

THE SHAFT



The Journal of the Riders Association of the Mid-South



<http://www.bmwrams.com>



BMW RAMS RALLY 2018!

To those of you who came to the rally, it was wonderful seeing you! Each year I look forward to visiting and catching up with everyone. The campfire stories are the best! I heard stories I hadn't heard before, Hank told one on me, and I think a few might have been made up. Peanuts were passed around, people shared from their coolers, and everyone went to their tents smelling of smoke. The rains earlier in the week had soaked the wood making it hard to start the first fire. Someone creative stacked wood all around the campfire ring so it would dry out before we needed it. The weather was perfect for riding, and a few miles were put on by everyone. I must say the campground continues to improve yearly. New private showers were my favorite upgrade this year. To those of you who could not make the rally we missed you and hope to see you next year. Here are some photos of the camp grounds...



*Verla's award for Taj Mahal goes to...
Hank Widdop and Paul Whitworth.
Hank's tent was hugh and had a pop up patio. Paul's was about the size of a three bedroom house.*

GUYS this is camping LOL



"I turn my head to the inside of the curve, roll the throttle wide open, and break free from the world that affords me the passion to ride"

Verla Price



Interesting Rides/Road Trips



TOURING BIKES

The 2018 Middle of the Map Rally

November 09 - November 11

Location: The middle of the map.

Duh...! Boss, MO 65440

All Bikes / All Riders / All Roads



This year's MOM Rally is being held in beautiful Bixby, MO. The legendary home of the BMW GS Midwest Trophy Trials. Everything offered here from well maintained single track, challenge courses, fast gravel, twisting tarmac. Come prepared to enjoy a great weekend with the Who's Who of adventure motorcycling and more. Excellent catered meals will be provided, tent and RV camping on site. Bathrooms and showers for every guest.

Contact Person: Brad Calbert

Follow this link for registration

<http://mms.gsgiants.com/>

[Calendar/moreinfo responsive.](#)

[php?eventid=11934&org_id=GSGI](#)

SPORTS BIKES

Progressive International Motorcycle Show - New York Nov. 30 - Dec. 2

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center
655 W 34th St New York NY



The 2018-19 Progressive International Motorcycle Show coming to New York See All The Latest Bikes From All The Major Motorcycle Manufacturers Ultimate Builder Bike Show, Demos, Entertainment, Celebrity Appearances 100s of Vendors And A Whole Lot More!!!

Other Show locations:

CLEVELAND, OH

01.25.19 - 01.27.19

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

02.01.19 - 02.03.19

WASHINGTON D.C.

02.08.19 - 02.10.19

*For more info on this and other
locations:*

www.motorcycleshows.com

DUAL SPORTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for June next year! MOA in TN!

BMW MOA International Rally 2019

*Thursday, June 13, 2019 thru
Saturday, June 15, 2019*

Location:

*James E. Ward Agricultural and
Community Center*

945 E Baddour Pkwy

Lebanon TENNESSEE 37087

Make plans to join us and a few thousand of your best friends for riding, fun and friendship.

www.bmwmoa.org/news/news.asp?id=396758



BMW Begins Testing Rental Service for Motorcycles

BY JENSEN BEELER

BMW Motorrad is looking for new ways to get motorcyclists on the German brand's two-wheelers, and as such BMW has created its "Rent a Ride" program. The name sort of gives things away, as the BMW "Rent a Ride" service is a short-term rental program that will be based out of BMW dealerships.

The concept is in its pilot phase right now, and focused on the German, Austrian, and French markets, with two dealers from each of these markets having a small fleet of motorcycles that renters can choose from.

If successful, the BMW "Rent a Ride" program will be rolled out to all BMW Motorrad dealers, effectively giving the German brand the largest motorcycle rental network in the world.

This is a strong move by BMW Motorrad, as it not only adds a keen revenue-creating service to the brand, but it also creates a clever no-pressure way to cultivate sales from interested motorcyclists.

While some BMW dealers already offer a rental services like the one BMW Motorrad is developing (I have personally used the rental service at BMW Motorrad München, for instance), the "Rent a Ride" program seeks to unify these efforts under one easy to use mobile application.

Seeing how mobile apps have changed the rental car business, the goal with "Rent a Ride" is to make renting a motorcycle painless and easy. Bookings and payments are easily secured via the app, while BMW dealers handle briefing the rider on how to use the machine, as well as servicing the vehicle post-ride.

