swerving or even speeding up** will get you out of trouble more easily.
- ✓ Remember that in the famous Hurt Study in 1981, **the most common accident situations** involved a car violating a motorcyclist's right of way. Things have changed a lot in the years since, but cars turning left in front of you or pulling into your path from a parking lot or side street remain particularly common hazards. Ride like drivers don't see you in those circumstances, because they may not.
- ✓ With those kinds of hazards in mind, **play the "what-if" game** as you ride. What if the car you're following slams on it's brakes? What if the car on the cross street doesn't stop for the stop sign? What if the truck on your right suddenly swerves into your lane? Could you avoid it?
- ✓ What's the best lane position for riding? The left tire track? The right tire track? The center? You can get all kinds of answers, but your real priority shouldn't be lane positioning at all. It should be "traffic positioning." Try to **create a bubble of space around you.** If there's a car exiting a parking lot on you right, move to the left. If there's an oncoming car that could turn left, move right. If there's traffic around you position yourself so you have the maximum cushion on all sides.
- ✓ On crowded freeways, **the most dangerous place to be is often the right lane**, where cars are constantly merging in and out. If you don't need to exit anytime soon, traffic positioning tells you that you're probably better off in the left lane, away from all merging action. But don't get over there unless you are comfortable with the speed of

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traffic in the left lane-you don't want to trade the hazards of merging cars for the hazards of faster cars closing in on your tailpipe.

- ✓ **Most traffic tends to move in clumps**, separated by open spaces. Instead of rolling along in the middle of a clump, speed up or slow down to get yourself into one of the open-spaces.
- ✓ You can use traffic positioning in other ways as well. On crowded roads, don't just stare at the back of the car in front of you. Put yourself in a position where you can **look through its windshield** at cars farther ahead. Or move to a spot that lets you see around a truck or car that blocks your vision.
- ✓ Changing lanes? Always **use your head**. Swivel your neck to check your blind spot so you don't change lanes into someone else.
- ✓ In general, it's easier to **change lanes into a spot that's in front of you**, rather than behind you. See your spot, flip on your turn signal, do your head check and accelerate into it.
- ✓ Remember that all other vehicles have blind spots, too. This is a particular problem around semi-trailers. As a demonstration, organizers at a recent rally placed four police cruisers and 28 motorcycles behind and to both sides of a parked semi. Not one could be seen from the driver's seat. **If you can't see the driver's rearview mirrors, the driver can't see you.**
- ✓ Want to improve the odds that other drivers will see you? **Don't wear black**. Bright-colored riding clothes can make you more visible anytime, while a yellow or orange rain suit, with reflective strips, will help you stand out when visibility is at its poorest.
- ✓ Be aware of seasonal hazards. In winter, ice and snow are the obvious problems, but **salt can also reduce your traction** long after the snow is gone. In spring, **road conditions are at their worst**-watch for cars swerving to avoid pot holes. In summer heat, highway **crack sealer can turn very slippery**. And in fall, **wet leaves are among the slickest surfaces known to man**.
- ✓ Construction zones are another hazard associated with summer. If you find yourself on a multi-lane road that's being paved, and one lane is an inch or so higher than the other, **try to ride in the higher lane**. It's easier to move from high to low than the other way around.
- ✓ Be equally aware of hazards associated with different times of day. In the early morning, **watch for dew and frost on roads**. Through the daylight hours, you have to contend with **sun glare and the highest traffic loads of the day**. Sunset is the time when **animals are more active**, while evening and overnight hours bring the **greatest risk of drunk drivers**. You can probably add hazards of your own. For instance, it seems the closer you get to quit time on Friday, the more self-absorbed and rushed the drivers of other vehicles get.
- ✓ Sunset and sunrise can create severe visibility problems. If you can see your own shadow ahead of you, **the drivers of oncoming cars will be staring right into the sun. Anticipate that they can't see you.**
- ✓ Of course, rain is a hazard anytime. Be aware that **roads will be slickest** shortly after it starts raining as the water combines with oil on the road surface. Especially slick are lane markers and other lines painted on the road.
- ✓ Riding with a group of motorcyclists can be fun, but remember to **ride your own ride**. If you're not comfortable with the pace, slow down. Don't rely on anyone else to make safety decisions for you.
- ✓ Alone or in a group, if you're doing something on your motorcycle that **makes you feel like you're in over your head**, you probably are. Back off.
- ✓ What's the most dangerous animal in America? Bears? Wolves? Sharks? Not even close. **More people are killed in collisions with deer** than in all types of animal attacks. Remember that if you see one deer cross the road, chances are good there are more where that one came from. Slow down and look for the second, third and fourth members of the group.
- ✓ The most dangerous places on surface streets are intersections. As you approach an intersection, scan in all directions so you know what's likely to happen. But before you slow down, **check your mirrors** to see what's coming up behind you.
- ✓ **Be especially careful when you come up behind a car that's turning left** at an intersection. Oncoming cars may not see you, and they're more likely to turn left in front of you.
- ✓ When you stop at an intersection **leave enough room between you and the car in**

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front so that you can pull to the left or right in an emergency. **Keep your bike in first gear**, so you are ready to take evasive action if a car behind you isn't going to stop in time.

