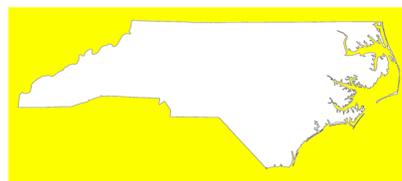


# THE TARHEEL TRAVELER



BMW MOA No. 57

April 2016

BMW RA No. 34

Spring is here, and with it, some great days and great rides. We kicked off the month with our annual Coffee Stop..the 40th year that the Tarheel Travelers hosted the event promoting bike safety, and followed that up the next week with another great Beemer and Bimmer event..thanks to all that worked hard to set up both of these events! We have more of these great events planned..make sure you join, and follow, our Facebook page for up to the minute (well, maybe up to the day) details.

While a lot of you never really stopped riding for the winter, all of us should make sure that we go over our bikes, especially if we haven't ridden in a few months, and make sure all is right with our rides..TCLOCS(Tires, Controls, Oil, Chassis, Stands) is always a good idea, but even more so if the bike has been idle (for a checklist of all that TCLOCS covers head over to the MSF page at

[http://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/T-CLOCS\\_Inspection\\_Checklist.pdf](http://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/T-CLOCS_Inspection_Checklist.pdf)).

Looking forward to seeing all of you soon, either at one of our rides, or the monthly meeting.

Ride Safe

Louis



**Dawn Patrol!!** Most Sundays—check Facebook B 4 U go, or you could be alone. Then your on your motorcycle so it ain't all bad. Wheels up from the Best Buy parking lot in Knightdale ... at the intersection of I-540 and US-64.



Cherrie Haire was the winner of the Submit Articles Drawing and received a Kermit Chair. A "Here is How You Set-Up a Kermit" demo was preformed, yes Jimmy was watching :)

The Coffee Stop was held. A wonderful day. 2016 brought many folks that were actually on their motorcycles! Watching or listening to the sounds of I95 also proved that many more were driving by, enjoying the good weather. Good times, old friends stopping back and new ones made. Truly is an enjoyable event. Next year, Saturday March 11, 2017



A bevy of activity: What's this? Coffee—all types. Gaggle and gathering. Bobby's Prized Chair, photo below..



## Motorcycle For Sale

2000 Ice Blue BMW R1200 Montana with all riding gear clothing

It's been garaged, has 49500 miles and antilock brake computer \$2,500 replaced Must be seen to be appreciated. Serviced by Cap BMW mostly by Scott a top mechanic .

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## RIDE REPORT MAR 11 2016, by Rick Gupta

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Unfortunately, one of my Ural Friends suffered a loss in his family. The Memorial services were held today in Laurel Springs, NC.

I left Garner on my 2009 Ural "T" at 5:30 AM. The temperature in Garner was in the low '60's and it wasn't necessary to bundle up. Leaving that early, I avoided rush hour traffic down I-40 through to Winston Salem. From there I took US 421 to North Wilkesboro. There was very little wind, so driving the rig was relatively easy at highway speeds. I was able to maintain posted speed limits lower than 70 (rig top speed is 65) without a problem until ascending hills. The 40 hp Ural will not pull a steep hill and you just have to accept that. I took NC 18 up to the Blue Ridge and arrived in Laurel Springs around 0940.

I had time to spare so I visited Camp Laurel Ridge, where I was a Summer Camp Counselor in 2014. Since no one seemed to be around, I drove the rig to the top of the mountain on the camp grounds. I would much rather drive up than walk up, believe me.

The Camp Staff discovered me and pelted me with stale Love Feast buns. Okay, now I'm kidding.

I took a break at the Moravian Conference Center and took advantage of the lobby's covered entrance as a rain shower passed through then attended the services at Laurel Springs Baptist Church. I was happy to see another Ural owner from Albemarle there to support our friend. I also got reacquainted with his nephew, who owns a heavily customized 2003 Ural Retro Solo, with a customized sidecar.

After the interment, I drove to the nearby Thistle Meadow Winery and bought a few bottles of wine to restock our small wine rack. The very nice woman working there showed me some new packaging they are using (wine in a bag, basically) for backpackers, paddlers and motorcyclists. It's a really good idea, but I pointed out that I could go ahead and buy bottles since I could stow them in the sidecar.

