



SANTA BARBARA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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BMW MOA CLUB #165

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Keeping an Eye on Each Other and Our Bikes

(An Email from Bob Phinney to
Steve Miller)

Over the years, you must recall hearing me say that I appreciate engineers.

While on our ride a couple of Fridays ago, you casually mentioned that my front tire looked ready to be replaced. I had not thought so but I did not contradict you. When I got home, I looked closely at the tire, noticed that the wear bars were closer than I had recalled. I then looked at my records, and the tire indeed did have almost as many miles as the first one on the bike when I replaced it.

I called Dave at Sport Cycle Pacific, he ordered a tire, installed it upon arrival and off I went on my 4 day trip thru the desert to Death Valley with a mid point at my son's home in Las Vegas.

At time the cross winds were horrific. The new tire held its grip. The old well, thankfully, I will never know.

And the ride was great; as green and colorful as the area gets.

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Advanced RiderCourse Training

The Advanced RiderCourse is the public version of the Military SportBike RiderCourse (MSRC). Classes are being offered in April and May at the Santa Maria location (Allan Hancock College) and the San Luis Obispo location (Camp San Luis Obispo Airfield, near Cuesta College). Tuition is \$170.00 for a one day, 7-hour course which has both classroom discussions and riding exercises. Schedules and other information can be found here:

[Advanced RiderCourse](#)

Spring Trip Through the Desert

Bob Phinney

I decided to visit son Jon and family in Las Vegas. To make this interesting, I took some back roads and visited Taft, the Kern River Canyon, Death Valley, Mt. Charleston, Lake Mead National Recreational Area and Pahrump.

The desert is happy and green with flowers here and there and everywhere. The Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve off of Hwy 138 is in spectacular full bloom.

And, if one of us is ever feeling closed in, that there are too many people, that we need to get away,well, get on your bike and take some roads on this route. Miles, miles and more miles of desert and mountains with nary a hint of man's imprint.

Some could say a whole bunch of nothing, but then we stop and notice the tiny flowers carpeting the area near where we have stopped.



Yellow everywhere in Death Valley. Photo by Bob Phinney.

SB BMW Riders Calendar

- ❖ Monday April 17th: Club meeting at Cody's Café, 4898 Hollister Avenue, Goleta, CA. Come at around 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. for dinner and stay for the 7:30 p.m. meeting.
- ❖ Monday, May 15th: Club meeting at Cody's Café, 4898 Hollister Avenue, Goleta, CA. Come at around 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. for dinner and stay for the 7:30 p.m. meeting.
- ❖ Any other activities or rides scheduled? Let me know! djkrohn@cox.net

Bike Build Thread by Marten

Marten started a thread on ADV Rider about his new bike build. Don't forget to follow along with it: [No ST Were Harmed](#)

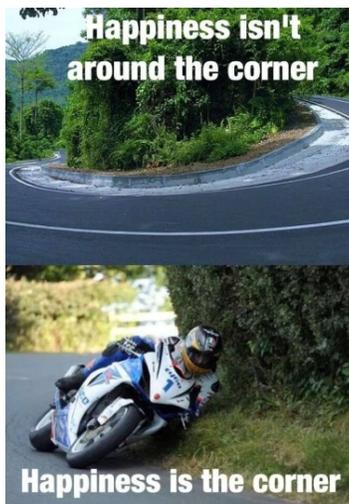


Nice Prussian Blue for the frame!

Tech Day: Saturday April 15th

Marten will host a Spring Tech day for everyone who wants to get their bike ready for spring.

Location: 516 Palm Avenue, Carpinteria.
Contact Marten for information and if you will be attending: marten@cox.net



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Upcoming Events

- April 21-23: Washington State BMW Riders Rain Run, Manzanita, OR. Camping and motel lodging is available. [Rain Run](#)
- May 25-29: 45th Annual 49'er Rally, Mariposa, CA. [49'er Rally](#)
- June 2-4: MOA Getaway, Colorado Springs, CO. [MOA Rally Colorado Springs](#)
- June 15-17: 17th Annual Red Rock Rendezvous Rally, Panguitch, UT. [Red Rock Rendezvous](#)
- June 23-25: Chief Joseph Rally, Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day, OR. [Chief Joseph Rally](#)
- July 13-16: BMW MOA National Rally, Salt Lake City. [National Rally 2017](#)
- July 20-23: 46th Annual Top O'The Rockies Rally, Paonia, CO. [Top O'The Rockies Rally](#)
- July 20-23: 45th Annual Cascade Country Rendezvous, Republic, WA. [Cascade Country Rendezvous](#)
- August 5: 18th Annual 100,000 Ft. Ride, Lakewood, CO. [Annual 100,000 Ft Ride](#)

