

# THE SHAFT



The Journal of the Riders Association of the Mid-South



<http://www.bmwrams.com>



*I have bought another motorcycle..... How did this happen?*

*I ask myself this question each time I buy a motorcycle. I have heard you can only ride one at a time. Of course, that's true. However, I like to have a few options to choose from, and we all know that we need different bikes for different types of riding.*

*Do I need another bike? I am not talking about needing one. I am talking about the day you look around and say to yourself for no reason I think I will start looking for another bike. Here is what usually happens to me.*

*I am inspired by something. A friend buys one. For example, a trials bike. Now I need one. I started looking for one. WHEW, these things are expensive. I should get a used one. Then I say to myself... I work hard, and I can afford it. I will buy a new one. NO...*

*That would ruin all the fun. The fun of looking for hours every night on motorcycle sales sites. The fun of all my riding buddies finding out I am looking for a motorcycle. Now they are all looking too. Everyone starts emailing listings and photos back and forth. Some of my geeky friends start looking up specs on the bikes and sending those to each other. VIDEOS! We find YouTube videos of some daredevil rider jumping his trials bike across some rocky mountain stream by hopping around on one wheel! Send those to each other. I can do it! I can ride like that. I must find a trails bike. Step up the hours looking for it.*

*Wait a minute. We start discussing the Hatfield and McCoy in the West Virginia/Kentucky area. We should go there in the spring. That's dirt bike territory. I have a dual sport, but I sold my dirt bike a few years back. Forget the Trials Bike. I must have a dirt bike! Repeat the scenario. Should I buy a new one? NO! We must look for used ones so we can text, email, call, send videos..... WHAT A BARGAIN we found one for \$1800, and it's near Everett. He goes to look at it wears them down to \$1400! I am singing and dancing in FL wishing I could ride it immediately. We need to fix it up of course. So it begins. The incredible deal will become a massive project. Money will be spent. Time will be invested. Soon I will have thousands in my used dirt bike. I could have bought two new ones. I will ride it for a three-day weekend and park it in a garage for a year with the other bikes. Yet, I am giddy. Please meet motorcycle number 4. My newly used and soon to be fixed up to perfection 2007 Honda CRF 230.*

*Now, where did I put all those emails about that Trials bike????????????????????*

*"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"*

*Velb Price*



# Interesting Rides/Road Trips



## TOURING BIKES

**March Moto Madness**  
**2019 - The Mother Rally**  
 3/28/2019 - 3/31/2019



Event Time: Gates open at 9:00 AM

Location: The Mother Rally  
 801 Steer Creek Rd  
 Tellico Plains, TN 37385

[https://mms.gsgiants.com/Calendar/moreinfo\\_responsive.php?eventid=8219&org\\_id=GSGI](https://mms.gsgiants.com/Calendar/moreinfo_responsive.php?eventid=8219&org_id=GSGI)

## SPORTS BIKES

**2019 GS Challenge**  
 Apr 26 at 4 PM – Apr 28 at 2 PM



Rogue Creek Rd, Potosi, MO 63664,

[https://www.facebook.com/events/769886126705823/?active\\_tab=about](https://www.facebook.com/events/769886126705823/?active_tab=about)

## 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.

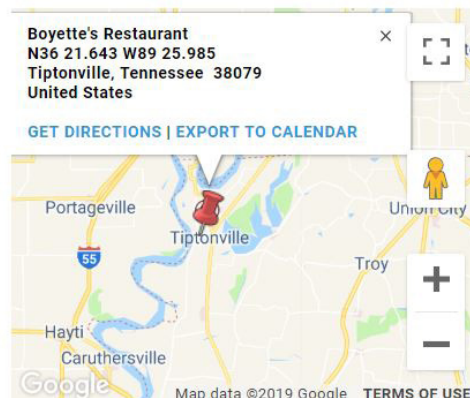
[www.bmwmoa.org/news/news.asp?id=396758](http://www.bmwmoa.org/news/news.asp?id=396758)

