



GREATER CINCINNATI BMW CLUB

April 2003 Newsletter

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Ready to Ride

By Jeff Nutter

Intro by Jerry Cummins

Most of us are welcoming the warmer weather and have already had our bikes out enjoying the passion that rules our lives for most of the spring, summer and into the fall. It's during this time of transition from winter's curse of cold weather and icy roads that we let impulse win out over common sense and forsake routine maintenance checks to get riding. Now's the time, if you haven't done it already, to perform some regular maintenance checks to get your bike ready for the weeks and months of riding ahead. So, whether you've had your bike in "storage" this long cold winter or have ridden year 'round (weather permitting), plan for your next ride by performing a few routine checks to ensure your ride will be pleasurable and minimize the chance of a breakdown.

Here are some transition tips from **Jeff Nutter, Service Manager, BMW of the Tristate:**



Now's the time to do your once-over spring maintenance check so you and your bike are ready to ride. Here are a few tips you that should become part of your springtime routine as riding season begins each year.

BATTERY CHARGING AND LIFE

Charge your battery before trying to start your bike. This will keep your battery life up a lot longer. Before charging, be sure you check the water level in the cells and do not overfill.

FUEL

For those of you with non-fuel-injection bikes...be sure to drain float bowls before starting. Hopefully you have used some sort of fuel stabilizer before putting your bike in storage for the winter season. On fuel-injection bikes, it is very important to have used a fuel stabilizer before storage. Make adding fuel stabilizer a part of your storage routine for next winter.

TIRES

Be sure to check the tire pressure, condition and tread depth. Replace your tire(s) if your tread depth is less than 3/32 or 2.5 mm of tread.

LIGHTS

Be sure all light functions are correct; replace failed bulbs and make any necessary repairs.

OILS

Check all oil levels and oil condition before that first ride. Fluids will leave a trail if any leaks are present. On non-fuel-injection bikes it is very important to check engine oil for fuel that may have leaked past the fuel valve.

OVER ALL FUNCTION

Be sure your bike is road worthy before that first

ride. If any repairs are needed, do it before the first ride. In all repairs, be careful with handling oils and batteries. These items can be harmful. If you are in doubt on the condition of any element of your bike, call your dealer or your mechanic first.

Now you should be ready to roll and pour on the miles. Happy riding and don't forget to perform regular equipment checks on your bike and schedule it for needed repairs or maintenance.

KEEP THE STICKY SIDE DOWN!

JEFF

Newsletter Suggestions

By Jerry Cummins

This is my third newsletter. I'm learning a lot about this undertaking and I hope to make it more exciting with each issue. In the coming months, I intend on having several guest authors contribute articles on various topics. Jeff Nutter was the first guest author and I wish to thank him for the time he spent in generating his article.

I'm looking for suggestions on topics and people that I can approach with a request to include something. If any club member has any ideas or would like to contribute something, please send me an e-mail to: jerrycummins@earthlink.net. Trip reports...I'm looking for trip reports, also!

The Prez Sez...

By Bob Ulrich

As usual, a little of this, a bit of that

I'm pleased that we have filled the club's MSF class. Our treasury will be lighter for it, but hopefully those who take the course will be better prepared to face all the obstacles that riding a motorcycle can present. Another encouraging aspect is that I've received inquiries from two non-members about enrolling in "our" class. A big thank you is in order for Jerry for sticking his neck out and arranging for our "special" class.

Barn-meister Mike sure seems to be setting the bar for the rest of us in the bicentennial barn contest. Almost every time I check the web site he's got a new photo posted. I'm looking forward

to going barn hunting once I get tax season behind me.

We have had some beautiful weather this week. I wish I could have gotten out to enjoy it. But wait! Possible snow flurries on Sunday? How cruel. It seems that we are going from famine to feast in a big hurry, with occasional bouts of famine sprinkled in to keep us on our toes.

Be careful out there!

Bob

Club MSF Class

By Jerry Cummins

As Bob mentioned, the club's MSF class is full! Next year I plan to ask for two classes, one BRC and one ERC.

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.

