



Tarheel Traveler Newsletter



The monthly Publication of BMW Tarheel Travelers of North Carolina

BMW MOA No. 57

December 2008

BMW RA No. 34

Straddle the Fault Part II by Jim Morrison

This is part two of a two part series.
Part one was in the November edition.



Day 8 dawned bright and clear....the first one of the trip. We got magnificent views of Mt. Shasta. Mt. Shasta is the second-highest peak in the Cascade Range and the fifth highest peak in California.



We boys and Mt. Shasta

We continued our trip South, next going to Lassen Volcanic National Park in Northern California.

Lassen, the southernmost active volcano in the Cascade Range, last erupted on May 22, 1915, and the devastation is still very evident. We visited the Sulphur Works in the park and headed to Lake Tahoe.



The Sulphur Works at Lassen....pinch that nose!



My K1200S at Lassen ... its June remember

(continued on page 4)

BMW Tarheel Travelers Of North Carolina



Send editorial copy to:

Jim Morrison
11111 Empire Lakes Drive
Raleigh, NC 27617
TarheelEditor at tarheelbmw.org

Website:

www.tarheelbmw.org

Yahoo Group:

NCTarheelTravelers

PRESIDENT

William Nichols
919-732-8763

President at tarheelbmw.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Jeff Brown
919-957-0842
VP at tarheelbmw.org

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Philip Myers
919-387-0735

Secretary at tarheelbmw.org

NEWSLETTER

Jim Morrison
919-484-0818
TarheelEditor at tarheelbmw.org

WEBMASTER

Steve Brunner
910-822-4369

Webmaster at tarheelbmw.org

Classified Ad Policy: Ads are free for members and will be run for three months. If the advertiser wants the listing continued, contact the editor at the address above for each three month period. Tarheel Travelers makes no representations as to the quality of products or services advertised herein.

Road Debris

by "Rev. Willie" Nichols

THE LAST TURN

As I write this column, I find myself feeling a lot like I do as I wrap up a long bike trip. You know the feelings that come with excessive "helmet meditation time" and the adventure of living on a motorcycle over unknown routes for multiple days. I am usually thinking about the good and bad parts of the ride, how I would have done things differently and how I learned to live with some of the problems that never got fixed. I think about my bike, how well it ran or how much it was signaling to me that our time together was ending. I think about the expected sights that I planned on seeing and some of the stuff that just happened. Sometimes, your journey is for good reasons and occasions, but there are long trips that you have no idea why you are out here or where you will end up. Both types of trips fill a soul in a long life's journey. I find myself remembering the people along the trip far more than the sights or the events that transpired on my journey. Sometimes, you often think about the parts of the trip that went BAD on you, be it motorcycle failure, financial drawbacks, poor planning, or just some combination of human shortcomings. I know that I sometimes do not give the GOOD parts as much credit as I give some of the less good stuff. The memories of good compatriots on twisty roads and interesting situations are what makes up our love of motorcycles so strong, and our motorcycle family so close. When touring, the legs are often aching, your butt is dead, your neck is stiff, you stink, but that motorcycle ride has made your life special for the last several days and you have a great grin on your face as you make that last turn for home. I think I have been living these feelings for a couple of weeks, especially when I am riding, and I notice that I still have a smile on my face as make my last turn as the Tarheel Travelers President.

I had served one year as Vice President for the TT's back in the early 90's and I never expected to get elected again. But, the draft came back and I ended up as the Prez two years ago. I had been a member for a long time, but I really did not have an agenda or even much of a plan. My fellow officers, Jeff and Philip, took care of the heavy work, and I worked on getting more members while keeping those we had, and trying to stop the financial and psychic bleeding. The worst part of this "journey" was the situation with the Halloween Campout. What had been the major event for the club for many years turned into a financial black hole and a source of tension for the club. I will always mourn the loss of our campout, but there was no other way to continue. I think the loss of the Halloween Campout has clouded our club identity, and we need some sort of public event to share with the national BMW family. The Coffee Stop is still going and giving us a public presence, but it is not enough for a club our size. We need something bigger.