Mulholland Drive

Bob Phinney

On a Wednesday in January, knowing that Harvey Rawn was better acquainted with Los Angeles back roads than I, I asked him to accompany me down to the Hollywood Bowl, which is near the eastern terminus of the Mulholland Drive/Mulholland Highway system of roads. After 71 years in Southern California, I had been by the Bowl a thousand times but had never seen it; if not now, when?

On an earlier trip with Chuck Beattie, I had discovered that there is now a Mulholland Highway and a Mulholland Drive. The Highway is the name for the road in the Malibu Hills. On a weekday, it is a seldom-driven delight, running from the southeast edge of the San Fernando Valley (Hwy 101 and Valley Circle Blvd) to the coast in western Malibu. On weekends, it is a very busy delight.

After breakfast at the Waypoint Café at the Camarillo Airport, Harvey led us to the Cal State Channel Islands campus, then eastbound on Potrero Road, then south on Westlake Blvd (Hwy 23) in the hills to its intersection with the Mulholland Hwy. When the eastbound highway terminated at the 101 and Valley Circle, we followed Ventura Blvd to Hayvenhurst. Southbound Hayvenhurst heads into the hills through a

leafy neighborhood, ending at Mulholland Drive. A west run of a few miles leads to the old fire road upon which motorcycles are discouraged, but bikes, horses and people enjoy.

Riding east on Mulholland allows views of both the LA basin and the San Fernando Valley. Traffic is light, but metro in attitude. Crossing over the 405 was fun; great views. At the junction of Mulholland Drive and Benedict Canyon Drive, we passed several food trucks. Figures – so many homes; so many construction and gardening workers. There are several overlooks and, as it was a remarkably clear day, stops occurred – not all bladder-related. Nearer the Bowl, several open top vans were carrying tourists; a good day for seeing LA.

Mulholland Drive ends at the Hollywood Freeway. Having been here many times, Harvey headed up the freeway to the 101 and home. I found the Hollywood Bowl as it sits up a canyon, a thousand yards south on Cahuenga Blvd. After a good look-see, it seems to me to be an LA version of our SB County Bowl. I headed west again on Mullholland, then south on Benedict Canyon Drive, west on Sunset, and north on Hwy 1. A late lunch was enjoyed at the Vintage Grocer's store in the Trancas Country Market for a late lunch. Then home.



A bucket list item done.

North! To Alaska: Part 1

Diane Krohn

July, 2013: This seemed to be the right year to ride to Alaska. Wayne's sister and her husband would be driving their SUV to Alaska, allowing us to carry extra items in their vehicle, plus, we could stop at the BMW MOA International Rally in Salem, OR, on the way north.

Our usual route northward is Highway 1, so this trip was no exception. We rode Highway 1 all the way to Leggett, CA, where 1 meets up with US 101. Continuing up 101 into Oregon, we headed east from Lincoln City, OR, to Salem.

The BMW Rally was held at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem. This was our first BMW Rally, and we had opted to camp in the general camping area. It was strange camping with hundreds of other people, but we got a shady spot that was good except for the nearby trains that blew their whistles a lot earlier in the morning than many campers were prepared to hear!

The rally had some good seminars (David Hough; Fred Rau) and we had some great soft-serve ice cream served by the Oregon Dairy Princess! She even wore a tiara.

After Salem, we continued north to Sol Duc Campground in Olympic National Park, where we connected with Bonnie and Jim (Wayne's sister and her husband). They had carried our cheap but huge Coleman car-camping tent, so we were able to camp in luxury, putting all sorts of stuff inside the tent and the two of us could move around in the tent at the same time. As great as our single-wall Black Diamond tent is for motorcycle travel, it is a very tight fit for two people.

The next leg in our trip was taking the ferry from Port Angeles, WA, to Victoria, BC. We had taken the ferry before (Black Ball Ferry, [Black Ball Ferry](#)) and it's about a 90-minute sailing. We spent one night in very pleasant Victoria, then continued north on Vancouver Island to Port Hardy, where we were to take another ferry from Port Hardy to Prince Rupert.

To be continued....



Registration at the BMW Rally, Salem, OR