



BMW MOA Charter 280

Mid-Atlantic Riders' Rag

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The Monthly Newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Riders

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From the President

Are you up for a scavenger hunt on your motorcycle? Think you'd enjoy riding around central Delaware looking for really off-the-wall information? If we have enough interest, club member David Hrenchir will coordinate a small scavenger hunt on Sunday, July 2. If this goes well, David is also willing to put on a large, regional hunt on Saturday, September 16 that will encompass the Delmarva Peninsula and be open to other clubs. It promises to be a fun event that will raise money for our ailing treasury and help put our club on the map.

On July 2, we'll meet at a designated location and get a list of questions. They'll be something like this: how much is a crab cake sandwich at the Milford Diner? What time does the BP station in Odessa close on Sundays? What is the date on the cornerstone of the Georgetown courthouse? You'll get too many questions to answer in the six hours allotted, but since the questions have a point value based on their distance, your strategy is to pick those questions that you can answer in six hours and still get the most points. Easy, huh?

The July 2 mini-scavenger hunt will gauge club interest and work out any bugs before formally announcing the larger, regional September 16 hunt. The mini-hunt will be free and the winner will get breakfast at the next club meeting. The entry fee and prize(s) for the September event are yet to be determined.

We hope there's a lot of interest! Contact David at maxscycle@yahoo.com for more info.

Next Breakfast

Our next breakfast will be at Matilda's in Newark at 9 AM on Saturday, June 10.

For those of you who have been asking...yes, I did get the FJR1300, and sold the Harley on eBay last Saturday for the price I needed. In fact, it was sold a bit too early and ruined Marilyn and my weekend plans to go to West Virginia with the group (the Harley was in the driveway fueled, packed and ready to leave for the trip when it was sold).

The eBay auction wasn't supposed to end until Wednesday, May 31, but the buyer needed to pick it up Saturday while he had the day off, and was willing to pay cash. I couldn't convince him to wait until I returned from West Virginia, and I wasn't in a position to turn him down. Marilyn and I were very disappointed in missing the weekend trip with the club, so we took our own overnight trip to Frederick, MD. It was her first multi-day motorcycle trip on her own bike.

Members Dean Smith, Dan Nelson and I completed a 60-hour program in Georgetown to become instructors for the state's motorcycle program. I've been accepted into Harley Davidson's Riders Edge program as an instructor candidate, and after a one-week training course in mid-June I'll be certified to teach for Harley.

By the way, there are now four club members who are state instructors, Dean, Dan, David Hrenchir and me; David is also a Riders Edge instructor.

I want to apologize in advance for missing the upcoming breakfast at Matilda's, Marilyn and I will be in Las Vegas.

Pool Party!

Jay and Susan Schmittinger will again host a club pool party at their palatial estate in Smyrna. This is a not-to-be-missed event and has been one of the club's more popular events. The party this year will be held on Saturday, June 24 (rain date – June 25) at the Schmittinger's home at 103 Dodge Drive in Smyrna.

Please bring a covered dish, and your kids and grandkids (not necessarily in that order), but be sure to call Susan first to tell her what you'll be bringing. We don't want seven bowls of potato salad. She can be reached at (302) 653-6200.



Please try to join us, and be sure to bring your swim suit!

The Club Needs a Few Good Men (and Women)

After putting in hours of work on the details, our esteemed Event Coordinator now finds that he cannot lead the summer rides he listed on the web site. Before we remove them, we'd like to know if anyone would like to step up and lead one or two of them. Please look at our web site and let me know if you can help. I can be reached at the phone number on the front page or at edlombardi@comcast.net. Since we have a lot of

members who love to ride, and I know many of you will step up and help the club in it's time of need.

My Minnesota Trip

Rogers George

Early this May my dad came down with pneumonia. He's 89. He has been using peritoneal (home) dialysis for almost 4 years (the doc said he'd be dead in 18 months). And his heart has a bad valve. And he underwent (successful) cancer surgery last fall. Well, the old coot has exercised faithfully every day of his life, and he didn't even realize how sick he was until he couldn't get out of bed. His housekeeper happened to find him that morning, and she called 911. He'll probably die rescuing a damsel in distress or something. So anyway, after he got out of the hospital, he needed someone to stay with him a few days. I happened to be the person most available, so I got a computer from work, remote access authorization, and hit the road. I sure don't wish my dad ill, but I was actually glad to have an excuse for a nice long ride, about 1200 miles each way.

I went to MN by way of I-80 and 294, which is almost entirely tolls, then went thru Chicago on the way up. It was after midnight, fortunately, but traffic was still rather heavy if moving right along. They are revamping their toll booths, of which there are many, so construction was almost constant. Definitely a stretch to avoid. Then it was I-90 to the Mississippi. I took the scenic route along the WI side of the Mississippi—very nice ride. Curvy, scenic, quaint towns, including the birthplace of Laura Ingalls Wilder, and a hundred yard sales in 50 miles. Wisconsin is a nice ride even on the interstate, btw. The roads closest to the river are often nicely paved county roads and have very light traffic, and occasionally you come up out onto lush farmland and rolling prairie. I came back by way of the other side of the river, MN and IA. Then I-74 and 70 across the heartland. (Stopped in Peoria to see the newest grandkid.) No tolls back except the PA turnpike.

I slept next to the bike both ways. Seems my style is to need two naps during the night. Saw lots of deer bodies, and three live deer, but one of those jumped in front of me. She missed. Big adrenalin rush, though, let me tell you. I had even been consciously watching for deer when that one appeared out of nowhere. They are hard to see!

It rained the whole first week I was up there, and I had to run a lot of errands for dad, so mostly I used his vehicle. \$45 a tank! It would carry more than the bike, though. Then Dad had a relapse and ended up in the hospital again. I managed to stay up there a second week. Got my odometer fixed while I was there—\$70 and they did it while I waited. D&D Instruments, 2525 Winter St NE, Minneapolis. Recommended.

Tuesday I had supper with two guys from the Long Riders Association who happened to live in the area—less than two hours away. We told lies, swilled O'Douls, and enjoyed half price burgers at the local yacht club, right on the river.

I had an interesting conversation with a LEO (who got a BMW last year and will be in VT this summer) at a rest stop just inside PA. He said he lets motorcycles go 15 over no problem. "Seems like they run best at 80-85." I told him that was a Beemer's design speed, and appreciated the info. So I took the rest of the turnpike at 80.

Dad's in a rehab facility now, doing too much PT so he can get out faster. I might just have to go up again in a month when he's scheduled to get out.

Bike ran fine except I think I picked up some bad gas near the end of the way up, and it bucked and missed and backfired some on the way back. Took about three tanks to clear it all out. Hope I didn't damage the bike; advice appreciated.

States: DE, PA, OH, MI, IN, IL, WI, MN, IA and WV

So, anybody feel like a ride to Minnesota in June?