



Editor's Corner

Well, although it is, once again, a little late, you are still seeing a newsletter – which means, I have decided to continue boring you with my drivel – for the time being!

Thanks to all of you for the flowers and compliments handed my way for doing this when I suggested we should eliminate it. I had no idea that this newsletter was such an important part of club life for some!

As you may know, Cindy and I took a few days out and travelled with another motorcycle club I am part of, to the Smokey Montains. We stayed in a place called Fontana Village, which is only about 9 miles away from "The Road" – the Tail of the Dragon, Rte 129 in NC and TN.

I have said it before, and I have to confirm my opinion, the "Dragon" is a pita., and I would not be sad, if I would never ride it again.

The roads around it, Rte 28 and the Cherahola Skyway, even the BRP some 35 miles away are so much nicer.

And then again, once you are near there, you HAVE to go over it, at least once.



But hanging out in the parking lot at the resort and do some people-watching is almost more fun! Motorcyclers are a crazy bunch, aren't we?

Mike

June seemed to be the month for some of our members to take a little trip on the motorcycle. Those we know of are Bill and Donna Vair and Dana and Julie McMahan to Ireland, Jeff and Justin Summers on a no-destination ride and Mike and Cindy Simon to the Smokey Mountains. Maybe some more that escaped unnoticed! Hopefully, by the time you read this, everybody is back home safely.

Just around the corner is **AMA Vintage Days at Mid-Ohio** and for the first time again in a while, BMW will be there with the demo fleet. Mark your calendars to book a ride! **July 10 – 12.**

Our rally rats can't wait for the **MOA (Inter-)National** in Billings, MT and they have all their camping gear laid out already to load on the bike. **July 23-25**



On the "New Bike" front, **Honda** is finally joining the Dual Sport Adventure insanity also with a rebirth of the Africa Twin for 2016.

A 1000cc paralell twin with 17" front AND rear wheels and dual clutch transmission. Aluminum twin spar frame should make it a lighter package than most of the competitors.

MCN- Motorcycle Consumer news tested the R1200R and gave it a "not far from perfect" rating. It is indeed an appealing bike, something that could take us back to simpler times.



Our 3-wheel afficionados may be happy to hear that **BRP** delivered the 100,000th **Can-Am Spyder!** With so many made and sold, it can't be all that bad. (How did that McDonald's slogan go again?)

For all of you who think you are getting older – 2015 marks the 40th anniversary of the **Honda Goldwing!** Remember that? Seems like just a few years ago. That same year, 1975, BMW's flagship was the 90/6 in the R90S variety. The first K-bike did not come until 1983. And 50 years ago – some of our younger members weren't even born yet – Honda introduced the then sensational CB450 Super Sport, a 444cc DOHC, commonly known as the "Black Bomber"



BMW Motorcycle Club of Akron, BMW MOA Charter No 21. 1972
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A Presidential Address:

Due to me being a procrastinator par excellence, this column is a tad outdated. Sorry, Jeff - the Ed.

Hello members:

Greetings from my old Kentucky home State Park. This is the fourth day of my Bucket List No Destination Bike Ride with my son Justin. Ironically, we did a bike ride in Texas the week before he was deployed when we invaded Iraq in 2003. He leaves for Bahrain in August.

Several topics were discussed at the last club meeting including the canceled poker run, 'why we're a club', events, and this newsletter! Thanks to the folks who planned and organized the 2015 Poker Run. Unfortunately, Mother Nature wasn't on the planning committee and she rained on our parade. We as a club need to continue to discuss the future and purpose of our long standing tradition.

There was also much discussion after Mike Simon stated that because of new technologies like Facebook, our new website, and the ability to mass email the members, he is considering eliminating the monthly newsletter.

While I agree these new communication avenues are great, the newsletter is one of my most favorite things about our club! I look forward to Mike's insights, comments on life, motorcycle news, and his German attempt at humor! Based on the response from members at the meeting, I'm not alone when I hope Mike will reconsider!!!

Back to The Bourbon Trail....

Jeff