I am very proud of the advancements in the club newsletter and the web pages, and the club rides are bringing people together. I hope for a better relationship with the dealers and I also hope we can continue our club rides so that we can reach out to the other riders and get more members. We also need more tech sessions and some situations where the "veteran" riders (you know who you are) can impart some advice on riding, camping, and living with BMW motorcycles to some of our newer riders. One of the top reasons that I joined MOA, RA, and the TT's was for the sense of community, the BMW family. That family welcomed me in when I was a bewildered 20 year-old on a R75/5, and has supported me for over 34 years and many, many (s)miles! We need to keep that community together, be it at club meetings, rides and gatherings at local eateries. We have a great secret that the greater public will never know, and we celebrate it whenever we put the key in the bike's ignition. I would just like to thank you all for your trust in me and I hope you enjoyed the trip!



A Message from the President-elect by Vince Provenzano

Well the election results are in and after much confusion, a recount, (remember the hanging chads?) a review of the club's Constitution and confirmation by the club Secretary/Treasurer and affirmation by Club President Willie Nichols, I am happy to report that the election results are official. I, along with Larry Boone, will be President and Vice President, respectively. Philip Myers and Jim Morrison will continue in their respective positions as Secretary/Treasurer and Newsletter Editor. Steve Brunner will continue to serve as the club's Webmaster and Marc Krouse will handle the club's Yahoo Forum.

That said and done, let me express my sincere gratitude and thanks to Willie and Jeff, along with all former club office holders, for their contribution to this organization. I would like to believe that I will continue to move the club forward and, with the help of the membership, make BMW NC Tarheel Travelers more vital and visible. There are several things that I have in mind. But first I am not naïve enough to think that the club, or any club for that matter, can be all things to all people. However, we can make a real concerted effort to actively participate in our club, whether it be by attending meetings, participating in club rides, attending dinner functions, hosting a club meeting, making and sharing ideas, or submitting articles to our newsletter. The point is, get involved. I strongly encourage members to submit motorcycle related articles and photographs to our newsletter editor. They can range from favorite rides to technical articles and anything in between so long as it relates to our club or motorcycling. Some members, I am sure, are only interested in receiving the TT newsletter and that is fine. For the rest of us, however, I implore you to get involved.

As noted, I do have some ideas but I would like to hear from you personally on ways you think we can make the club more attractive to a larger audience of BMW motorcycle enthusiasts. Some of the things that I am thinking of include:

Meet personally with Oliver Emmert of Capitol BMW – Triumph to see
if we can get some form of sponsorship for our club

Attract new members

Reconsider a club rally

Generate more interest in club rides, organized and otherwise

Greater participation in the annual coffee stop

TT involvement in the NC Adopt a Highway program

Motorcycle tech sessions

Recognizing long-standing club members

Duly noting our club history

I would like to thank you for the privilege of being your new President. Please do not hesitate to contact me personally with any thoughts you may have on how we can improve the club or if you would like to just kick tires.

Ride safe.

West Virginia Touts Its Twisties

From the October 2008 edition of Motorcycle Consumer News, page 7:

"The state's Division of Tourism has launched <http://www.wvmountainrider.com/index.aspx> to promote the many winding roads in the mountainous state. The site features 11 different maps of rides from 100-200 miles long, illustrating the slogan "it's nearly impossible to find a straight road here." Each map points out locations of interest along the way. The site includes a "Rider's Journal" that allows riders to submit their best rides in the Mountain State."



(from page 1)



Emerald Bay near Lake Tahoe in the afternoon

For dinner that evening in Lake Tahoe, we met Geoff and Marta, some friends who had driven in to see us. After we left dinner, we went to a casino on the Nevada side of the lake. As we had all agreed, we took the money that Geoff and Marta had insisted on contributing for dinner and placed it on a single roulette wheel bet. All of it. One bet. We won! We left immediately, taking our winnings. (Well, actually, Marta couldn't believe we'd leave after winning. She and Geoff stayed. The rest of us went to bed).