**RIDE TO EAT IN NW TENNESSEE AND CHECK OUT THE BALD EAGLES!**  
 4/6/2019

Where: Boyette's Restaurant  
 N36 21.643 W89 25.985  
 Tiptonville, Tennessee 38079

Presenter: BMW Riders Association of the Mid-South

Contact: Robert Rehkopf  
[CAPTREHKOPF@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CAPTREHKOPF@GMAIL.COM)



<https://www.bmwmoa.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1173195>





**Ladies Corner****FASHIONABLE MOTORCYCLE PANTS**

**GUARDIAN-G**  
Regular price \$299.00

<https://www.uglybro-susa.com/products/guardian-g>

**KLIM SAVANNA PANT**  
\$129.99 to \$149.99



<https://www.klim.com/Savanna-Pant-000?quantity=1&color=13>

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**Nearly 20 Percent Of Motorcycle Riders Are Women**

The number of women motorcycle riders is on the incline, mostly because of Millennials.

That's according to the latest national survey by the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC).

The study found that among all age groups, women make up 19 percent of motorcycle owners, compared with less than 10 percent less than a decade ago.

The survey found even greater ownership among younger generations. Among Millennials, 26 percent of motorcycle owners were women. Among Gen X, 22 percent were women.

"As the number of Boomers and mature motorcyclists shrink and are replaced by newer riders, we could soon be looking at a solid 25 percent of motorcycle owners being female," said Andria Yu, MIC director of communications. "We've seen with our own eyes."

The MIC polled more than 2,400 adults nationwide for the survey.

While the percentage of women riders may be on the rise, total ridership is struggling in the U.S. Overall Motorcycle sales have been stagnant since the Great Recession, with annual sales peaking in 2006.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2018/11/30/number-women-motorcycle-riders-u-s-grows-nearly-20-percent/2156000002/>

## *Flower Sniffin Events by Robert Rehkopf*

*Happy New Year to all,*

*I thought today is a good day to to start 2019 ride/trip planning with some pre-planned adventures. The below link for the Motorcycle Tourer's Forum give details about their up coming Flower Sniffin events. Flower Sniffin riding is all paved road with beautiful scenery, not speedy or distance rides, just a slower more casual Flower Sniffin pace.*

<http://www.mctourer.com/>

*May 1-5, Floyd VA*

*July 25-27 Gunnison, CO*

*Sept 26-28 Denver, PA*

*The MTF group is a great bunch of riders and you'll enjoy their socializing dinners, and camaraderie. Like the commercial says "try it you'll like it".*

*To register for the above rides there is NO cost for the ride, but you're welcome to give a \$5, etc. donation. I am registered for all three and would welcome any company. For these trips, I will be hoteling it the whole way. And riding at a Flower Sniffin pace.*

*Also, I am sponsoring a Iron Butt Association Saddlesore 1000 (1000/24hrs) and a BunBurner GOLD (1500/24hrs) on May 18, 2019. These rides require registration via the MTF web site.*

*Ride Safe,*

*Robert Rehkopf*

### *Widgets, Doohickey's & Gadgets*

#### *Duct Tape Key-Chain Holds an Emergency Stash of Duct Tape*

**\$20.00**



<https://odditymall.com/duct-tape-key-chain>

#### *Motorcycle Helmet Coffee Maker*

**\$99.95**



<https://odditymall.com/motorcycle-helmet-coffee-maker>

# BMW spokeys not okey-dokey

By Michael Mann

Spoked-wheel BMW bikes sold between February – June 2018 have the potential for one or a number of spokes to work loose. While no official recall has been issued because the potential issue is “not safety critical”, customers are being recommended to carry out “routine inspection and tightening of spokes”.

A BMW spokesman told BikeSocial, “A number of bikes were potentially affected, including R 1200 GS and R 1200 GS Adventure, R nineT Scrambler and R nineT Urban G/S.”