There are two establishments in Laurel Springs, near the Blue Ridge Parkway, which advertise their services to motorcyclists, but they were closed, including the restaurant which advertised that they opened at 9:00 AM. Oh, well. Oh, Hell.

Rather than travel down US-421 and I-40 again – just in time for Triad and Triangle evening rush hour - I took NC 115 from N. Wilkesboro then NC 901 to Mocksville where I intersected US 64. I travelled down US 64 to Apex and so on to Garner. I had NC 115 and 901 to myself and I really enjoyed the drive. The traffic in Asheboro was a real headache - unsynchronized traffic lights and heavy traffic (Can you say "fast food and restaurant rich environment, boys and girls?"). Overall it was a really enjoyable trip. No distracted drivers. No close calls. No breakdowns, no leaks.

Time out: 0530 - Time in: 1930 (14 hours – approx. 11 in the saddle.)

Distance: 604 km (375 mi)

Fuel: 11.5 gal

Consumption: 52.5 kpg/32.6 mpg

Road kill: 1 deer; 3 skunks; 3 raccoons; 1 buzzard; 4,753 possums.

Honorable Mention goes to the gray squirrel which ran in front of my rig and dodged all three of my wheels.



## Tarheel Traveler Calendar

4/13—**2nd Wednesday Dinner**—7:00 p.m. **Kickback Jack's** 1405 Garner Station Boulevard , Raleigh, NC 27603  
919.803.5068

4/16—**Monthly Meeting**—9: 00 am Golden Corral, 2618 S. Horner Blvd, Sanford NC (919) 775-3295

4/21 - **3rd Thursday Dinner** - 6:00 p.m. Decker's Brick Oven Pizza, 3612 Ramsey St, Fayetteville NC 28311  
PH#910.822.8898

4/23 - **Destination Ride (Where 2 Ride)** - 9:00 a.m.—Gassed Ready To Go - **GRTG**. At the Valero Station, 5016 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh, NC (GPS N35 51.359 W78 33.399) The ride is cancelled if it is raining. Check the Facebook Page B 4 U GO.

### **Keep Alert**

Take Your Motorcycle on a (Really) Long Distance Road Trip The definition of a Really Long Distance Road Trip will always be open for debate. Let's just agree, for this—yours is correct!

**KNOW YOUR LIMITS** If the longest you've ever ridden is 250 miles, don't plan on a string of 1000-mile days. Eliminate all irritants. Something that's a minor annoyance can finish you off after that great a distance. Breathe And Relax = BAR

**BE PREPARED** Prepare your bike before the trip. We're all short of time, but if you can't get your bike right before you start, on the road is no place to try and make repairs. Don't make any big repairs or changes (accessories) just before the trip. Upgrade your tool kit... and join a towing service, just in case. Take along your BMW ON Anonymous Book.

**BE SAFE** Forget about high speeds. Slow and steady wins this race. And really, really, really forget about drugs. Not even coffee. If you're tired, stop. Get into your rain suit before it starts raining. Get gas before you need it. Never ride faster than you can stop. When out at night—don't override your headlight!! Not being able to stop at the distance you can see. Headlights don't light the sides of the road so well, so look out for bambi and other critters. Stay away from long-haul trucks.

**GEAR UP** Pack wisely. Less truly is more . Keep the things that you will need easy access to (flashlight, eyeglasses) in a tank bag where you can reach them with a minimum of trouble. Do make room for an electric vest, though. Carry a flat-repair kit and know how to use it.

**REST RIGHT** Know when to stop. Tired? Pull over now! A rest stop might very well help you get to your destination. Lack of rest might cause you to NOT get there.

**BE HEALTHY** If you can't eat right, at least eat light. Be sure to stay hydrated, and when outside of well-populated areas, carry at least a half gallon (2 liters) of water. Carry vitamins and aspirin, too. Gun, knife or flamethrower—do you really want to ride somewhere that requires these items?

**BE AWARE** Be careful crossing county lines. Road maintenance can change quickly when one county runs out of money. That nice two-laner can become a potholed mess within a few short moments.