Yosemite Falls

And on to Yosemite National Park on Day 9. Another beautiful day for riding and site seeing. We first headed to Yosemite Village for lunch and a break. And then up to Glacier Point for a grand view of Half Dome. Half Dome is a granite dome in Yosemite, located at the eastern end of Yosemite Valley - possibly Yosemite's most familiar sight. It used to be considered inaccessible, but now there are lines of hikers trekking up the Cable Route on the back side. We stuck with motorcycling.



Buddies at Lake Tahoe.....



The beauty of Yosemite



.....and still buddies at Half Dome



Half Dome traffic can be bad on weekends

After being detained and chastised by a park ranger for being a bit too enthusiastic in a 35 mph zone, we continued on, undeterred, to Sequoia National Park. I

think the thing that got us pulled over was that three of us had aftermarket exhausts on our K's and were in a low gear so it sounded a lot faster than it was. That's my story and I am sticking to it! He was not in his truck when he heard us go by so he jumped in it and caught up to

us and pulled us over. My understanding is that in California, you can not be issued a ticket unless your speed is measured by radar or some other method. Since he was not in his truck and did not get us on radar, he could not ticket us.

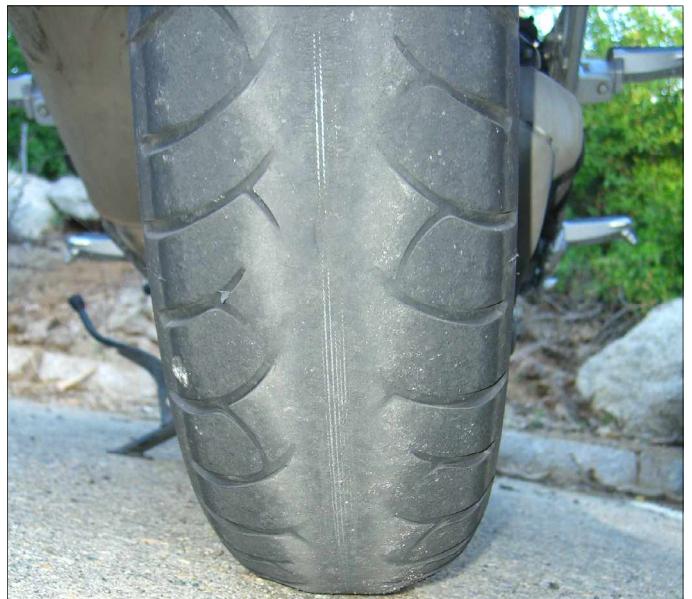


We spent the night in a lodge in the Sequoia National Park and celebrated my birthday. On the walk back to our rooms we noted that the sky was unbelievably crystal clear. The Milky Way was evident and the stars were breathtaking.



The lodge in Sequoia

The next morning we discovered that Jim's K1200RS, that Steve was riding, had cord from the steel belt in the tire showing on the rear. The model of tire is one that I had seen cause trouble before and I have seen it cause trouble since. It is the Metzler Z6, a fine tire but with no tread that crosses the center of the tire so you do not know how far you have to go until it is worn out. Jim opted to ride it the 300 miles home, taking it gingerly and fortunately, it all went fine. But a lesson learned. None of us will use Z6's again on these tours.



Metzler Z6 with 300 more miles to go on the trip

Our last day involved going through Bakersfield and the desert areas in Southern California. Temperatures hit 98 degrees but were tolerable due to the low humidity.

(continued on back cover)

From Your Editor

Congratulations Vince, Larry and Philip as our Officers for 2009. It was a tough campaign and a fierce election but you prevailed! And thanks in advance for all that you do for the Club.

If my plans worked out, this edition should be in color for the printed edition as it always is for the online edition. I had been under-running my budget and wanted to do something nicer for the Christmas edition. I wish I could every month, but, alas, the budget will not cover it. But when I can, I will. Hope you enjoy it. If you are seeing this edition in black and white, well, then, something must have gotten in the way of my plans when I took it to the printers.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Publisher, Editor, reporters, writers, printers, type setters, photographers, columnists, typists, proof readers, copy boys and mail room attendants here at The Tarheel Traveler Newsletter. And from me, of course.