And while BMW “knows of no accident or catastrophic wheel failure caused by loose spokes,” our translation of that recommendation would be go to your local dealer and get them checked. It’s free. In the UK, fewer than 1,000 bikes fell within the specific production range and almost a quarter bikes that could potentially be affected were inspected prior to customer delivery.

The potential issue relates to the application of a specific coating applied to spoke nipples, which had the potential to cause insufficient spoke tension during initial tightening. BMW confirmed the manufacturing process has been changed to eliminate this potential issue but were also eager to point out the manufacturing process of the wheels and spokes were not to blame.

Dealers were notified of the service campaign, in October 2018, to ensure that wheels were checked and, if necessary, re-worked before delivery or at the time of a bike’s next scheduled service visit. A loose spoke – or number of loose spokes – may translate to a change in ride, noticeable to a rider.



## An e-mail from Art Manchester IV

Hey all you RAMS.

We have a busy year ahead of us. First thing I am looking for is Volunteers for the Memphis in May Triathlon. Second would be host for various meetings. Also, Getting everyone to the National Rally ( even if it’s by car ). The key to making this year a great experience for you, Is to look at our scheduled dates and plan to attend.

The Memphis in May Triathlon is going to be held May 18 and 19, at 6750 Kerrville Rosemark Millington, TN US 38053. We will need Riders to carry judges and some to ride and monitor the course.

Saturday, May 18

Carry Judges

1. Art Manchester

2.

3.

4.

Monitor the Course

1.

2.

3.

4.

Sunday May 19 The Big Event.

Carry Judges

1. Art Manchester

2.

3.

4.

Monitor the Course

1.

2.

3.

4.

Our BMW MOA National Rally June 13,14,15,and 16 / and Beer garden volunteers

1. Art and Crystal will be riding up. / and Beer volunteers

2.

3.

4.

Thanks for signing up,

Art #4

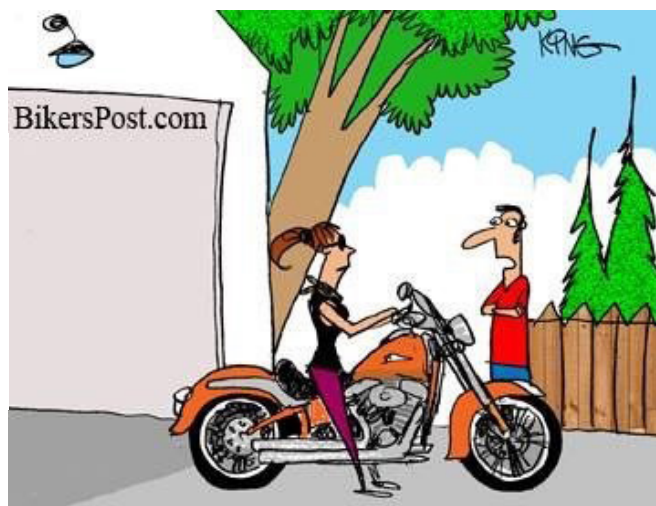
Contact Art Manchester IV

[art04rt@gmail.com](mailto:art04rt@gmail.com)



*Just for Fun!*

*"You forgot another item? This is the 15th time you're going back to the store. I'm starting to think you're just looking for a reason to ride your new motorcycle."*



*Members Submitted Photos*

## *Pop's in Millington, TN*

*Breakfast and the Ride was great. I hope to repeat soon!*

*By By Pedro Casuso*





Minutes by: Spencer Bennett

### **RAMS Meeting Minutes –April 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Birenderjit Singh Madan on January 12, 2019 at 1:30 pm at Fox Ridge Pizza in Cordova, TN. There were 31 RAMS and 1 bike in attendance.

