



THE BEEMER READER

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In This Issue

Photos of last month's ride are at page 2, a great article from Geoff Stevenson on page three, and Vince Martino's description of his Creston to Vernon run on page four. As well, see the tech tip on page four and don't get caught (like I did...).

Welcome to new member Toby Gabriel (R1100GS). Hope you enjoy the BMWVRI and looking forward to meeting you at the next breakfast meeting (have I missed anyone? Let me know).

The August Breakfast Meeting will be at the Pioneer House at Whippletree Junction. Breakfast choices ranged from about \$4.50 - \$10. From the outside it looks like a



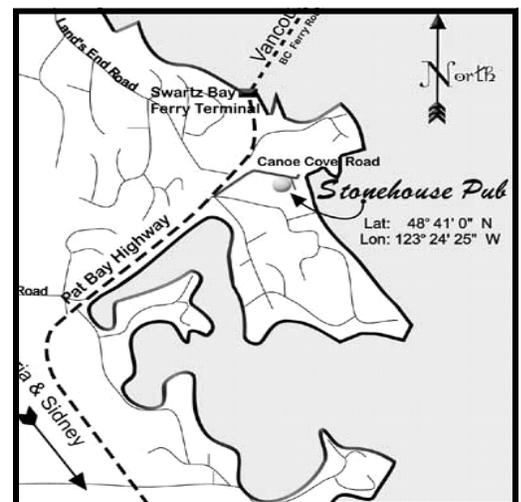
my '87 R80RT ~Ed

tourist stop I normally wouldn't consider stopping at. Whipple Tree Junction is 43 kms north of the Millstream overpass and on the right side of the island highway. Phone 250 746 5848 and the website is at <http://www.emenus.ca/pioneerhouse>.

Finally, we love pictures! Send us articles of your summer m/c adventures with pictures and get your name in print! And of course, have fun everyone! ~Ed

Reminder: July Breakfast Meeting Change of Venue

As a quick reminder the breakfast venue for the month of July (July 9 - Saturday) will be at the Stonehouse Pub, out near the Swartz Bay ferry terminal. Breakfast will be buffet style, and cost \$9.00 plus tax and gratuity. The pub is at 2215 Canoe Cove Road, phone 656 3498. Hope to see you all there. ~Ed



Monthly Ride

July 17th ride is simply called a "mystery ride" and it will be lead by Chris Jones . . .

Date: July 17th
Meeting Place: Tim Hortons adjacent to Home Depot/Staples on Millstream Road
Meeting Time: 10:00 AM

I suggest you arrive a little early if you wish a coffee/muffin or other eats prior to departure. I will be riding somewhere between Duluth and Owen Sound Ontario, en route to Lima Ohio for the BMW MOA Rally.

Hope you all have a great ride . . .send pictures
Barry Salter

BMWMOA 237 - BMWRA 290

Newsletter of the BMW Riders of Vancouver Island

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CLUB MEETINGS

July 9th	Saturday
August 7th	Sunday
September 7th	Saturday
October 2nd	Sunday
November 5th	Saturday

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The Cowichan Area Run

The 3rd Sunday ride to the Cowichan Bay and Cowichan Lake area went off as planned. Only three other members showed up, but the ride was an enjoyable one and the company was even better.

Jack Sinclair



Tom, happy to be riding



Great looking bikes



Tom, Chris, myself and Rudy [left to right] in the group photo. Taken at Cowichan Lake

Six of the very best roads for riding - Part 1

By Geoff Stevenson

Three club members (and a fourth interloper from Penticton) covered 3,827km in May in Washington, Oregon and California.

Only a few roads were new to all of us, but we can reliably report that these six meet the highest club standards. If you don't believe me, ask Chris Jones or Jack Kasenberg.

Let's start with the really good stuff:

US 395, from Burns to John Day in Central Oregon, is as good a piece of pavement as I have encountered anywhere.

Burns, a town of around 4,000 which has, as they say, seen better times, is on the high plains. The real estate ads offer houses in the town for well under \$50,000, which tells you all about the economy. Perhaps 20 per cent of the stores on the main street are empty.

But they say the huntin', shootin' and fishin' hereabouts is world-class; too bad we'd left our rifles and rods at home.

Incidentally, we stayed at the Day's Inn downtown and had excellent service from a couple who were trying very hard to build up the business. Seems they were succeeding, too: I doubt there was an empty room on the Wednesday night we were there.

Highway 395 goes pretty much due north from Burns. You start out on flat land, but are soon into the canyons, with pavement that seemed uniformly perfect. No traffic, either - and not a cop in sight.

I thought this road was just highway heaven.

Perfectly banked curve after perfectly banked curve. Lots of potential to ride very fast if you choose - and the odd snow-capped mountain in the far distance in places.