Jim Morrison

2009 Meeting Hosts Needed

Host homes for our monthly meetings are needed for 2009. Please consider hosting a meeting for one of our open months. See the chart of meeting dates on page 8 to see which dates are open. If you don't feel able to do it alone, consider teaming up with another member to co-host. Or book a park shelter and have a stress free outdoor meeting. We're flexible!

The meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month. There are two hosting formats you can choose from 1) 11:30 a.m. tire kicking with the meeting at 1:00 p.m. and lunched served afterward and 2) 1:00 p.m. tire kicking followed by a 2:00 p.m. meeting with snacks served, not a full lunch. Your choice!

If you're interested, drop a line to me or one of our officers so we can get you on the list. Thanks to everyone who has graciously agreed to host.

2008 Participation Awards



Each year TT recognizes the members that have ridden the most ... and least ... miles and participated in the most TT and BMW events. Participation and mileage run from December Meeting to December Meeting.

Mileage ridden counts for BMW's and non-BMW's. Awards are given in Men's and Women's categories. The form is included in this newsletter and available from the club's website.

If you want to be counted, fill out the form and give it to Prez Willie at the December Meeting or mail or email the information to him by the first week in January. The awards will be given at the January meeting.

William Nichols
116 E. Union St.
Hillsborough, NC 27278
President@Tarheelbmw.org

Some quotes from Mark Twain

"By trying we can easily learn to endure adversity. Another man's, I mean."

"Good breeding consists in concealing how much we think of ourselves and how little we think of the other person."

"Always do right. That will gratify some of the people, and astonish the rest."

"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear -- not absence of fear."

"It is noble to be good; it is still nobler to teach others to be good -- and less trouble."

"I was gratified to be able to answer promptly, and I did. I said I didn't know."

"Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society."

Tarheel Traveler Calendar

December 6 - 1st Saturday Ride, 10:00 a.m. Gassed up and ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. Capitol BMW, 5200 Atlantic Avenue, Raleigh, NC. (GPS N35 51.338 W78 35.916)

December 7 - TriadRiders 1st Sunday ride, 9:00 a.m. Gassed up and ready to ride at 9:00 a.m. Cheesecake by Alex, 315 South Elm Street, Greensboro, NC (GPS N36 04.195 W79 47.422)

December 10 - 2nd Wednesday Dinner, 7:00 p.m. Mimi's Café, 6320 Plantation Center Drive, Raleigh, NC, 919-878-8448. (GPS N35 52.352 W78 34.961) This is the new shopping center on the corner of Old Wake Forest Road and Capital Boulevard. Mimi's is located next to On the Border Mexican restaurant in front of the BJ's Club.

December 13 - Monthly Meeting and Holiday Party, Joe and Roberta Keithley, 6781 Moray Street, Linden, NC, (910) 980-1153; (GPS N35 10.887 W78 44.814) Tire Kicking at 11:00, Meeting at 12:00 with lunch and gift exchange afterward

December 14 - 2nd Sunday Ride, 10:00 a.m. Breakfast at 9:00 a.m., gassed up and ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. Hardees, 38 East Rd, Pittsboro, NC (GPS N35 43.212 W79 10.603)

December 18 - 3rd Thursday Dinner, 6:30 p.m. El Tucan, 250 S Bragg Blvd, Spring Lake, NC 910-495-1400 (GPS N35 09.812 W78 58.330)

For additional event/rally dates be sure to check the TT website www.tarheelbmw.org

December 2008						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 1 st Saturday Ride - Capitol BMW, Raleigh
7 TriadRiders 1 st Sunday Ride Greensboro	8	9	10 Dinner - Mimi's Café, Raleigh	11	12	13 TT Meeting and Holiday Party - Keithley's Linden, NC
14 2 nd Sunday Ride Pittsboro	15	16	17	18 Dinner - El Tucan, Spring Lake	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas 	26	27
28	29	30	31			

The Party and Meeting Place – Saturday, December 13, 2008

Joe and Roberta Keithley
6781 Moray Street, Linden, NC
(910) 980-1153 GPS N35 10.887 W78 44.814

Tire Kicking at 11:00 Meeting at 12:00 with lunch and gift exchange afterward

Annual Holiday Party

This is our annual holiday party...so get your bells on. Bring a covered dish of your choice. The club will have the meat and drinks.