The first step in a larger process, BMW sees the "Rent a Ride" program as being analogous to the company's "DriveNow" car service, which allows drivers to make short-term rentals on BMW cars, as part of a car-sharing network.

Of course, the larger goal here is to create a "motorcycles as a service" (MaaS) for motorcyclists. This is a trend we are almost certainly going to see more about in the coming years, and it is certainly a topic for a future conversation.

Until then, it would appear that BMW Motorrad just got on the ground floor of something much, much bigger than a rental service. Stay tuned.

Source: BMW Motorrad



Widgets, Doohickey's & Gadgets

QUADBOSS QBOSS FIRE EXTINGUISH HOLDER QBFE-1

\$15.39



<http://www.pdi-racing.com/quadboss-qboss-fire-extinguish-holder-qbfe-1/>

Members Submitted Photos

Submitted by: *Everett Blanchard*

A friend I met in Colorado this summer was riding the Trans American Trail, West to East. He called one evening last week, as he was riding through. We met for dinner and I road 370 miles with him, about 175 on the TAT.



Its easy to submit a photo and quick line about your ride. Snap a photo on your cell, text the photo and a quick line to me and your name. Basic location of photo, where you ate, miles you rode etc.

Verla's cell 850-502-7970

** Dont forget your name... I may not have you in my phone..*



Photo taken on a ferry during our Saturday ride at the BMW RAMS rally.

Ladies Corner



Cordura motorcycle drop leg hip bag



\$66.97

https://www.etsy.com/listing/625906267/cordura-motorcycle-drop-leg-hip-bag?ref=shop_home_active_2



Aegend Balaclava Windproof Ski Face Mask Winter Motorcycle Neck Warmer Tactical Balaclava Hood Polyester Fleece Women Men Youth Snowboard Cycling Hat Outdoors Helmet Liner Mask-Pink, 1 Piece



\$9.99

For more information:

<https://www.bikergirlbling.com/product/accessories/face-masks/aegend-balaclava-windproof-ski-face-mask-winter-motorcycle-neck-warmer-tactical-balaclava-hood-polyester-fleece-for-women-men-youth-snowboard-cycling-hat-outdoors-helmet-liner-mask-pink-1-piece/>

Top 10 DIY Garage Tips for Women Who Work on Their Own Motorcycles

By Tricia Szulewski

Women who ride motorcycles are on the rise, as are more women working on their own bikes. We are doing everything from basic pre-ride inspections such as checking the air in the tires to installing accessories to performing maintenance services that take more time, tools, and know-how. There are more women technicians working at shops and dealerships, and I've met some amazing young women who are designing and building some incredible ground-up custom motorcycles.

No matter what your skill level is or how simple the task at hand may be, you're going to run into some snags once in a while. I always joke about how a simple job that should take 5 minutes to complete can sometimes take me 5 hours. From installing something upside down, to not having the right tool and rigging together an assortment of household items to "make" what I need, I've run into my fair share of issues. And I've learned more than a few things along the way.

Here, I've compiled a short list of tips to help you tackle and prevent some common problems women have when



working on their bikes. While all of these tips can be helpful for both men and women, some of them

specifically address the problem of not having enough strength to loosen or tighten something, an issue I'm faced with more often as I get older.

We would love to hear about how you may have overcome a challenge while working on your motorcycle too. Please use the comment form after reading our list to share your DIY garage tips with our readers. Let's learn (and laugh) together!



The 10 tips are:

1. Magical Zip Ties
2. We Need Torque!
3. The Right Tools
4. Get Comfortable
5. Find A Helping Hand
6. Prepare
7. Lay Out Parts
8. Take Your Time
9. Stay Organized
10. Use Gloves

To read about the 10 tips:

http://www.womenridersnow.com/pages/Top_10%20DIY_Garage_Tips_Women_Work_on_Their_Own_Motorcycles.aspx?utm_content=8e243516be7a80c8fe2e260df83d372f&utm_campaign=12%2F22%2F17%20WRN&utm_source=Robly.com&utm_medium=email

Minutes by: Spencer Bennett

RAMS Meeting Minutes – April 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Craig on September 30, 2018 at 9:08 am in the big tent at the RAMS Rally, Parkers Crossroads, TN. There were 22 RAMS and 10 bikes in attendance.