It's about 75 miles to John Day (since we're in the Excited States, we'll keep everything in conformity with the road signs, if not our odometers). In little over an hour we were parked on the main street of John Day - and talking to the owner of an art shop with a Kawasaki Concours, who had just moved there (from Bend) because of the riding. We knew exactly what he meant.

Washington 821, from Ellensburg to Yakima parallels Interstate 82, which means that many people will neither look for it, nor find it. The road runs in the valley of the Yakima River.

It's only about 25 miles, so barely more than half an hour in the saddle. But there are some fabulous corners. However, be warned: The speed limit is mostly 40 mph and I have been told it's a favourite hangout for the local gendarmerie, but I have never yet seen a cop there. (You could ride most of it at twice the speed limit).

Oregon 138 from Diamond Lake Junction to Roseburg takes you through an astonishing variety of topography and flora, as you start out on the high plains of Oregon, climb to almost 6,000 feet through Cascade Pass and then drop down almost to sea level.

We unfortunately battled heavy rain along most of the 100 miles of this road. But even with wet pavement - and close to 3 feet of snow beside the highway at the top of the pass, it was a great ride and, very little traffic (we were there on a Sunday).

This is Part 1 of Geoff's submission - I'll keep you in suspense for Part 2, coming in the August issue of the Beemer Reader ~Ed.

SOME ADMIN STUFF

Rebates: yup! For those who don't know, we do get some rebates out there. SM Cycle will normally honour a 10% rebate on most items (not new motorbikes!!) for BMWVRI members. As well, LORDCO Auto Parts provide a club rebate. Our account number with them is 45102 and the rebate will vary, depending both on the item and the accumulative volume of items purchased on the account. ~Ed

ROADS RIDDEN - TRIPS TAKEN

16 Creston to Vernon Part 1

I like many of you, I have a motorcyclist enthusiasts book called *Destination Highways of BC*. This book rates 185 roads in BC for us. Of these roads, 5 are rated between Creston & Vernon while another 3 are attached along the way. The top 2 are among these as well as number 5.

I started in Creston going north to Kootanay Bay to a ferry (8 km). This road follows the Lake with the most curves you have ever seen. As a plus, the scenery is spectacular with very little traffic (if you ride this road a little on the aggressive side you will be kept busy and will miss the great scenery).

After leaving the ferry, a left turn take you to Nelson on the 3A. The road to the right takes you up the other side of the lake to Kelso Still lots of turns and scenery as well as a few more cars but not much traffic. Last time through, I stopped at Aimsworth hot springs and enjoyed the time in the springs enough to plan a stop next time on this road (30 km).

From Kelso to New Denver (45 Km) on Hwy 31A is different again because it goes up and over a mountain range between two lakes. From Kelso you head up into the mountain following the Kelso River. The road, like the river, is never straight. You may pass more bikes than cars on this road, I know I did. At the top are 2 small lakes that you drive between before heading down into New Denver paralleling the Seaton & Carpenter Creeks in order. This is another of the great roads. *Vince Martorino*

TECH TIP

I guess I should have known better...K bike cooling fans are notorious (apparently) for seizing and subsequently burning out in one form or another. The problem stems from a performance electric motor spinning at some very high rpm with non-lubricating bushings. The motor, on my K1100LT, seized causing over-heating of the brush holders and subsequent melting of said holders. New cooling fan assembly from SM Cycle? \$235... Low cost preventative measure? Remove the motor early and give the bushings a squirt of lube... (the motor is a Bosch - hard to source in Canada). Need more info on how to do this? I would be happy to provide. *~Ed*

CLASSIFIEDS

BUY SELL OR TRADE

»1966 R69S. Matching numbers, collectors plate. Un-restored, with 8000 original miles. Excellent condition. Needs new muffler. Everything works. Have two seats, and some spare parts on hand. With original shop manual, riders handbook, etc. Jpegs available. \$7000 CAD. Located in Campbell River. (250) 923-3575 Neil Wilcox

» BMW System IV Helmet. Red, size 7 1/8. Very new-ish (no scratches, marks etc. worn twice). I have two alike so you can take whichever one you find nicer. Reason for sale: I prefer an open face. Asking \$375 reasonable offers considered. Rich 658 3874 rmgravel@telus.net

» For sale: tank bag (\$199 negotiable), and hitch and trailer (\$975) for a K75C (may fit others). I crashed my bike and need money to buy a car. The trailer is a Monogo and the bag is a Sargent Super Bag. Martin Pariseau Home: (250) 245-0951 Cell: (250) 618-1606

» Wanted: K-bike cooling fan; working or for parts. Mine needs a new brush to get it working again. Rich 658 3874 rmgravel@telus.net

COOL WEBSITES

Airheads Beemer Club Website: <http://www.airheads.org/>

Internet BMW Riders: <http://www.ibmwr.org/>

THE internet BMW marketplace: <http://www.ibmwr.org/market/>