- ✓ Parking garages and tollbooths have a different hazard—those automatic traffic-control arms. They can be notorious for **not going up quickly enough or dropping too soon**. One solution is to look for a lane with a human being who will take your money and actuate the gate.
- ✓ **Get additional training.** Even the best riders can benefit from enrolling in formal rider education programs. Contact the Motorcycle Safety Foundation at (800) 446-9227 or www.msf-usa.org for information or to find the class nearest you.
- ✓ Finally, if you're feeling tired during a long day on the road and can't decide whether you should stop and take a break, that's a sure sign that you should **stop and take a break**.



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<http://home.columbus.rr.com/buckeyebeemers/>

Calendar of Events 2003

- **May 11th:** Fostoria Golden eagles mothers day run first bike out 1pm. call 419-435-6881

- **May 16-18, 2003 BMW Riders of Toledo Spring Camp Out.**

Harrison Lake State Park, Fayette, OH. Check web site at <http://www.bmwridersoftoledo.org/> for more info. Park phone 419.237.2593. or call any officer

- **May 18th:** Travelers on door street first bike out at 1pm. Call 419-865-6327

May 22-25: 15th annual Rocket city rally. Contact Delbert Schwab

- **May 23-26, 2003 Cass Memorial Day Rally** sponsored by the Mountaineer

BMW Riders at the Boyer Station Campground on SR 28, five miles north of Green Bank, near Boyer, WV. Soup and sandwiches Friday night until 11:00 PM, dinner Saturday evening, and coffee, tea, and hot chocolate around the clock. \$35 rally fee or \$30 if pre registered by May 16, 2003. For more info call 614.471.1418 days (Charlie or Betty) or 304.863.6206 evenings (Ron) or check out their web site at www.mountaineerbmw.org. Motel reservations are available by calling 304.456.4667.

- **June 1st:** Continental's in Junction Ohio. First bike out 1pm.

- **June 1, 2003 Buckeye Beemers**

M/C Club Poker Run with all proceeds benefiting the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum. This is an all brands event so invite all your riding friends and their friends. Registration begins at the Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum in Pickerington, Ohio (SR 204 east of SR 256, Exit 112 off I-70 east of Columbus) at noon with the first bike out at 1:00 PM. Door prizes and awards. Contact Dick Reichenbach at 937.349.2401 for more info or visit the Buckeye Beemer's web site at

June 6-8th: BMW MOC Micro-Rally at the pit.

- **June 8: Yankee flag run** off st rt 18 west of Defiance 419-636-8600

- **June 10th:** BMW riders of Toledo meeting at Ron & Nancy Berry's

- **June 13-15, 2003 Ohio RA Appalachians Foothills**

Adventure -- summer camp out near Peebles, Ohio. Your choice of open or wooded free camping, showers, Port-a-Potty, swimming pool, pinball, great riding roads near by to Serpent Mounds, Fort Hill, Temper Mound, Portsmouth's retaining wall murals, and more. Friday night soup pot. Saturday evening feast on your choice of BBQ chicken, ribs, or steak, baked potato, sweet n' sour German Style or creamy cole slaw, roll and butter for \$16.00 (prepaid only) catered by the Sciota Ribber of Portsmouth. Saturday night door prizes, membership give-a-way, bonfire and great company. Continuous coffee, tea, and cold refreshments. Please RSVP our gracious hosts Chris or Randy Phipps at randy_kris73@dragonbbs.com or call them at 937.587.3443 to reserve your dinners. All dinners must be prepaid before June 2, 2003. No last minute orders, please! Flyers will be available at all Ohio BMW dealers during the month of May

- **June 14: Travelers poker** run off Dorr street run at 6pm.
- **June 15: Blackhawk Sarah** drive Michigan

June 12th-15: Iowa Rally. Contact phone 319-354-2027

June 22: Poker run Independence dam east of Defiance. First bike out 1pm

June 29th: Scioto valley Flag Run Kenton Ohio call 419-675-2175

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July 4th: Travelers Poker run.
Dorr street.

July 6th: Yankee at Williams
county fair ground.