Call to Order

1. We have 1 new member for this month. Terry Green who lives in Nashville and rides an R1200 GS.
2. We currently have 89 new and returning members for 2018.
3. There were no guests for the meeting.
4. Larry extended Thanks to the meeting hosts: Thank you RAMS Officers.

New Business

1. Nominations were opened for the 2019 RAMS Officers. The nominations were opened by Larry Craig for the positions of President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer. The following nominations were made:
President: Art Manchester IV – Nominated by Paul Whitworth, Seconded by Spencer Bennett.
Vice-President: No Nominations at this meeting.
Secretary/Treasurer: Spencer Bennett – Nominated by Steve Clark, Seconded by Larry Craig.
Bryan Leonard then moved to close nominations until the November Meeting, This was seconded by Paul Rhodes and approved by unanimous vote.
2. Larry Craig brought up the issue of splitting the Secretary/Treasurer Position into two separate positions. He feels that the workload for the Secretary/Treasurer has grown to the point where it is too much to ask of a volunteer position. Splitting the positions will allow us to recruit additional officers and make the jobs both easier and more clearly delineated. The discussion on this issue was of some length with people agreeing and disagreeing on the idea. The incumbent Secretary/Treasurer pointed out that, given the current lack of RAMS willing to serve as Officers, it might prove difficult to recruit someone to fill the extra position. He also stated that, as the incumbent office holder, he had no position on the division of the responsibilities of the position. The splitting of the positions will require a by-laws amendment and that will take a mail notification and two votes of the RAMS. This will require a formal motion which may be made later.
3. Verla Price brought up the issue of using “Virtual Meeting Software” to permit a greater number of RAMS to have a voice in the monthly meetings. She and the Web Master will do a Beta Test and report the results.

RAMS Rally Update

1. Steve Clark is the 2018 RAMS Rally Chair and Paul Whitworth is Rally Co-Chair.
2. RAMS Rally registration was 82 (74 full and 8-day passes).

Next Meeting:

**November 10, 2018 at 0900 at: Joe's
Restaurant & Steak House
1410 W Market St, Bolivar, TN 38008
(731) 658-7255**

Your host will be Paul Rhodes.

3. RAMS Rally Cups are available for \$5.00 ea. Please let a RAMS Officer know if you want to purchase one or more to complete your set.
4. The Secretary/Treasurer had a preliminary financial report on the 2018 RAMS Rally and it looks like it will have a loss of about \$500 once all the receipts are received and paid for.
5. There was a discussion of what caused the lower than normal turnout and what we could do to improve the performance next year, which will be our 45th Rally. Weather was mentioned as a contributing factor but there seems to be little we can do to control that particular issue. The Rally date needs to be set earlier and there was a motion by Hank Widdop, seconded by Paul Whitworth, to schedule the 2019 RAMS Rally on September 27-29, 2019 and for it to be scheduled on the last weekend in September in the future. This was discussed and approved by a unanimous vote of the members present. It was suggested that a survey of non-attending members be made to try and figure out why 70% of the RAMS did not attend the rally. It was pointed out that if we cannot attract our own folks, it will be difficult to bring in outsiders. More to come on this. Advertising was discussed as an issue with many members saying that we need to get the ads into national publications earlier than the previous March/April time frame. Verla Price stated that she would be willing to handle Advertising for the 2019 RAMS Rally once we had the dates and pricing figured out. Further cost cutting to move the Rally to a neutral cost position was also discussed and will continue to be an item in the coming year. Items mentioned including not having pins/cups and not having a band as these are fairly expensive and some members feel that they are not essential for the rally.

Old Business

1. If anyone still does not have their picture in the online directory, please see Spencer or Rosey.
2. If you would like a RAMS patch (old logo only), decal (old and new logos) or need RAMS business cards, please get with Spencer.
3. 2015 RAMS rally shirts are available for \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00. Most sizes are available. See Spencer.