Directions: Take the Mosteller Road Exit off of I275. At the end of the ramp, turn left. Take the first left at the traffic light. This is East Kemper Road. Scarlet Oaks will be on your left. Drive in to the campus, entering at the gate with the guard shack. The class will be in the Center for Employment Resources. This building will be on your right after a stop sign.

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.

Cincinnati MSF Courses

By Jerry Cummins

Last year, the Great Oaks school system trained 1093 students with 85 BRC classes and 9 ERC classes. This year they will be offering 110+ classes. The average student age is: 36-45 years old. The oldest student to successfully complete the course was 80.

Anyone interested in attending future MSF classes can sign up on April 4, 2003 by going to the Scarlet Oaks Campus between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. or by calling 771-8881 between 10:00 a.m. and noon.

If you are interested in signing up in person, just follow the directions in the article above. 50% of the remaining slots will be filled with those who show up and the other 50% will be filled by those who call in. The class costs \$25.00.

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.



What is wrong with this picture? What should the rider have done to better insure his/her safety?

And now, lets turn to our accident prone rider friend, Joe...

Winter is over and warm weather has finally arrived. Joe is out on his first long ride of the year. He's found a nice curvy road in a hilly section of Kentucky. Traffic is very light and Joe is riding at a fast pace. He is getting some good leans on each curve. On a few of them he has felt his footpegs scrape the ground.

As he rides in the lane closest to the cliff, he finds himself looking at the scenery. The cliff is

overlooking a river and he can see a lot of boats out. He suddenly looks up to see that he's about to enter into a sharp curve to the left. He rapidly slows down and then calmly puts his bike into a lean. As he rounds the blind corner, he notices gravel in the road. Before he is able to do anything about it, he's into the gravel. His rear wheel begins to slide to the right.

This causes Joe to panic. He's looking directly at the cliff and it doesn't look too good. Fear tells him to close his throttle and he grabs his brakes.

"Look, it's Evil Knievel!" shouts the man in the boat below as he points to Joe who is flying through the air. "Oh #&*@!" is all that Joe can mutter as he looks down at the river below him.

What did Joe do wrong? What should he have done prior to entering the curve? How should he have reacted once he felt the slide? Was he looking in the right direction?

Mileage Contest

The club's contest runs from November 1, 2002 to October 31, 2003. If you wish to participate, please send your November 1 odometer reading to Jerry at: jerrycummins@earthlink.net. It is never too late to get your odometer reading in! Everyone who participates is a winner!

The BMW MOA contest runs from April 12, 2003 to October 12, 2003. We had a good showing in last year's contest and I congratulate everyone who participated! I will be distributing and collecting the forms for this contest. If you are interested in participating, please see me.

Ohio Bicentennial Barn Photo Contest

I'm sure everyone is ready for some warmer weather! Here's a good way to participate in two contests at the same time! Be sure to check out the information regarding Jimmy Smith's contest at the following link:

[GCBMWC Ohio Bicentennial Barns Photo Contest](#)

GCBMWC Meeting Minutes 1-11-03

Meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m.

Jerry read the minutes and they were approved. Tom gave the treasurer's report. The club

balance is \$1517.08. The club had expenses of \$15.00 and income of \$166.50.

Business discussed:

- Mike Crum discussed the Poker Run that is scheduled for April 12.
- Mike LaBar will ask Bill Gardner about having a meeting at the store in May.
- Tom Raybuck described the events for the Original Mini-Rally that the Battle Creek Club is hosting.
- The club received a thank you card from Steve Snyder's family.
- June 1st is the Buckeye Beemer's Poker Run.
- The BMW Boxer Cup is 11:30 on Sunday March 9th. Several members expressed interest in watching it with Ed Buelsing's club at Damon's Sports Bar in Eastgate.
- Henry, who's hosting the June meeting, will have a club ride to his house. Details will follow.
- Mary proposed having a memorial ride for Steve Snyder. No decision was made.
- Who has the club's banner? No one knows.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30. George Nyktas won the 50/50 pot of \$18.00.

Club Calendar

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 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 at BMW Tristate

Jun 1: 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Ride

Jun 7: 7:00 p.m. Meeting at Henry's

Membership Dues

\$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



The club's Sergeant at Arms made sure that everyone paid their membership dues before leaving the meeting. Rumor has it that a couple members are still locked in the room. Has anyone seen....

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.