July 10-13: BMW MOA rally in
Charleston West Virginia. Rally
called The Almost Heaven Rally

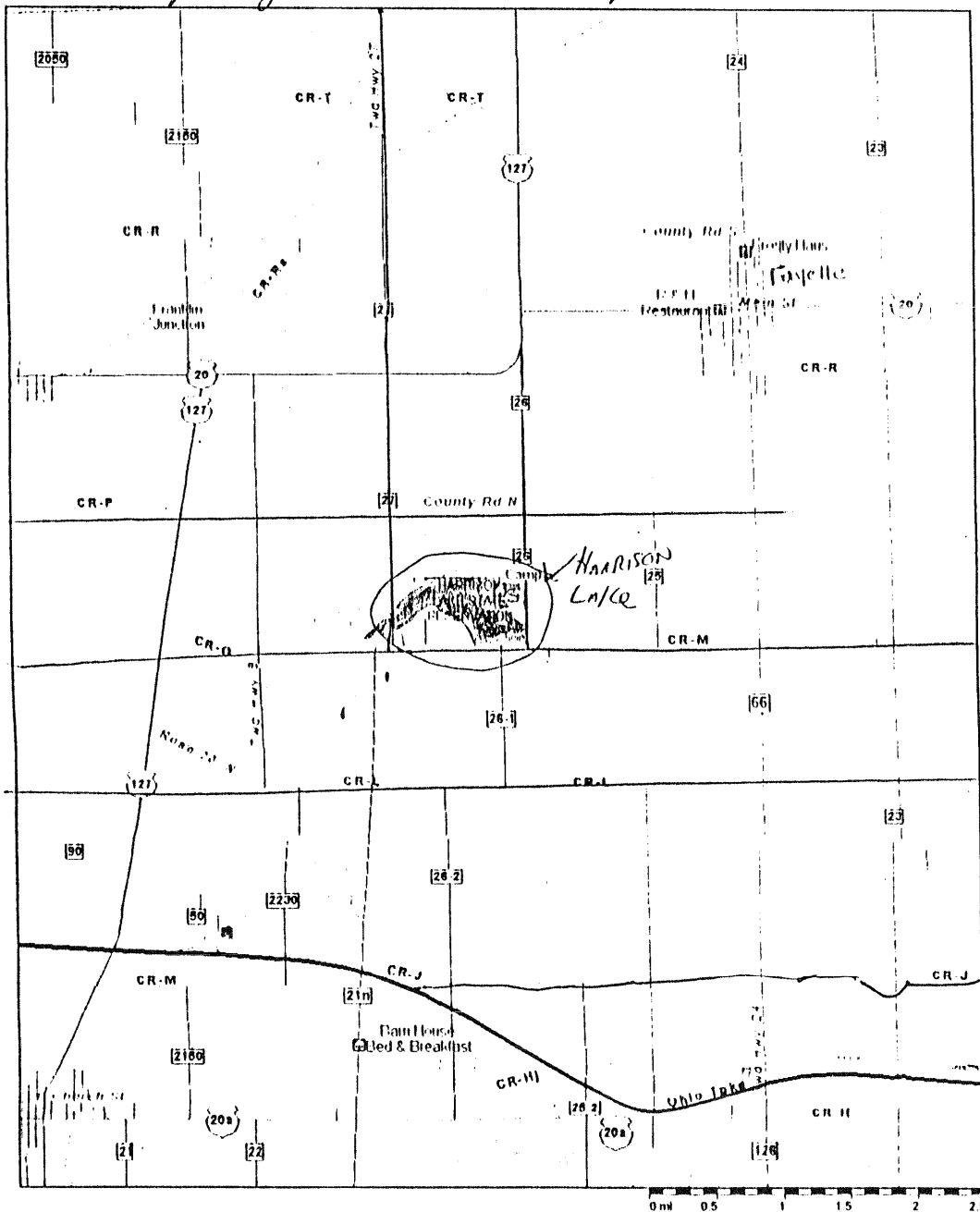
• July 18-20 AMA Vintage
Motorcycle Days at Mid-Ohio
Sports Car Course, Lexington, OH.

• July 19&20: Devil's highway
entry deadline July 1st. call
419-666-8413 for info.

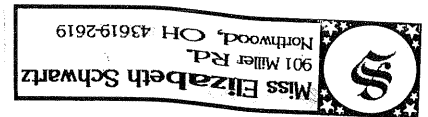
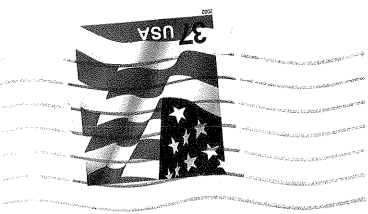
• July 25-27 Super Cycle Weekend
at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in
Lexington, OH.

• Aug 22-24 Toledo BMW Riders
Summer Camp Out at East Harbor
State Park (group area)

Spring Camp Out map To Harrison Lake



Merle & Nancy Cunningham
2916 Algonquin Parkway
Toledo Ohio 43606



BMW Riders of Toledo

bmwmembership - Report 1

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