

BMW
Riders of Mississippi (club #15)
bmwridersofmississippi.org

Officers: Prez- Laurissa Henderson, Vice Prez- Bobby Brooks, Secretary – Alan Henderson, Treasurer- Dan Stubblefield, Web page administrator- Steve Harrison

Minutes of April 13, 2024

We met at Ratliff Ferry on the Natchez Trace on the Pearl River and boy did we have a great turnout. We had the Ratliff Ferry staff working hard.

The day was perfect for riding, sunny with temps in the upper 70s.

There was no planned ride to the meeting but we all met at the Cypress Swamp for a group photo. Alan did lead a really good 3 hour ride back home and those that participated really enjoyed it.



Laurissa opened the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

- Dan gave the treasurer's report. We had 2 new members join at this meeting so a new April membership and e-mail list will be sent out.
- We did pay our web master for our web domain or other expenses.

- We have voted to not rent a canopy at the MOA rally because we only expect a few to make this long trip. However we do want those few to have a “home base” and plan to chip in with the Gulf South Club. Steve will work out the details.

Web master report:

- Steve was not present info from last month still stands.
<https://bmwridersofmississippi.org> he has added a section on the Web page that has a list of things to see and do. Not just club events but just ideas of places that you, your family and friends may find fun. All sorts of festivals, Christmas events and others. Make your own ride to eat or weekend event. Several members are sending him info and we need everyone to help out.
- Steve stated that we needed a new club photo with the bikes in it and also needs an updated Club logo. We have since taken several.
- ***We need more photos and ride reports to put on the page.***

Old Business:

- Looking for a new dealer or service person?
 - New Orleans dealer: Moto Julia - 504-595-6776 recommended by John Wheeler
 - Jefferson LA (New Orleans) an independent Service location. Chuck House Motor Sports-504 846-4880 recommended by Jeff hood and yes he works on BMW.

Moto Tip of the month

- Riding season is here so it is time to get ready for some local riding and maybe even great memorable longer trips
So this month’s tip is ABOUT SERVICE: 1 Make sure you keep service records and conduct regular moto inspections. Always know when it is time service your bike and when to change brake pads and tires. Make plans accordingly because for example some of us may be planning long trips that may require a service on the road. If you know how, you could service the bike yourself and call ahead to a dealer so they can be expecting you. The BMW MOA has a list of all BMW dealers.
- This tip is good forever and comes from the BMW Owners News. You are never too old to get additional rider training and the Jan-Feb magazine had a lot of ideas of places to receive this training. Some will be hands on day classes and there is one on-line class. Also MOA will give some reimbursement on some. This is another benefit for being a MOA member. Go the MOA web page or [Champ U - Yamaha Champions Riding School \(ridelikeachampion.com\)](#) for more info.

New Business and Event Info:

- **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS Ricky Hill and Kerry Gibson!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

- We have noticed in past years that because of Mother's Day being on the same weekend as our meetings we have had poor attendance. SO, we decided to cancel the May meeting and return in June. YES we know that the MOA meeting is in June but still consider that this decision would work. If not we will change as needed in the future.
- OK some more stuff to think about! Why are you a member? For me it has helped me enjoy my moto owner experience Mucho Better. I have made many new friends and received help working on my bike and given help as well. I have gotten many great ideas for short trips, made longer ride trip destination ideas and even made ride to lunch buddies. Take advantage of your membership.
- Tommy wanted to give a shout-out to a company in Pelahatchie that does power coating, Vivid Custom Colors.
- Jimmy Cox has his pristine 2021 R1250 GSA for sale.
- Tommy has a friend that has a 1983 R100 project bike.
- Our June 8 2024 Meeting will be in Biloxi at McElroy's Harbor House, 695 Beach Blvd, Biloxi. As always at 11:30 am

Just in case you wondered you are still on the event committee. Alan heads it up, but you make it work.

Some definite rides that we have planned:

- April 20 Alan will lead a ride to the Angola Prison Rodeo. KSU at 7:am with a ETA of 10 AM so we can shop the crafts and exhibits, eat a Cajun lunch and goof off until the rodeo starts at 1pm. This event is normally a sell out and the seats are assigned. You obviously do not have to ride with the group but if you want to go and sit together you must let Alan know so he can buy the tickets and you must pay him back. You will not be disappointed!! As of this mailing Alan has ordered 3 tickets. You can still order your own till they sell out.
- April 26 and 27 ride to eat at Casey, IL to get a moon burger. Ride up on Friday the 26th and eat dinner at Richard's farm, 5:00 pm. Bed down in the only Hotel in town, Days Inn. On Sat the 27th ride about 10 miles to Moonshine to visit and make new friends, help dedicate the Motorcycle Tourer Forum's Memorial bench, get a moon burger and then head home. The ride is about 550 miles each way. So far looks like 4 club members are planning the trip. I will send out more ride info so anyone that wants to ride together can.

