

**BMW**  
**Riders of Mississippi (Club #15)**  
**bmwridersofmississippi.org**  
**Facebook Page: BMW Riders of Mississippi**

Officers: President - Alan Henderson, Vice President – Dan Stubblefield,  
Secretary – Laurissa Henderson, Treasurer- John Wheeler, Web Page  
Administrator- Steve Harrison

### **Minutes of May 9, 2026 Meeting**

Written by Laurissa

The meeting was held at Magnolia Grill in Columbia, MS. The day started out wet and with a gloomy and rainy forecast. Several “real bikers” decided to ride their motorcycles while the rest jumped in their cars and rode down. As it turned the roads were very wet but there was almost no rain to be had. Can’t trust the weather man but even with the bad weather we had a good turnout. We also had two visitors, Paul Thorne and Peyton Shirley.

Alan called the meeting to order

#### **Treasurer’s Report:**

Alan gave the Treasurer’s report and we had no expenses.

#### **Webmaster report:**

- Steve maintains our web page <https://bmwridersofmississippi.org>. On the web page we have all sorts of info and stuff. Even though it does not change much that is because **YOU** do not share much with us. Please help us out. There are all sorts of festivals, Christmas events and other fun things you may like. Several members are sending him info and we need everyone to help.
- It is time to get some new info in this section so please help.

***We need more photos and ride reports to put on the page.***

Share your future ride plans and ideas and I can post on Face book and or at the meetings, maybe someone would like to join you.

Below are some resources and ideas on finding places to ride and things to do.

- The greatest resource is our members, reach out to them.
- I am working a member directory that will help you with that.
- A great magazine for motorcyclists is Road Runner. They are chock full of great ride reports and ideas. They are online or in their magazine.
- There is a group called the MOTORCYCLE TOURERS FORUM that makes rides throughout the year and all are invited. Check their website for more information.
- BMW Motorcycle Owners of America is another group that sponsors rides.
- Ricky is a BDR enthusiast and pointed out a new BDR route that starts in Florida and is about 1300 miles long.
- Barber also has events all during the year, check their website.
- Christmas Eve Bonfire on the Levee, LaPlace, LA. Christmas Eve every year. Fantastic time.
- 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

## **Old Business**

The big ride to think about is the June 2026 annual MOA Rally. This year it is in Essex Junction, Vermont. It is not too late to make this happen. Bobby Brooks, Alan and Laurissa, Steve Harrison, Ian Fergusson, and Ricky Hill are for sure going. So, find a riding buddy and head out on a trip that I bet you would not otherwise make. Canada is also just a few more miles.

We have a web page where we post our minutes and we also have a Facebook page. It is time that we blow the dust off and get better use of that media asset. Steve brought up the idea of enlarging our club’s horizons but utilizing our Facebook Page, and other media outlets. The

club does have a web page, but Steve said that those are going out of style and we need to consider better ways to get out our message. Steve also suggested we use the Signal App to share information among club members only. It is sort of like a private message app. Members can download the app from the App Store for free. Steve will invite you to join the group. Laurissa and Steve will work to make better use of the BMW Riders of Mississippi Facebook page. If you are on Facebook, please join that page. New pictures and information have been posted on the page in the last week.

Bobby Brooks suggested that we as club members work to enhance our meeting. Not just ride to eat lunch, meet for thirty minutes and then ride home. Bobby suggested that we find a reason to extend the meeting, maybe visit a special sight, like the Lynyrd Skynyrd memorial in Magnolia after lunch at the DinnerBell. Or when we went to a BMW motorcycle museum in Sturgis, MS after lunch at Lake Tiak-o'khata. Or a Tugboat Museum Tour after lunch at Rusty's in Vicksburg. We need everyone's help finding not just good lunch sights but interesting spots. Remember the Ruins of Windsor.

Alan brought up the October meeting that we have been having at Steve and Patty Harrison's the last few years. There are several big events every year that have interfered with this meeting. Cruising the Coast weeklong car show and Barber Vintage Festival in Birmingham, AL. Our club meeting is normally held on the second Saturday of the month and is smack dab in the middle of these 2 events. Every year members juggle these activities. Because we want everyone to be able to attend Steve and Patty's famous shrimp boil, and because of prime shrimp season, Alan and Steve decided that we should move the date. Trying to make this an event that all could attend, Alan made the decision to move the October meeting to Saturday, September 26, 2026. As always, the meeting will be held at Steve and Patty Harrison's home, 14072 Big Creek Road, Gulfport, MS 39503. More information to follow in the coming months.

## **New Business:**

We will not have a June meeting but it would be great if we all met at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction, VT

- **The July meeting will be Saturday, July 11, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. at Council House Restaurant, 55 LeFleur Circle, French Camp, MS 39745 662-547-9860. Will send out an e-mail with a destination after the meeting.**
- August meeting to be announced.
- September we will do something strange. We will have 2 meetings because October is just so full of great things that will pull our members across 2 states.  
#September 12 with the location to be announced  
And  
#2 – September 26 at Steve and Patti Harrison’s home, 14072 Big Creek Road, Gulfport, MS 39503
- October things to do include Barber Vintage Festival in Leeds, Alabama. <https://barberracingevents.com> October 9-11<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- Cruising the Coast Car Show that runs a complete week along the entire Mississippi coast. <https://cruisinthecoast.com> October 4-11<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Considerable time was then spent discussing how ROM can do better at meeting the expectations of our members. Alan, Laurissa, Steve Harrison and Cindy Pouncey attended a crawfish boil as guests of the Gulf South Riders Club in Covington, LA on Saturday, April 18, 2026. We met with Greg Beck, President of the Club, and came up with some shared ideas. One of the ideas was to have a Recruiter and Retention member to help recruit new members and retain old members. The club would also need an Event Coordinator, who would suggest ideas of where members could ride after our lunch meetings or make a ride to an event around the state, etc. Dan Stubblefield has agreed to handle this new position of Recruiter and Retention. Thank you Dan. Now, to fill the Event Coordinator position. Kerry Gibson did give an indication that once he has fulfilled some prior commitments, he may be able to help. But please consider helping the club with this. We are also trying to enhance our Facebook page. We will need to discuss this at future meetings to work out ideas.

## **Ride Reports or Great Adventure Reports:**

No reports this month.  
Just a lot of RTEs

-Some members are going to ride on Saturday, June 6, 2026 to Ezells Fish Camp, 776 Ezell Road, Butler, AL 36904 for a Motorcycle Tourers Forum RTE. You can check their web sight Motorcycle Tourers Forum for more information. They have RTE every month **just to have a place to ride.**

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Alan Henderson adjourned the meeting.







