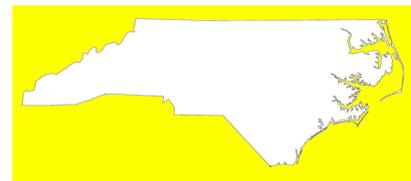


THE TARHEEL TRAVELER

BMW Motorcycle Club
NC Tarheel Travelers



BMW MOA No. 57

September 2015

BMW RA

2015 Boone Rally

Day didn't look great when I woke up...overcast, various forecasts for rain...but I picked the 'best' forecast for Friday, and all forecasts agreed that the weekend would be nice. This was going to be Robin's longest time in the saddle, and first ever multi-day ride on a bike, so really was hoping for the best possible weather. We loaded up the bike (all the usual, do we really need to bring this, as we tried to fit all the last minute items into the very limited storage space), and headed out to meet up with Norwood and LaNett at the Mobil station in Apex. Plan was to use smaller roads, and take a break about every hour or so, so in addition to the route planning, I had looked for places to stop that would be more interesting than hanging around a gas station. Having met up in Apex, we filled tanks and headed out on 64 West, with the weather looking clear in front of us (with lots of clouds in our rear-view mirrors).



First stop was in Asheboro at the American Classic Motorcycle Museum (<https://www.facebook.com/ACMMofAsheboro>). If you haven't been there, I highly recommend it, and you should get there soon...seems that the owner is thinking of retiring and the place might be closing in the near future. At the museum, not only did we find a great collection of Harley's, there are copies of motorcycle magazine covers going back to the 1930's...great pictures of what motorcycling looked like back then. There is also a diner at the museum; with good, inexpensive food...was a great way to spend our first break. Robin was also doing great, and was ready to continue on the next leg of our journey.

The next hour brought us to Salisbury, NC for a stop at Spanky's Homemade Ice cream. While not on the Our State list of ice cream shops in NC, it was great ice cream, and a nice little town in which to take a quick stroll, for which I'm glad, as we discovered another unique shop in Salisbury...Jerky Station. Not sure what their business model looks like, especially since they don't have a website for online ordering, but the shop only sells jerky, and all kinds at that (beef, pork, turkey, rabbit, salmon, tuna, and lots of others I don't recall, and seasoned in every way imaginable, from the sweet to the spicy). They had samples for tasting, and after trying a couple I settled on picking up a package of spicy beef made with ghost peppers (yum!). Robin was still doing great, so we saddled up and headed for our next stop.



The next hour saw some clouds moving in, along with a few drops of rain, by the time we made our next stop, this time to get gas. Taking time to fill the tanks, get something to drink, and stretch the legs a bit, also saw the rain start to come down, so, out came the rain suits (well, for myself and Robin, as Norwood and LaNett were wearing breathable, waterproof, gear...next on my list of things to buy!). As we headed out on the last leg of our trip to Boone, the rain started to come down fairly hard, and now Robin had the fun of not only riding on the bike, but riding in the rain as well! While a new experience, Robin had no issues with the riding as we pulled into Boone, bringing the first day's ride to an end. At this point, we settled in, decided on walking to dinner

(we were key camping for the weekend), and capped the night with cigars and whiskey in the gazebo out back of the hotel (was still raining).

Saturday dawned cooler, and sunny...looked to be a great day for riding. After an early breakfast at the hotel, we headed to the Boone KOA Campground to check in at the rally. At the time we arrived they had about 115 registered, and were hoping for 200.

We spent a bit of time walking around, looking at bikes, and talking to folk (Robin also got to try out someone's Kermit chair for a bit, which was great as we're looking for a couple of small, light-weight, and...most importantly...comfortable camp chairs). At this point we mapped out our riding for the day, starting with a run up to Lansing to get our pictures at the Northwest corner of the TT 4 Corners

Tour. Some great roads (are there any in the area that aren't?) brought us to the Meadowview Church,



where a couple of us started looking for bathrooms. As luck (coincidence?) would have it, the caretaker pulled up a few minutes later, and after saying hi, his next question was 'does anyone need a bathroom?'. He then proceeded to unlock the church (at which point the lock fell out of the door), and the bathroom was used. We also got a chance to talk to the caretaker about the church, what it was like living in the area (he had been there his whole life), and to look inside the church. While not a very large building, the congregation had recently renovated the building, pulling up carpets to expose some beautiful wood floors. We thanked the caretaker (wish I could remember his name), took our pictures, and figured out where to head for lunch. Norwood knew of a BBQ joint just over the border in TN, and we figured to make that our next stop, however, Garmin would not comply.

