



UNDER THE HELMET

WWW.RMBRC.ORG

MOA CHARTER #321

Upcoming Rides/Events

Saturday Casual Rides

Usually there is a weekly option to ride, meet, or enjoy one another's company. The meeting spot is on Saturdays at Sam's #3 (corner of Havana & Parket Rd.) for breakfast. During the summer months the meet time is usually 8:00 am and during the winter months it is usually 9:00 am for breakfast and then 10:00 am for the ride departing from BMW of Denver just a few blocks away.

Platte Valley Airport Vintage Fly-In-May 16 or 17

This ride will be two daily rides towards Hudson, CO at the Platte Valley Airport. You can choose to go either Saturday or Sunday depending on your schedule. Andy Park proudly maintains the legacy and history of WW 1 pilots at the Lafayette Escadrille Flying Museum. The collection includes the pilots' original uniform, memorabilia, and some aircraft. Lunch will be provided at the location for a nominal fee and the museum admission is free. The departure each day will be from BMW Denver at 9:00 am for the ride North. (Total 91 miles) Ride Captain is Wayne Sheffield and you can contact him for more information at (303) 795-3623 or rides@rmbrc.org.

Moab and Southern Utah-May 23-25

This will be a 3 day ride with an optional extension to a 5 day. This ride will be West on I-70 to Utah and Moab with an overnight there. The 2nd day will be a ride around Arches National Park. The 3rd day will either be a ride back home to Denver area or ride South to the next phase of the national parks tour including Natural Bridges, Capitol Reef, Escalante, Bryce and Glen Canyon. The ride back will be through the Northern Arizona Navajo Indian Reservation, Million Dollar Highway, Durango and back to Denver. Ride Captain is Pere Wickes. Contact him at vicepresident@rmbrc.org Or (303) 690-9269

April Club Meeting By Dave Fiack

General Membership Meeting was held on April 2, 2009.

There were 20 club members in attendance, to enjoy the presentation from Dan Ballard from Bitchn Stitchn, Inc. They're in the business of supplying or modifying motorcycle seats for any make or model.

Bitchn Stitchn has been primarily working on Harley Davidson seats. Dan has seen the need to expand to other makes and models.

It was very interesting to learn about their method of fitting a seat to the customer and ensuring complete satisfaction. The process begins with a customer interview to determine type of riding, generally how much distance is covered in an average day, and what are the likes and dislikes of their current seat. The customer's bike is then set up on a rack in Dan's shop and the fitting process begins. After the seat is built for the customer, they are encouraged to do at least a 100 mile ride then return to the shop for adjustments if necessary. Dan repeatedly emphasized the success of his business to built around customer satisfaction.

Dan talked about the different materials he uses, the pros/cons of leather vs. vinyl, and the use of gel and foam in the construction of the seat. If you are interested a seat heating system can be installed using a very low amperage draw unit. A variation of different back-rests, for both rider and passenger were brought for display.

At the conclusion there were several questions from the membership. Dan encouraged everyone to visit his shop in Lakewood to view the facility and get more detailed answers to their questions. Bitchn Stitchn is located at 11354 W. 13th Avenue, Lakewood, CO 80215 Tel: (303) 238-5404 or on the web at www.bitchnstitchninc.com



2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

With the start of a new year, it is time to announce the 2009 RMBRC

Board of Directors:

President:	Dave Fiack	president@rmbrc.org
Vice President:	Pere Wickes	vicepresident@rmbrc.org
Secretary:	Rick Valdez	secretary@rmbrc.org
Treasurer:	Tom Doggett	treasurer@rmbrc.org
Board Member:	Robert Wright	rwright956@aol.com
Board Member:	Mike Fox	foxer_boxer@msn.com
Board Member:	Chris Spanos, Sr.	programs@rmbrc.org
Membership	Dan Kearney	membership@rmbrc.org

Club Membership information is available online at
www.rmbrc.org or contact Dan Kearney at (303) 582-3384

CLUB STORE

We are now stocked with many items for sale from our Club Store. We are in need of a volunteer to help keep items in stock and bring them to any meetings or events for sale to members and non members. Contact Ed Padalinski (720)384-5855 or Chris Spanos, Sr. (303) 340-1317 for items and/or to volunteer for our 1st Club Store Chairperson.

Club Polo Shirts \$25.00

Club Decals \$3.00

Club Pins \$5.00

Club Hats \$16.00

Club Activities:

-All Monthly Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at the Windsor Gardens Restaurant 597 S Clinton St. in Denver (unless otherwise noted). The Meetings begin at 7pm and food is served from 5pm to 630pm.