#### **Call to Order**

1. We have 1 new member for this month.  
James & Caffie Chambers who live in Brandon, MS and ride a K1600 GT.
2. We currently have 48 new and returning members for 2019.
3. There were no guests for the meeting.
4. Birender extended Thanks to the meeting hosts: RAMS 2018 Officers

#### **New Business**

1. Nominations were opened for the 2019 RAMS Officers. The nominations were re-opened for the positions of President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer. The following nominations have been made and accepted by the nominees:

**President:** Art Manchester IV – Nominated by Paul Whitworth, Seconded by Spencer Bennett.

**Vice-President:** Paul Whitworth – Nominated by Birender Madan, Seconded by Hank Widdop.

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Spencer Bennett – Nominated by Steve Clark, Seconded by Larry Craig.

Birender then moved to close nominations. The motion was seconded by Spencer Bennett and approved by unanimous vote.

2. Spencer Bennett moved that, since there was one nominee for each position, the nominees be elected by acclamation. This was seconded by Birender Madan and passed on voice vote.

3. The RAMS 2019 Officers are:

President: Art Manchester IV

Vice- President: Paul Whitworth

Secretary/Treasurer: Spencer Bennett

4. The duties of the President were passed to Art Manchester IV and he gave a short speech on his plans for the coming year which are to try and make the RAMS and the RAMS Rally more inclusive of other brands of bikes and to try and increase the amount of club rides we conduct.

### **RAMS Rally Update**

1. Bryan Leonard stated that the RAMS Rally information has been sent to the BMW MOA and The BMW RA for inclusion in their respective magazines.
2. Brian asked for the list of volunteers to head the RMS Rally Committees and they are listed below along with the volunteer filling the Chair Position for each Committee:

- **Registration – Spencer Bennett**
- **Door Prizes and Vendors – Greg LieVan**
- **Coffee and Refreshments – Dave Kintzele / Steve Hamilton**
- **Food – Paul Whitworth**
- **Wood – Handled by PCRV**
- **Trash and Sanitation -**
- **Trailer -**

## **Next Meeting: January 9, 2019**

### **My Favorite Place Mexican Restaurant**

**880 N Germantown Pkwy, Cordova, TN 38018**

**Lunch will begin at 12:00 and the Meeting at 1:30**

- **Rides – Rodger Moring**
- **“T” Shirt Sales -**
- **Bike Show – Donna Clark**
- **Publicity and advertising – Verla Price**
- **Flea Market – Marshall Robilio / Fred Bradley**
- **Signage -**
- **Awards – Spencer Bennett**

3. There was a motion made by Hank Widdop, seconded by Paul Whitworth that the RAMS send a Free 2019 Rally Admission to the Northeast Florida Rally as a Door Prize. This was approved by unanimous voice vote and it was also decided to have the Secretary/Treasurer print up some RAMS Rally Flyers for distribution at this rally.

4. The Rally Co-Chairs plan to set up a meeting with PCR Management to let them know what is going on.

#### **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.
4. RAMS Rally Cups are available for \$5.00 ea. Please let an officer know if you want to purchase one or more to complete your set. We also have some sizes of the 2018 RAMS Rally Shirts (the yellow ones) for sale for \$10.00 each.

#### **For the Good of the Club**

1. Check RAMS website for rally schedules.
2. Robert Rehkopf announced that he will be hosting a **Ride to Eat at Boyette's Restaurant in Tiptonville, TN on April 6, 2019 from 11 am to 2 pm.**
3. Robert will also be hosting three Iron Butt Association Certificate rides on May 18, 2019. There will be two Saddle Sore 1000's to choose from and a Butt Burner Gold 1500 as well. Please get with Robert for full details.
4. Hank Widdop announced that he plans to do a series of Sunday Rides and he has located a breakfast place in Millington that can serve as a destination, starting point, or waypoint on these rides. Please watch your e-mail for specific dates and times.
5. The February RAMS Meeting will be January 9, 2019 at:

### **My Favorite Place Mexican Restaurant**

**880 N Germantown Pkwy, Cordova, TN 3801**

**Lunch will begin at 12:00 and meeting will follow at 1:30.**

**We need some RAMS Meeting Hosts for the coming year.  
The current list of months and hosts is:**

*February 9 – Host Needed*

*March 9 – Host Needed*

*April 13 – Bennett & Dale Families at Village Creek State Park, AR.*

*May 11 – Michael Hart at Hartwood Campground, Waterloo, AL.*

*June 8 – Host Needed*

*July 13 – Host Needed*

*August – Manchester Family at My Favorite Place in Cordova, TN.*

*September 14 – Host Needed*

*October 12 – Host Needed*

*November 9 – Paul Rhodes at Joe's Restaurant, Boliver, TN.*

*December 14 – Host Needed (This is the Christmas Party and is an evening meeting)*

6. Fred Bradley asked the question: "Have the RAMS considered other locations for the RAMS Rally?" This generated a good deal of discussion on the issue of the importance of the Rally's location and what is available in the local area to draw attendance. Fred feels that there needs to be more to do on site or within walking distance of the rally. He mentioned that the present location has almost nothing to do on site and that the previous site had other than rally activities close by. He felt that the RAMS need to investigate some other potential rally sites, perhaps nearer to the Shiloh National Park or Pickwick Lake to see what is available before we get close to the end of our current agreement, which runs through 2020.

He then asked the question: "Do we need to do the Rally?" Paul Whitworth responded that the RAMS Rally is the principle activity of the club and without it as a focal point he does not feel the RAMS would survive as they are. Robert Rehkopf stated that he concurred with the viewpoint that the RAMS should not do the rally but save the money spent on it to do other things.

Hank Widdop then shifted back to the original question about location by stating that the biggest benefit to doing the RAMS Rally at PCRV was that the community actually wanted us there and welcomed us every year, which was not the case at the previous location.

The discussion was left at this point and Fred will likely look into some other locations or possibly form up a group of RAMS to look into what is available in the Shiloh National Park/Pickwick Lake area.

7. Donna Clark and Allison Gifford will be Chairing the Children's Activities Program at the MOA National in Lebanon, and they may need some help. She also said that the MOA Rally folks said that it would be a good club activity for the RAMS to take a shift at the Beer Garden. Donna will look into this and figure out if there is enough interest among the RAMS for us to do it.

8. 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@bmwrams.com](mailto:officers@bmwrams.com)

### VP's Corner

1. The Vice – President, Paul Whitworth, thanked everyone for their support and stated that one of his main goals is to have more RAMS Rides the year.

### Treasurer's Reports

1. Balance in Bank plus petty cash = \$5938.03
2. Petty cash = \$ 50.00
3. RAMS 2018 Business report was available for review and questions. No questions were asked.

**Movement to adjourn: Hank Widdop 2nd-Paul Whitworth  
Approved unanimously.**

Webmaster:

[webmaster@bmwrams.com](mailto:webmaster@bmwrams.com)

Door Prize / Vendors

*Email your articles and submissions to:  
[newsletter@bmwrams.com](mailto:newsletter@bmwrams.com)*

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



BMW Riders Association  
(Chartered Club #1)  
[www.bmridersclub.com/bmwra.htm](http://www.bmridersclub.com/bmwra.htm)

**The Shaft Editor:**

Verla Price

[newsletter@bmwrams.com](mailto:newsletter@bmwrams.com)

**RAMS Officers:**

**President:**

Art Manchester IV

**Vice – Pres:**

Paul Whitworth

**Secretary- Treasurer:**

Spencer Bennett

[officers@bmwrams.com](mailto:officers@bmwrams.com)

**2018 RAMS Rally Chair**

Steve Clark

**Rally Co-Chair**

Paul Whitworth

**BMW Club  
Riders Association  
of the Mid South**



BMW Club  
Motorcycle Owners  
of America



BMW Motorcycle Owners  
of America (Chartered Club  
#43)

<http://www.bmwmoa.org>