



THE BEEMER READER

VOLUME 18,

No 5, MAY 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

1. Commentary – by Brian Radford
- 2,3 Roads I have Ridden – Vince Martorino
- 3 Rally Dates
4. Chief Joseph Rally & other info
5. For Sale – Wanted
6. Club Schedule & Contacts

RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Every day I have to walk past both bikes in order to get into the car. Once in a while I climb onto the saddle but I don't ride either the BMW or the Ural. After all, why pay for professional medical advice if you don't follow the doctor's orders?

This all started just after Christmas when I found that even the short walk across the road to the mail produced shortness of breath. Anything further than the mailbox resulted in chest pain that I tried to ignore until common sense kicked in, which it sometimes does. To shorten the story so that it fits into the allotted space, after a few tests involving treadmills and X-rays and other medical marvels, some very considerable blockages of quite essential blood vessels were discovered. Not wanting to sound overly dramatic, the situation was potentially not at all attractive. So now I have some metal tubing in my innermost parts, an array of pills to take every day and have been instructed not to ride for a month. That's why you won't see me at the Brigantine Pub Run but I do hope to be mobile by mid May. Meanwhile I am very happy and thankful indeed to be looking forward to riding to Gillette for the International Rally and all the other summer places that we might get to on two (or three) wheels.

Inside this issue you will find the continuation of Vince Martorino's story of his Alaska trip. His faithful contribution complete with pictures is appreciated. Other than this, the May issue is pretty thin.

Before I got grounded, I was able to make a belated appearance at the Blue Peter breakfast, where a few people got a look at the shiny white non-BMW and sidecar. While I was there, Gerd Berger handed me a clipping from the "Arts" section of the Times-Colonist, wherein a reviewer made not-so-kind remarks about Victoria Symphony Orchestra's "Music, Mayhem and Merriment" but went on to say that it was worth going to the concert in order to hear our Sally Harvey's "mind-blowing bluesy" piccolo solo. Heck, even if you've never heard her play, all you need to know is that Sally does it in the same enthusiastic and competent fashion that she rides the BMW.

Enjoy your riding but never take it for granted. Or, as Hartley, David's son might say, "Ride to live, live to ride". That never used to make a lot of sense to me but I think I see it now. **Brian Radford**

SATURDAY MAY 3/08 BREAKFAST AT OLYMPIC VIEW GOLF COURSE 9:30AM

ROADS I HAVE RIDDEN Day 9 Fairbanks to Valdez By Vince Martorino

Anchorage is a fairly modern town. I would like to say we left at the crack of dawn but for the last week or so we haven't had any nights so when is dawn? It has been a very interesting time. All the hotels had black-out curtains for sleeping. Anyway, we left heading south along the picturesque coastline of the Cook Inlet to the turn off and go through the tunnel to Whittier. This is a single lane 2.5 mile tunnel with a working train track running through as well. This is one of the few times that motorcycles go last. Anyway, by the time we neared the end of the tunnel, all the cars were gone and all you could see was the 3 headlights of a train and you are riding down the middle of the train tracks towards a train light. Talk about light at the end of the tunnel or a cartoon script. The town of Whittier is a small town that used to be a hide out for the navy because of the closeness of the Mountains and the general over cast weather.

Now we waited in line for a ferry to go across Prince William Sound to Valdez. While waiting in the rain at the ferry terminal one of those funny moments happened, should have got the camera out. A chopper coming up the ramp exiting the ferry bottomed out and lifted the back wheel off the ground and needed a push.

We crossed Prince William Sound to Valdez which is one end of the Alaska pipe line.

This is a coastal town full of campers and sports fishing boats. We stayed in a Hotel made up of modular units, clean small rooms. This was the end of this rest day. 100Ks.