-Please note that the next meeting will be held at the WindsorGardens Restaurant on Thursday, May 7 2009.

-All Monthly Board Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month at 700pm in the Main Conference Room at the Parker Library. All members are welcome to attend!

DVD Club Library

We are going to make another attempt at having DVD's available to members to check out/return at our monthly meetings. Any member who has a motorcycle related DVD that they would like to lend to other members should bring it to monthly membership meeting. Rick Valdez will be the Head Librarian responsible to see that the DVD's are tracked. DVD's will be lent out for a month (till the next membership meeting), and stern discipline will be handed out to members who do not return the DVD's on time. We'll put a list of the DVD's available to check out on our web site.

Do not forget the Monthly Raffle. Last months winners received several very nice gifts as donated from our many fine sponsors. It could be your chance to win next month, but you must be present to win!!

CLASSIFIED ADS TO PLACE YOUR AD CONTACT EDITOR@RMBRC.ORG**WANTED: Permanent Part Time Sales Associate**

24 hours/week, flexible hours, fun environment NO sales experience necessary BUT an experienced rider is preferred. Please contact Mary or Ed at **MotoGear Outlet at (303) 456-4757**

FOR SALE: Carolina Riding Boots

Knee-high riding boots, size 11, black with buckles across tongue and very top of the boot. Good condition, only worn a few times. \$75 OBO. Please contact John Walt at (303) 881-8354 or at walt_john@yahoo.com

RMBRC CLUB SPONSORS

RMBRC would once again like to thank the generosity and continued support of our club sponsors. Please understand that many of the activities of your club would not be possible without the financial support from these fine organizations. Let's ensure that we thank them by purchasing their goods and services.

Don't forget, one of the benefits of membership in the Rocky Mountain BMW Riders Club are the member discounts at BMW of Denver and MotoGear Outlet.



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Motomarathon-Contributed by Ed Padalinski

In 1986, a small group of motorcyclists tried to ride as many mountain passes as they could over a long weekend. Since then, "compressing as many passes as possible into the classic four-day motorcycle sport-touring getaway became an obsession," said founding Route master John Metzger of Boulder, whom has organized annual Pass Rides ever since.

Re-defining motorcycle sport touring.....Moto Marathon is a new sport. It's about riding as many twisties as possible, over four full days. Routes are kept secret until the night before each event. Through a series of self-recorded checkpoints, riders verify completion at the end of each day's ride.

The inaugural Colorado Motomarathon is set for June 12-15, 2009. More events are being created, and overall standing and the annual championship will be recorded and maintained on this site by the Motomarathon Association. For a complete posting of events, criteria, and standings, please visit www.motomarathon.com



RMBRC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE-FOOTHILLS BMW/TRIUMPH

Come join fellow members of the RMBRC at Foothills BMW/Triumph on Saturday, May 9 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. It will be a good opportunity to check out the new BMW & Triumph models for 2009/2010, gear, accessories and parts. Remember that Foothills BMW is also a sponsor of the RMBRC, so this would be a good way to show your support by visiting their fine dealership.

Foothills BMW/Triumph is located at 1435 Wadsworth Blvd. in Lakewood. They can be reached at (303) 202-1400 or on the web at www.foothillsbmw.com

Toy of the Month

Held Phantom Gloves

The Held Phantom gloves are a top-of-the-line racing glove, with a top-of-the-line price to match. Even though these beauties are pricey, they are worth the extra green.

Like many Held glove models certain sections of the Phantoms are made from get this **kangaroo** hide, including the back and the pre-curved palms. If you haven't already heard, kangaroo hide provides excellent protection along with stellar feel.

Other features include Kevlar in several finger sections, carbon fiber knuckle protection, and tough stingray leather on the outside of the glove and fingers. The left glove even has a rubber visor wiper. Velcro secures the cuffs and wrist gauntlet.

If only the best in protection and comfort will do, then consider the Held Phantom gloves. Held-\$279; (877) 294-2920; www.kneedraggers.com

NORTHERN COLORADO EURO MOTORCYCLES




e-Newsletter



DUCATI 

TRIUMPH



Northern Colorado Euro Motorcycles is an official dealership/service shop for BMW, Ducati, Triumph and Husqvarna motorcycles. They are located at 6002 Byrn Drive in Loveland, Colorado.