Remember to bring a gift to participate in the crazy gift exchange and bring your TT participation cards.

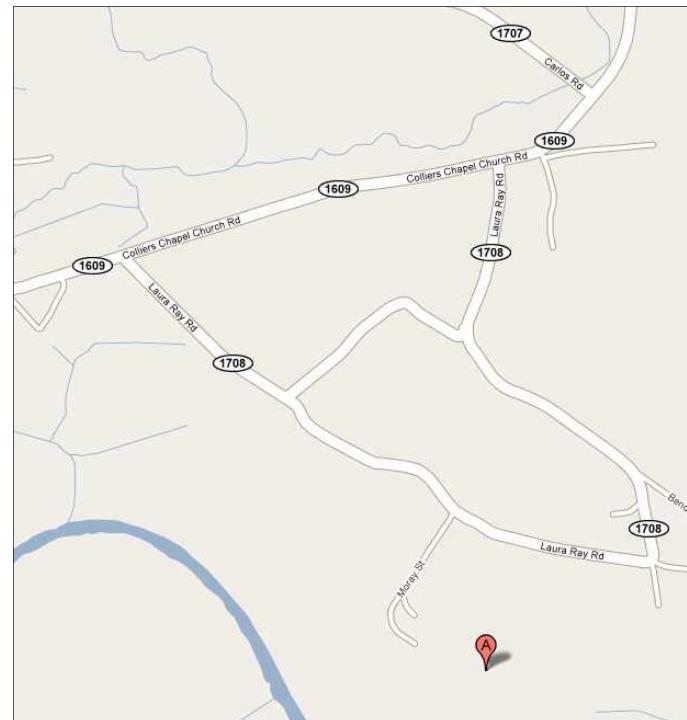


Twisted Gift Exchange

Bring an inexpensive (\$10) gift to exchange "our way". Its always fun and you just never know what you will go home with.

From Fayetteville: Take Ramsey Street (401) North just pass Kelly-Springfield. At the 1st street to the right after Kelly-Springfield, turn right onto Bethune Road and then make an immediate left onto Slocum Road. Follow Slocum to the end to the stop sign (about 6 miles). At the sign make a right onto Colliers Chapel Road and follow it as it curves around to the 1st right, Laura Ray Road. Follow this to Moray Street approximately 0.9 mile. Make a right onto Moray Street. This is a dirt road. Go past the two houses on the left to the dirt road just beyond the second mailbox and make a left. Follow this path to the orchard (Black Walnut Trees) and turn left. You will see our house straight ahead. You can park to the left of the dirt path or along the Orchard line.

From Lillington: Follow 401 south approximately 8-10 miles. Turn left onto E Reeves Bridges Road. Stay on this road to a Stop sign. Go straight across intersection. The name of the road changes to Lane Road. Continue on this road and the name will change again to Colliers Chapel Road at the intersection of Slocum Road. Stay on Colliers Chapel Road as the road curves left. Continue approximately 1/2 mile, turn right at Laurel Ray Road. Go approximately 0.9 mile to the first street on the right, and turn right onto Moray Street, which is a dirt road. Go past the red brick house and white double-wide on the left, to a dirt lane just beyond the double-wide, turn left. When you get to the Black Walnut Orchard, turn left, our house is straight ahead. Parking is available across from the Orchard.



2009 Meeting Hosts

Jan: Open	Jul: Open
Feb: Willie Nichols & Pam Haines - Hillsborough	Aug: Boone Rally - Boone
Mar: Open	Sept: Open
Apr: Jim and Pat Morrison - Raleigh	Oct: Bryan & Quinna Stepowski - Holly Springs
May: Mike Slocum - Greenville	Nov: Open
Jun: Open	Dec: Joe & Roberta Keithley - Linden

2009 spots are still open! Thank you to all our volunteer hosts!