While it was only a 40 or 50 mile run to the restaurant, it seemed every road that the GPS wanted to take us on was not paved, and we had no desire to treat our bikes as K1600GS's. So, what looked to be a quick run was quickly turning out to be double the distance as there just was no way to get from NC to TN in that corner of the state (and also became obvious why the NW corner isn't exactly in the NW corner...it's the closest you can get on paved roads!). As a run to TN was not going to happen, we headed back down to the town of Lansing, and ate lunch at Pie in the Meadow...if you have the opportunity, great pizza and sandwiches, all sourced locally.

After lunch, we took the long way back to Boone, including a short run on the Blue Ridge Parkway, arriving late afternoon back at the rally site. Some more bikes, some more talking, and soon it was time for the barbecue dinner. Carolinas BMW MOA chapter did a great job arranging the rally, and the dinner was a nice end to the day (well, not quite the end...that happened with cigars and whiskey back at the hotel!).

Sunday dawned beautiful again... still cooler, and sunny. Robin did so well over the previous two days we decided to take the longer way home, which was a run up the Blue Ridge Park-



way into Virginia, a stop in Mt. Airy for lunch, then along some beautiful roads as we went past Hanging Rock State Park. In Mt. Airy, Snappy's Lunch was closed (this has become the usual for Norwood...he and LaNett have been to Mt. Airy a couple of times, hoping for a pork sandwich at Snappy's, but they always seem to be closed when they get there), so we ate a Barney's Burgers (where we did manage to get a pork sandwich, as sloppy, and good, as it was supposed to be). After window shopping in town, it was back on the bikes for the final leg home. We separated around Burlington, with Norwood and LaNett heading south on 87 to pick up 64 and home, with Robin and I heading to 40 for the high speed run back into Raleigh.

It was a great weekend, and we all had a great time (Robin very much enjoyed the mountain roads on the bike), but that last bit of riding on 40 was maybe a bit too much. It was hot, nothing to see but cars and trucks, and just a bit too much time on the bike (those last few miles often seem to be the hardest for all of us), but we're all looking forward to our next great outing!



Fall No Brainer / Halloween

Campout—25-27 Sep 15—Willville Bike Camp, Meadows of Dan VA. Willville is motorcycle camping only. Limited cage parking available at the top of the hill. If you drive to attend the gathering, visit or

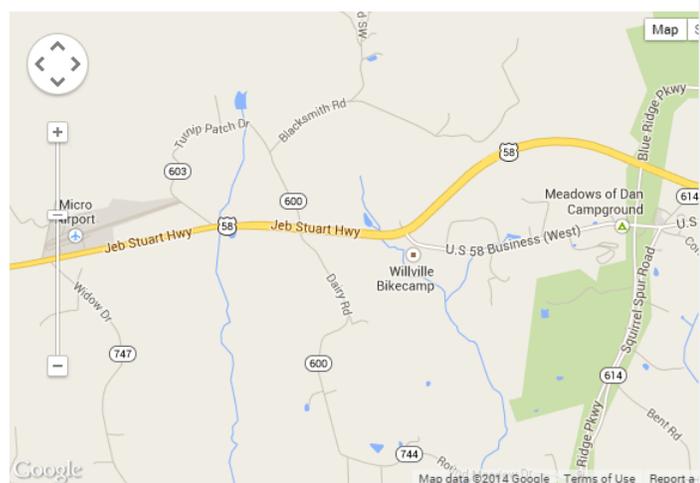
camp and don't want to ride. A Bunkhouse is available—if you want to stay inside, please call Will and let him know you'd like to reserve a bed in the bunkhouse (276-952-2267P) In true spirit of No Brainer—no club frills or events are planned.

RV Campers—up the road, Meadows of Dan Campground, for reservations & 411 call (276-952-2292).