May is for our Arkansas ride. The dates are to ride to Russellville AR on Monday May 20 where we will use the Hampton Inn for our base camp. We will ride the great roads of AR on Tuesday and Wednesday and then head home on Thursday. We will meet up for supper every day at a local restaurant for a group meal and then back to the hotel for some tall tails and visit with friends. Do not wait too late on making your reservations. Check out the Arkansas Motorcycle tour guide for ride ideas. Cindy has found a waterfall tour that you can use to plan a plan a day of riding the curvy roads and also visiting 12 or so waterfalls. Again let the WEB be your friend.

NOTICE everyone has a different riding style and for this reason the only planned “group rides” will be the ones you plan. You will need to contact a riding buddy. For example the fastest route from Madison is about 326 miles and 5.5 hours. The route I am planning will be about 386 miles and 8 hours, with some “spirited” sections.

Below are some more ideas and plans that you can do.

- Grand Bay National Estuarine Research reserve in Grand Bay, SW Mississippi. It is 18,000 acres of pine savannas salt marshes, bays and bayous. It has walking trails and is a very interesting place to visit.
- Barber Vintage Festival in Birmingham AL. A MUST DO in October every year. And once again BMW is going to be a sponsor. If it is going to be as good a last year this is a must do event.
- Barber also has events all during the year, check their website.
- Cruising the Coast is also in October.
- Christmas Eve Bon Fire on the Levee, LaPlace, LA. Christmas Eve every year. Fantastic time.
- BMWMOA Rally 2024 in Redmond, Oregon. Just a short 2,200 miles from MS.
- December 1st Saturday every year Ride to Eldridge, AL to the charity event at Eldridge Children’s home. Thousands of bikers make it each year.
- There is a long distance ride made just for people like Bobby Brooks called the Great River Road ride. This road starts in Lake Itasca, Minnesota and follows the MS river all the way to New Orleans. By the way we have made this ride but not in one trip it was a combo of different trips that we made but we have been from start to the end.
 - There is a Web page named “Only in your State” that can be used as a guide for finding things to do.
 - Everyone is challenged to join the MOA so they will get the monthly magazine (it will come by e-mail unless you request a paper copy.) This publication has lots of great info including places to ride and things to do. BMWMOA link [BMW Motorcycle Owners of America \(bmwmoa.org\)](http://BMWMotorcycle Owners of America (bmwmoa.org))
- There are several MOA events in 2024 like a ride to Kerrville, TX in April 2024 (Twisted Sisters), with another MOA weekend getaway in April 2024 to Fontana Dam (Tail of the Dragon area)
- There is a MOA April 6 Saturday RTE that also has an Eagle watching boat tour. (Laurissa and I did this in 2023 and it was good.)
- The MTF [The Motorcycle Tourer's Forum \(mctourer.com\)](http://The Motorcycle Tourer's Forum (mctourer.com)) also have their rides and events for 2024 posted. Places like Elkins, WV and Williamsport, PA.
- We are planning another cookout this year probably in October that will be club sponsored.
 - Alan has some left over courthouse decal/stickers) and wants to get rid of them. This is how to get them. To get one just ride all 82 Mississippi counties in 1 year.

To prove it just submit a photo of your bike with the county court house (must be able to read the county) in it. Obviously this is to give you ideas when you are trying to decide where to go on day ride.

- The Mississippi Blues trail is another quest we are doing and we have stickers for these as well.

For info on any of these e-mail Alan at hendersonal@att.net

- Alan is asking for more ideas of fun rides or weekend trips we can make.

Ride Reports and tall tales:

It seems that march was another slow riding month.

- Most of us did make some day and lunch rides.
- However, Alan and Laurissa, with grandson Michael, made the trek to Devil's Fork, AR to meet up with Steve Harrison and wife Pattie to view the Total Solar Eclipse. I know this is a non-event for some and that you can buy those solar viewing glasses and watch from your own back yard. In Our part of the world in MS you only got about 80% but thanks to Steve and Pattie's Hospitality we had a FANTASTIC time plus a total. (By the way they did invite all of the club) Steve had his motorhome set up and served breakfast and lunch.

Steve also had an electronic telescope, with filter, set up that made this trip worthwhile. With this telescope you could see sun spots, ridges on the moon, Venus and Jupiter.

The weather going home made us glad we were in the truck. THANK YOU STEVE and PATTY.

NOTICE go to the ROM website for more ride reports!!!!

Future Meeting locations:

- Our June 8, 2024 Meeting will be in Biloxi at McElroy's Harbor House, 695 Beach Blvd, Biloxi. As always at 11:30 am
 - Other location ideas but no date assigned to all of them:
 - Big O's in Bay Springs
 - BOZO's in Ocean Springs
 - The Shed BBQ in Ocean Springs and also in Moss Point
 - Moo's Bar & Grill in Natchez
 - North 11 Diner in Picayune
 - Dempsey's Seafood in Kiln
 - Magnolia Grill in Columbia
- Meeting adjourned

Lunch Meeting Photos below