Tarheel Travelers' Halloween excursion to Lanier Campground, Surf City

By Al & Karol Jones



Arriving Friday afternoon at Lanier's

We arrived Friday afternoon and, while checking in at the campground, the campground host denied any knowledge of any motorcycle group coming their way for the weekend but after all, it was to be "on your own".

We had a nice ride up the coast that evening and a seafood dinner. Then we decorated a bit for Halloween.

Saturday was spent riding around the Wilmington area with a stop at Cape Fear BMW and a ferry ride across to Southport, then more riding.

We walked about the campground numerous times but never encountered any other Tarheel members. Anyway, our "on your own" weekend excursion was great at the Surf City and Wilmington area. Great weather and riding.



The Guzzi rides the ferry



Decorating the campsite

Member Information Changes

NEW MEMBER

Len Capristo
4813 Oakgreen Ct
Raleigh, NC 27612
Ph. 919 781-0777 cparisto@rocketmail.com

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Jim Moloney
2800 Jefferson Dr
Greenville, NC 27858

Forum Chatter

Posts from the Tarheel Traveler Yahoo Forum

Marc Krouse posts on an R1100R clutch problem.

Posted November 4, 2008 6:08 a.m. - The story is not over, but since there have been few posts to this forum lately, so I thought it might help an owner or two.

While riding our 1996 R1100RSL a couple of weeks ago, the clutch free play went from normal to more than plenty. Suddenly. The clutch would disengage but the lever had to be almost all the way to the grip. It felt like the cable had snapped yet it was still functional. We tried making adjustments at the bar but could not re-establish anywhere near the correct free play.

After returning home I was able to reset the free play by the book. 12 mm at the lever with the 7 mm gap set via the clutch release lever adjustment at the back of the gearbox. But I had to turn the adjustment bolt in about 5-6 turns. That's a lot!

The cable appeared to be correctly routed and positioned. Something apparently broke inside the casing that was providing tension to the cable. After much internet searching it seemed to point to a thrust or throw out bearing.

When the engine is running, gearbox in neutral, and clutch lever pulled in, there was a chirping sound coming from the back of the gearbox. Release the lever and the sweet chirping disappeared. Visions of \$\$ swirling in my brain.

I called Jon at Capitol BMW and decided that if he estimated the repair at more than \$500, I was rolling the bike into my family room [where I worked on an R90S one winter] and doing it myself.

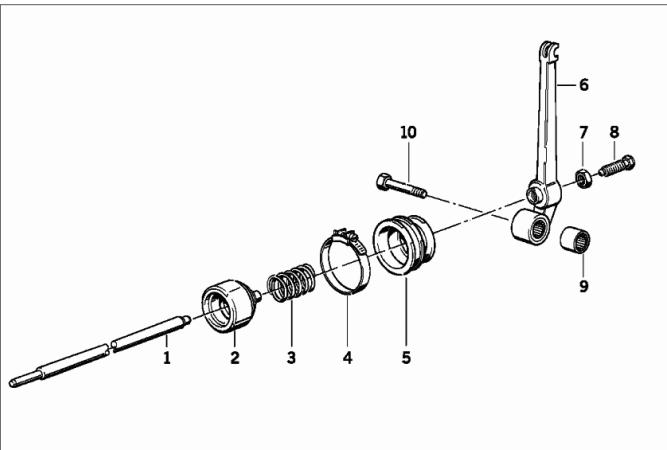
Jon confirmed that it sounded like the throw out bearing, described the repair in Jon detail [which includes removing the final drive and swing arm] with a total cost of \$267. Appointment is this Friday!

I'm hoping to get the old throw out bearing back and take a picture next to the new throw out bearing so I can get a better appreciation of the 'parts stack' than from the exploded diagrams.

Posted November 4, 2008 5:15 p.m. - The gearbox [from what I understand] does not have to come off. Swing arm removal allows access to the clutch release lever mechanism attachment bolt [vertically installed]. Apparently it can not 'drop down' and clear because of interference with the front of the swing arm. We'll see.