Michael and Lynne Hendry, owners of Foothills BMW/TRIUMPH Motorcycles in Lakewood, Colorado purchased Northern Colorado Euro Motorcycles in April 2008. They knew going in there were some major challenges that would have to be faced but were confident that, with the excellent procedures, processes and experiences from Foothills, they could turn all these challenges in to opportunities.....and so far it looks like they have.

Our greatest opportunity for improvement here at Northern Colorado Euro motorcycles was in the Service Department. We quickly went about getting "our type" of personnel there. We looked for people with a service ethic who enjoy motorcycles and it's community as well have a willingness to work hard and serve the riders of the brands we represent. We now have a great service leadership in place with Dominic Medina, our Service Manager and Josh Leitch, the customer service specialist. We also have technicians that are factory trained and OEM qualified for each brand. However, these guys are also cross-trained in all makes and models so they can help each other out depending on the work load.

Below is a brief summary of our service personnel. We encourage you to please come visit, meet with them and give them an opportunity to work on your bike. You won't be disappointed!

BMW OF DENVER 2009 DEMO EVENT MAY 16

Head by BMW of Denver as they host BMW's only Colorado stop for 2009. Sample the new models from BMW as well as talk to various vendors about their products. Door prizes, food and drink, parts and apparel specials, along with vehicle displays from the Aurora police Department.

Just a note, get here early to sign up for demo rides because they fill up fast! Can't make it to the event? No problem. We have many of the new models for you to test ride at our store as well. Call Chris or Matt today to schedule a ride on a new 2009 BMW today!

more happenings during the event.....

- **Vendors on site-savings for this event only!**
- **Motorcycle Rider Training Center Instructors**
- **Vehicle displays from Aurora Police Department**
- **Various local clubs**
- **Door prizes**
- **Food and beverages**

ANATOMY OF A CRASH BY PERE WICKES

Crash can happen to anyone at any time! We are NOT invincible! (Drats)

I have been riding BMW's for over 33 years, and during the last year alone, rode over 30,000 miles on the one year old '07 R1200RT that was involved in the crash.

The crash was caused by my not paying attention for a second, and rear ending a Chevy blazer with a spare on the rear door. Ouch. Bike was still in 6th gear when we picked it up off the road. Happened on Parker Road Northbound, ¼ mile before Arapahoe.

Protection: I was wearing my BMW jacket, heavy pants, but not riding pants, and no helmet. The BMW bike design helped prevent bodily injury greatly.

The ABS kept the bike upright and straight until impact (just like in the advanced rider course) and then according to the marks on Parker road, we slid for about 40 feet.

Damage: The tank bag on the RT helped keep me from vaulting over the bike, and I went straight forward, striking the Tom Tom GPS with my left shoulder, the windshield keeping me from going through the car back window. The front of the RT took the impact, and the highway scrapes were on the left side.

The BMW Jacket protected my shoulder from going toast, since the pad is over top of the shoulder (unlike ALL my other riding jackets (4 other brands), and the sliding on the cement pavement hardly scraped the jacket at all. Only with a close look would you see it was on the street. Since I was not wearing my riding pants with the knee pads, my left knee got scraped and scabbed. No helmet, my head had a abrasion on the left forehead from the pavement, which healed in a few days. The shoulder is still sore, and the knee scab is almost gone a month later. I made it through hives, from the body trauma in healing.

I rode the bike home from the accident scene on Monday, and on Tue rode it to BMW Denver, where it was pronounced dead and totaled. Gads that raises the expense!! Instead of \$500 deductible, it turns into \$\$thousands. Total means: agree on value with insurance, pay off loan, and find/replace Beemer, get new loan, then have accessories transferred to the new bike. Chees, and when all the plastic panels come painted for repair, it could have been so simple to just fix it.

The help from BMW Denver was incredible. Their empathy and assistance was priceless. They worked as a team with Service, parts, and sales to settle with the insurance, get me a replacement steed, and get the options transferred to the new Beemer. This should all be completed at the 600 mile service in a week or two, before the Moab rally pre run. The crash bike was an 07 and the replacement is an 09, now with a 7 year maintenance contract (got lots of options) and yes, they do keep building them better.

In summary, keep your head where the Sun shines at **all** times, wear (the best you can) protective gear, it's the gear or your skin, skin heals slowly and bleeds. (Or is it my old age?) I figure I used up my safety chips, and now we will ALL have helmets on the rides. A second of distraction, costs about \$330,000 an hour.

Ride safe, and keep the wheels DOWN.

Pere