**April Birthdays— Members that continue to get better with every year. This is their month!**

3—Doug Williams

11- Barbara Nowell

17– Dorothy Ussery

30—John Moore

## Tobacco Road Rambling, by Rob McIssac

March 12 dawned grey and cloudy but with a very low probability of rain. This made the perfect backdrop for our drive down east to visit the Tobacco Farm Life museum in Kenly. We rallied early at Leith BMW where, once again, they treated us to a fantastic early morning breakfast. After loading up on coffee, orange juice, breakfast sandwiches and stares at the sticker prices for new Rolls-Royce's, it was time to hit the road. After a brief streak down the interstate to get out of Raleigh, we found ourselves on the back roads of Wake, Johnston and Franklin Counties as we cruised ever further back in time. Getting "out in the county" makes our Bimmers and Beemers like time machines, transporting us into ever earlier parts of the last century (at the very least).

The roads become narrower and undulate across hills and valleys. They also meander significantly, failing anything approaching a straight line test. In other words, they are just about perfect. The final count for the run was 12 cars, five motorcycles and 26 people. This may have been the biggest crowd ever registered by the Tobacco Farm Life Museum!

When we got there, we discovered that we had company. It turns out that today was also a meet up event for the international Harvester tractor club down in these parts. It turns out the tractor people are every bit as particular about their machinery as owners of BMW vehicles and we had lots of story swapping and sharing.

One gentleman who came to meet us turns out to have ridden BMW motorcycles in Europe during the 1950s, when he was also in the special forces for the US Army. Ritchie also raced motorcycles while he was in Europe and, despite his 81 years, said that life should all be about "having fun". He still competes in tractor pulls and was proud to share stories of his 1950 International Harvester which now sports an overboard and stroked 248 cu in engine which down tips the dyno at 414 cu in. This beast is now apparently capable of consuming a gallon of racing fuel every 600 feet it travels. We could've spent the entire day with him! Every story was better than the last one and he graciously walked us through a restored 1954 tractor he had brought for the show. This one was a restoration project he and his grandson had worked on and, to be clear, it was a beauty.

The tractor folks also came out and looked at all of the BMWs in the parking lot, proving once again that toys can bring the world together!

The museum itself is a treasure trove of fascinating things to see. Who knew that there had once been an active carriage manufacturing company in Wilson? Seeing the equipment, and the old farmhouse on the property, was ample reminder of how much life has changed in the last century. This is the kind of place that you could spend an entire day walking around if you somehow could break yourself away from the stories that Richie had. One of my favorite? His brother once drove for a legendary moonshiner who came from these parts and would've been around effectively for the birth of NASCAR. It was like we got the entire history of eastern North Carolina by visiting a moderately sized (and very friendly) museum. On a scale of 1 to 10, this would rate a 12.

But wait, there's more! After touring the museum we needed to go find some lunch. Getting out of Kenly is pretty easy. Go to the center of town and turn right. Once you go past the Piggly Wiggly nail it. You're in wide open country and back on beautiful wandering two lane roads.

We hustled down these roads to gradually work our way back towards the 21st-century. On the east side of the state capital it is actually amazing how quickly you go from suburbia to something that might best be described as "1940". Or "1890".

It was surprisingly easy to keep our squadron in formation for the second half of the journey. With little or no traffic we were able to enjoy the wide open spaces with sunroofs open, tops down and helmet facemasks lifted. In other words, a nearly perfect day.

And then we stopped for lunch! Our objective today was the Grounds Café in Wendell. Their specialty is all manner of grilled cheese sandwiches made on a Panini press. They were just fantastic. I'm not sure I would have thought of making a grilled cheese with apples and walnuts but, to be clear, it was amazing. The café happens to sit adjacent to a pool area which is not yet open for the season, so they encourage us to take our lunch down and enjoy it at the tables which were poolside. With 1980s music providing the soundtrack (doesn't everybody love Bad Company?) The experience was both restful and energizing at the same time. Needless to say, we languished at the "resort" for a good while as we savored the eats.

All too soon it was time for the day to end. Somehow the chores at home we're not going to take care of themselves. From all appearances, everyone had a great time and it was truly special to see the BMW and IH folks swapping stories and kicking each other's tires. Time to start planning



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