Posted November 7, 2008 6:39 p.m. - I dropped off the R1100RSL at Capitol BMW around 11 AM today. They called at 2:30 PM saying it was ready for pickup. The

throw out bearing [#02] had collapsed allowing the rod [#01] to penetrate too far into the assembly, increasing the free play in the chain of command. The gearbox did not need to be pulled for this service although the swing arm had to be dropped.



A collapse in my case meant the ball bearing had failed internally. The outer plastic casing of the piston was not melted [does happen] or broken. This is a very small piece [about the size of the sweet end of a Tootsie Pop]. Barrel shaped, measuring 2.0 cm long by 2.8 cm wide. The internal bearing is pressed in place and is about 1.2 cm in diameter. The ball bearings are therefore teensy.

Lubrication is apparently provided only at installation and I noticed that the new piston had a dollop of grease pre-applied when Jon opened the box for my amusement.



Old Bearing and teensy balls within

New piston [throw out bearing] was \$64.42. New rubber boot was \$25.72. Labor \$212.50. Supplies \$4.25. Tax \$6.38. Service excellent. The appointment was made 2 weeks in advance. No misunderstandings. They were ready for me and finished as promised. We are fortunate to have a reliable dealer in our area.

The Market Place

Anderson Powerpole connectors for DC power interconnection/distribution for your motorcycles. Several members are already using these rugged connectors with great success. See Brian Young's website at www.alt-moto.com for more information. You can also call Brian at 919-954-2178 or email him at brianyoung@alt-moto.com. (exp 12/08)

MV Agusta 2007 910R – Gentleman's Hooligan bike – less than 2000 miles. Competition exhaust with chip, Throttlemeister, Motorvation sliders, clear brake light. Beautiful black bike in near perfect condition. Only ridden past Churches on Sundays. New \$18K; asking \$13,000. Call Al at 910-488-6526 in Fayetteville. (exp 12/08)

**Classified ads run free
for members.**

2002 BMW R1100S Boxer - "The elegant road racer." Shop-maintained, adult-owned, 98 hp, ABS integral brakes, clean, garaged, never-down, great bike, with bags and minor road wear. One owner, all maintenance records, recently tuned. 28,900 miles, presently very good rubber, rare "Ice Blue" color. \$7,000 obo. Serious inquiries only. 919-321-1169; questions welcome. Chaz Benz (exp 12/08)



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

TT memberships expire at the end of each calendar year so renew yours now....before Philip starts bugging you!

The 2009 Membership Application is enclosed. Please fill it out completely and return it to Philip at a meeting or mail it to him at his address on the form, along with the annual dues.

RA National Rally Update

Contracts have been signed, dates set, location locked in.

July 23 thru July 27, 2009
Canaan Valley State Park and Resort,
West Virginia

The site is near Davis, WV and is being held the weekend following the MOA National Rally (July 16 thru 19, 2009), which is being held in Johnson City, TN

Breadmen's

\$3.00 off
One coupon per table

324 W Rosemary St.
Chapel Hill, NC
(919) 967-7110

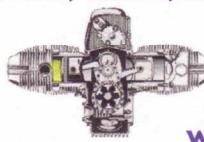


Bombars Beemers

Quality BMW Motorcycle Service

Service - Repair - Parts - Accessories

Airheads, Oilheads, Hexheads, K series, F series, and G series



714 Wendy Way Durham, NC 27712

919 - 251 - 9969

pbombar@hotmail.com

www.bombarsbeemers.com

(from page 5)

Quite a range from the snow and the 39 degree rain we had seen earlier in the trip. We arrived back at Jim's house a bit tired but satisfied that it was a fantastic trip with memories of the great roads, great times and great friends that will stay with us always.



All home, safe and sound

P.S. I have the Garmin MapSource file of this trip if anyone is interested.



The GPS never lies



A toast to ourselves for a great trip.

Tarheel Traveler Editor
C/o Jim Morrison
11111 Empire Lakes Drive
Raleigh, NC 27617