Cook Inlet



Tunnel to Whittier



Valdez



Cook Inlet

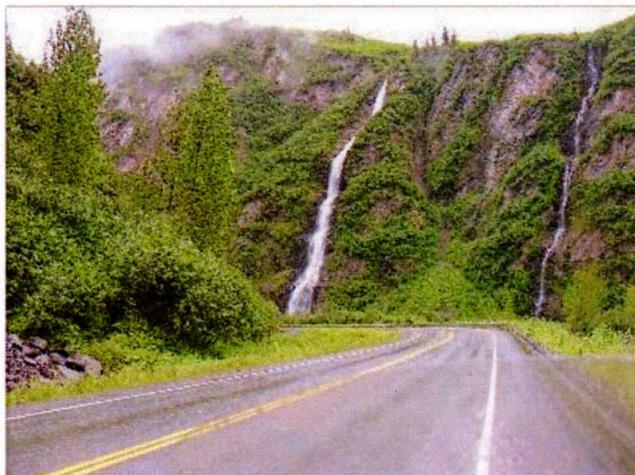
ROADS I HAVE RIDDEN Day 10 Valdez to Haines Junction By Vince Martorino

We left Valdez in the rain, something we had upon occasion. We headed into a tight canyon with several waterfalls and by now the rain was left behind on the coast. After this, we head up to a pass in the fog. On the other side, heading down, we passed a glacier by the road, the fog was gone. The road was most interesting all the way back to the Alaska Hwy to Tok Junction. Along here were large areas of trees, tall Mountains, twists and turns and a few small towns. At one time on an uphill turn there was an unmarked dip in the road that launched me clear off the ground. The rpm's shot up to 6,000 before touching down, the smell of rubber and a short burst of adrenaline what a rush! At the ferry terminal another rider told me of a guy who had been thrown off by a dip.

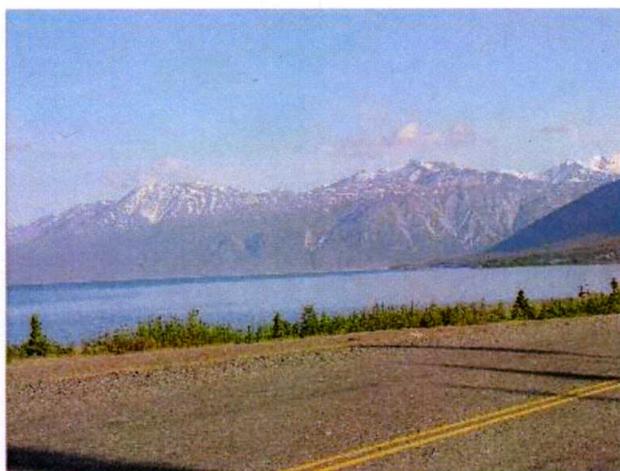
From Tok to Haines Junction, was one of the tougher rides due to the dips in the road. Spent lots of time with weight on the foot pegs and gravel road construction. Being here on a weekend made the construction areas easier.

The scenery still remains great with the road going by Mountains, dense scrub, fir trees and mixing with lakes and moose pastures. Along this stretch of road we saw a moose, 3 grizzlies, a coyote and a beaver.

The day ended with 954 KM (600 miles).



Valdez



Near Haines Junction

2008 Rally Dates

Date	Event	Locaton	Website
	Co-ordinator		
May 23-26	49er Rally ?	Auburn California	http://www.bmwnorcal.org/49er/
June 19 – 22	Chief Joseph ?	John Day Oregon	http://www.bmwro.org/
July 17 – 20	BMW MOA National Bill Wallace	Gillette Wyoming	http://www.bmwmoa.org/rally/rally08/
July 24 – 27	Cascade Rendezvous ?	Menlo Washington	http://www.wsbmwr.org/rally/index.htm
Aug 14 – 17	BeeCee Beemers Klaus Kreye	Nakusp BC	http://www.beeceebeemers.com/

CHIEF JOSEPH RALLY

The Chief Joseph Rally put on by BMW Riders of Oregon seems to be a perennial favourite of our club. This year's version will happen 19th to 22nd June and is at the same location (Grant County Fairgrounds in John Day, at the junction of Highways 395 and 26). Good riding in all directions. Friday and Saturday dinners included in the rally fee. On site food vendors can provide other meals, and there's a beer garden. Restaurants in town are 3 blocks away. Rally tee shirts will be on sale. Green grass camping and hot showers.

How can you lose at the pre-registration price of \$40 US? (must be post marked by "6/05/2008". Is that 6th May or June 5th? Probably the latter) If later than 6/05 it will be \$50 US.

Pre-register by e-mail at 2008 Chief Joseph Rally or www.bmwro.org.