Key Campers / Hotel—Blue Ridge Motel is nearby, for a room (276-952-2244)

Do not rely on Google Maps or address for GPS directions. Use these GPS Coordinates:
N36°44.012' W080°25.619'

Exit BRP to Route 58 West go West, 3/4 Mile on the Left (1/2 Mile past the RV Campground!)



August's Journal

Can you believe it? September 23rd, just a few short weeks from now, is the first day of fall. Where did the year go so fast? The year started with lots of riding goals, and I never seem to be able to find the time to meet all of them. However, don't think I'm saying this because I'm disappointed...I'm not...because it's been a great year so far! Between the monthly meetings, the 40th Anniversary Celebration, Pete's destination rides, the Sunday morning Dawn Patrol, and a weekend trip to the Boone Rally, I've had lots of opportunities to kick tires, swap stories, and add miles on my bikes, and I value all of them. I've seen lots of you at these events, and hope all of you have had as great a year as we enter the fall. As we head into the fall I am also looking to additional riding, including our annual Fall No Brainer the weekend of September 25th thru 27th at the Willville Bike Camp in Meadows of Dan. If you haven't been to one of these, I encourage you to start this year, and, if you've been there before, I hope to see you again! Great times, great roads, and a beautiful site to spend a few hours around the camp fire swapping more of those stories.

Safe riding
Louis



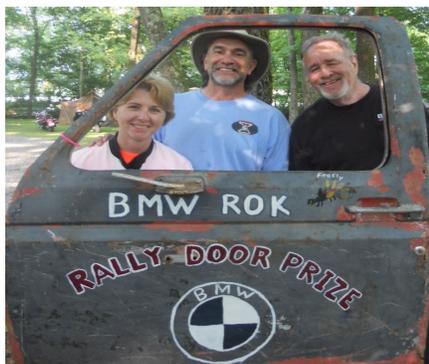
Lert Lesson

Tailgaters. Not the grilling & chilling type of folks. Those on your butt so close they can see the radio station your listening to in your car or see your GPS screen, or color of your eyes from the reflection of your mirror. Why do people tailgate? In a hurry and doing so will make you speed up = brake check. Want you to move over to the other lane = stay put. Reading their phone = look out. Just plain ole not paying attention or their idea of drafting and not tailgating. No matter the reason the outcome could be the same—CRASH! If you find yourself in traffic, slow down to create space from the vehicle in front of you. This will give you a space cushion and time to respond to a situation.

HOLD YOUR POSITION.

Don't move over too much or the hurried person might attempt to pass you in your lane. No doubt some of us have had this happen. Hopefully the above two gestures will give notice to the tailgater you are aware of their presence and in due time, they can pass. Let them pass. Sometimes it is better to have the circus in front of you—so you can keep an eye on them vice behind you.

No one creates the newsletter...it happens by magic. Each month gremlins gather and conspire to copy write the concoction that becomes the newsletter. As an enticement to get articles, each contributor of a newsletter article; product review, ride report, campfire story—almost anything worthy of print—will garner the author a “ticket” for a drawing of a “door prize”. Enter early & enter often. Send me your articles or call and “tell me” your story and magic will happen—presto an article will be produced. Send in your articles now. The drawing will be held in January.



Tarheel Traveler Calendar

9/9 - **2nd Wednesday Dinner, 7:00 pm** Neomonde 3817 Beryl Road, Raleigh NC 27607 (919) 828-1628

9/12 - **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.

9/17 - **3rd Thursday Dinner** - 6:00 p.m. El Tucan 250 S Bragg Blvd, Spring Lake NC 28390 (910) 436-4613

9/19—Monthly Meeting—9: 00 am Golden Corral, 2618 S. Horner Blvd, Sanford NC (919) 775-3295

9/25-27—No Brainer, Willville Bike Camp, 151–Jeb Stuart Hwy, Meadows of Dan VA (276) 952-2267

29 Oct—1 Nov—Ladies Only Campout—Myrtle Beach NC—website or contact Belva for additional information.

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

September is TT Ladies Month—since only birthday folks are ladies.

13—Becky Gradus

22—Wanda Barnes

26—Tanya Brumfield

27—Emily Banks

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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