For the Good of the Club

1. Check RAMS website for rally schedules.
2. Reno Anderson is having heart surgery on October 5 and all are asked to keep her in their thoughts as she recovers.
3. Bruce Ottway is improving and was able to attend the RAMS Rally on his motorcycle. He will still need some work on his right hand, but he is mending well over all.
4. Hank Widdop proposed that the RAMS grant Skeeter Kopacek a formal pardon based on the good works and constant support he has displayed to the RAMS Organization in the years since the unfortunate incident. This was approved by the membership and Hank or others will come up with an appropriate plaque and words to commemorate the event.
5. Larry Craig stated that he and Teresa will again be heading up the RAMS ride to the North East Florida BMW Rally, January 18-20, 2019 at Camp Blanding (near Starke) FL. Pre-Registration is required as it is on a military base.
6. **The November RAMS Meeting will be November 10, 2018 at: Joe's Restaurant & Steak House**
1410 W Market St, Bolivar, TN 38008 (731) 658-7255
Lunch will begin at 1200 and the meeting will be at 1:30.
Your host will be Paul Rhodes.
7. If you have an item you would like to see in the next meeting agenda, please get it to the Secretary by Wednesday prior to the meeting and it will be added to the next meeting agenda. This is not required for an item to be discussed, but it will make sure it gets in the mix. Send the information to: officers@bmwrms.com

VP's Corner

No VP input this month.

Treasurer's Reports

1. Balance in Bank plus petty cash = Not known due to no bank statement since last meeting.
2. Petty cash = \$ 50.00
3. Rough Rally Financials. See Rally Report

Movement to adjourn: Bryan Leonard
Second: Paul Whitworth
Approved unanimously

STUFF for SALE OR TRADE

Please let us know if your item sells!



2009 Aprilia Tuono approx. 10,300 miles – factory race stage computer program. Leo Vince Exhaust – new Bridgestone tires- Upgraded battery and starter wiring
\$5800.00

Call Everett Blanchard – 731-324-2276 or
everettblanchard@yahoo.com

Just for Fun!



"First of all, you're the one that wanted me to include your mother more and secondly, you gotta admire my ingenuity."



CONGRATULATIONS

2018 RAMS Rally Award Winners

Submitted by: Spencer Bennett

The following awards were presented at the 2018 RAMS Rally in Parkers Crossroads, TN.

The ceremony opened with the recognition of *Skeeter Kopacek who has achieved the milestone of 1 million BMW miles. He has done this over several decades and several motorcycles and it truly shows his dedication to the Marque and to the sport of motorcycle touring.*

The Rally Award Winners were:

Long Distance Male Rider- John Gerow from Lehigh Acres, FL.

Long Distance Female Rider – Patty Melik from Hot Springs Village, AR.

Long Distance Sidecar – Jeff Ackerman from Florissant, MO.

Long Distance 2 Up – Bud & Sue Karnes from Murphysboro, IL.

Long Distance Non-BMW – Gerald Strotheide from Bartelso, IL on a Triumph Tiger.

Oldest Male BMW Rider – Ron Homsher (82 on September 29)

Oldest Female BMW Rider – Pattie Melik

Oldest BMW Ridden to Rally – Danny Hovater (1975 R90/6)

Oldest Combination of Rider, Passenger, and Motorcycle – Bud & Susan Karnes (total was 179 years)

Youngest Male BMW Rider – Birender Singh Madan (36)

Youngest Female BMW Rider – Donna Clark

Youngest BMW Passenger – Rossi Casuso

Largest MOA Chartered Club Present – Gateway Riders (6 members)

The Poker Run was won by Jeff Ackerman with three 8's for a pot of \$65. He generously donated half of his winnings back to the RAMS For the 2019 Door Prize Fund.

Webmaster:

webmaster@bmwrams.com

Door Prize / Vendors

Email your articles and submissions to:
newsletter@bmwrams.com

Deadline for submissions to The Shaft is the 25th of each month with publication shortly thereafter!

The Shaft Editor:

Verla Price

newsletter@bmwrams.com

RAMS Officers:

President:

Larry Craig

Vice – Pres:

Birenderjit (Bir) Singh Madan

Secretary- Treasurer:

Spencer Bennett

officers@bmwrams.com

2018 RAMS Rally Chair

Steve Clark

Rally Co-Chair

Paul Whitworth

BMW Club
Riders Association
of the Mid South



BMW Riders Association
(Chartered Club #1)

www.bmridersclub.com/bm-wra.htm



BMW Club
Motorcycle Owners
of America



BMW Motorcycle Owners
of America (Chartered Club
#43)

<http://www.bmwmoa.org>