Snail mail: Pre-Registration Form (please print legibly or type)

Rider name & Date.

e-mail address

Address: (City, state/prov, Zip/Postal Code)

Passenger name

MOTOCYCLE RIDE FOR DAD

Motorcycle Ride for DAD May 24, 2008: This is a worthwhile ride to support prostate cancer research. The day will consist of a group parade through Victoria to Ogden Point, where individuals or smaller groups can break away to follow the countryside poker run (or their own route) to Duncan for a provided lunch. In Ottawa, there were door prizes and poker prizes. Details and pledge sheets are available at www.motorcyclridefordad.org.

FIRE

We were sorry to hear about the fire at **Tom & Di Thornton's**. Hope restoration is progressing and they'll soon be back home. Ed.

Mailing address remains: 1580 Marine Circle, Paksville. BC. V9P 1Y6 Temp mobile Phone 250 240 534

Email Tom: thornton.tom1@gmail.com Last resort e-mail to: mailto:tomthornton_5@msn.com

New and old - photo by Brian Radford



CLUB LIBRARIAN NEEDED – as far as we know

A person to house and take care of our library is needed as Victor Buck has passed on and will be sadly missed by his many friends in this club.

If someone has volunteered, please let us know. – Ed.

WANTED

I have the parts ready to replace the timing chain on my 1080 R65.

However; reading up the procedure it strongly recommended that I remove the exhaust pipes and thus need an exhaust nut tool.

Before I order one does any member have one which they would loan me for a couple of weeks?

Tom Thornton Tel: 250 752 4326 E-mail: webmaster@bmwrvi.org

FOR SALE:

BMW Motorcycle: Gore-Tex Jacket and Pants

This is little used gear that I think was before the Kalahari suit, same style, different colors but similar.

Removable protection in Knees, Elbows, Shoulders and back protection. The jacket zips to the pants to make a riding suit.

Nice Cordura and Gore-Tex touch's on the suit...well thought out.

The BMW Euro sizing Chart says Pants 44L (36-37W X 32-34L) and Jacket 98 Euro 40 L (33-35W X 41-43 Chest).

They have Velcro in the waist so can be tightened a bit or let out a bit as needed.

Well worth a look.

Asking \$475 but open to reasonable offers.

David Dahlgren 250-386-2054 (evenings) email dahlgrend@shaw.ca

**FOR SALE:**

Gerbings Ltd heated jacket (with arms)

Size Med... With electronic thermostat controller, BMW plug, and battery terminal attachment (never used)
\$100 complete.

Chris Jones, 592-4311

ALASKA

I am looking for anyone who would be interested in riding up to Alaska. I am thinking about the first of June as a date (open to suggestions) and am going with or without company. If anyone is interested in tagging along, could they contact me by e-mail?

Ernie LaLonde – erncar@shaw.ca

PS. I am also planning a trip across Canada in August. Anyone interested?

Club Ride Schedule 2008

www.bmwrvi.org bmwrvi@shaw.ca

Date	Event	Location	Type	Organizer
May 3 Saturday	Monthly Gathering	Olympic View Golf Course	Breakfast	Ina Homer
May 17 Saturday	Monthly Ride	Saltaire Pub Ladysmith	Road	Roger Godlonton
June 1 Sunday	Monthly Gathering	Pioneer House Duncan	Breakfast	Volunteer needed
June 21/22 Saturday/Sun	Camp-n-Ride	Gold River	Road	Tom Thornton
July 5 Saturday	Monthly Gathering	Dakota Restaurant	Breakfast	Volunteer needed
July 19 Sunday	Monthly Ride	Port Renfrew	Road	Road conditions permitting
Aug 10 Sunday	Monthly Gathering	Salt Spring Island	Breakfast	Colleen Barnes
Aug 24 Sunday	Ride up Island Cheese Factory	Qualicum Beach	Road	Tom Thornton
Sep 6 Saturday	Monthly Gathering	Sidecar Cafe	Breakfast	Volunteer needed
Sep 21 Sunday	Monthly Ride	TBD	Road	Volunteer needed
Oct 5 Sunday	Monthly Gathering	TBD	Breakfast	Volunteer needed
Oct 26 Sunday	Annual Meeting	TBD	Meeting	Klaus Kreye
Nov 1 Saturday	Monthly Gathering	Chequered Flag	Breakfast	Klaus Kreye
Dec 7 Sunday	Monthly Gathering	Chequered Flag	Breakfast	Klaus Kreye

THIS LIST ENABLES YOU TO: submit articles or ideas for future issues of Beemer Reader, pay your dues of \$15, order club clothing, and borrow books and DVD's

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