



B.M.O.A.

British Motorcycle Owners Association
of Houston, Texas

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<http://www.bmoaonline.com>

Chartered Club



Kick Start

 by Jerry Caves, President

Rain, rain and more rain over the past couple of months kept me from getting out and riding as much as I would have liked to. The upside was when the weather permitted, it was much cooler than normal for this time of the year so motorcycling was much more enjoyable.

As you all know, we lost a Club member and friend, David Porter. The BMOA had a nice turnout of motorcycles at his funeral in Deer Park. I know David would have appreciated the Club's participation. He will be missed by all, and I personally will miss his loyal participation at all of the BMOA meetings and events.

Cliff Holland, British USA/Gulf Coast BMW on July 22nd had his 2nd annual Red Bull USGA Party & Bike Show. I hope we can get a report from one of the members regarding this event.

On August 18th, the Gypsy M/C is having their annual Beach Bash down at Surfside, TX. This might be a great opportunity for us to get together for a day ride and have a nice outing. I met a few of the Gypsy's last year at the Harvest Classic, and they are a good group of people.

Speaking of the Harvest Classic rally, if you do an advance online registration (\$25.00 per person, \$40.00 per couple) you get a bonus this year. Normally for your registration fee you get a T-shirt, Saturday night BBQ dinner, a movie and camping is included. This year, in addition is a free subscription to Ride Texas magazine. Please remember, 100% of the proceeds go to the Candlelighters Childhood Cancer foundation, which is such a worthy cause. Your BMOA Club is an active supporter of this event, so come on out and have a great time. Advanced registration can be made at www.harvestclassic.org.

See you all at the August 1st. meeting

Ride safe and as often as you can.

Jerry

June Meeting – June 6th, 2007

Meeting was called to order by the Sergeant at Arms, Les Means and opened by the President, Jerry Caves, at 7:35.

We had a guest, a pretty lady named Julie was with Jeff Meyers (his sister).

Old Business

WEBSITE – Thanks given to Jack Updyke for a great website. Send items of interest to Jack for posting on the website.

NEWSLETTER – Thanks given to Gale Gorman for editing the newsletter. Send items of interest to Gale for publication.

MEMBERSHIP - Print an application form off the website or from this newsletter and either give it or mail it to Danny Hall.

Annual dues were due on January 1st. If you haven't turned in your renewal, please take care of it this month. Make sure to submit your payment with a renewal form so we can keep an accurate record of receipts and contact information.

New Business

TREASURER'S REPORT – Danny Hall presented our financial report for the New Ulm Rally.

David (Twitchy) Porter's Funeral – Visitation will be this coming Friday from 5 to 9 at the funeral home. Everyone was encouraged to attend riding a motorcycle. Twitchy's funeral will be Saturday at 3 pm, at Grandview Funeral Home, 8501 Spencer Hwy., Pasadena, TX 77505.

SUMMER PARTY – Danny Hall extended an invitation for a Summer Party at his place in Fayetteville. Stay tuned for the date and directions.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION – Newsletters are distributed on line and via snail mail at the member's choice. Please advise Gale Gorman if your preference has changed or you have difficulty receiving the newsletter.

WEBSITE – Jack Updyke has taken on the task of getting the BMOA website running again. Jack does websites for a living and has solicited the BMOA membership for suggestions. Jack can be contacted at jupdyke@progenda.com or (713) 385-4295. His web site is www.progenda.com. Please offer suggestions areas of interest or offers to help.

We adjourned at 8:00.

ATTENDANCE – 27

NEXT MEETING – August 1, 2007



August Meeting – 1st Wednesday (8/1/07)

2007 Calendar of Events

(also check the website www.bmoaonline.com for any last minute updates)

Regular Events

- **BMOA of Houston** – First Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the *Hickory Hollow Restaurant* (101 Heights Blvd.) Come early for good bar-b-que, stay late for bench racing, tire kicking, riding, and whatever.
- **Ming's Café** (Excellent Cantonese/Hunan Chinese fast food) Thursdays Informal gathering of (usually) European motorcyclists — 8:00 PM to... (2702 Montrose Blvd. ♦ Houston, TX. 77006 ♦ 713-529-7888)

August	1 st	BMOA Monthly meeting
September	5 th	BMOA Monthly meeting
October	3 rd 5 th – 7 th 12 th – 14 th 19 th – 20 th	BMOA Monthly meeting NTNOA Lake 'o the Pines Rally BMOA Bandera Weekend Harvest Classic Rally – Luckenbach
November	7 th 24 th	BMOA Monthly meeting British USA Annual Open House
December	5 th	BMOA Monthly meeting

Other picnics and rides scheduled as interest and weather permits.

The TON UP Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Cosmo's.

We're running out of events for 2007 but then the year is almost gone too.

MINUTES OF MEETING

June 1, 2007

POST RALLYE DISCUSSION TOPICS

2007 Rallye: (Preliminary Numbers)

Attendance - 550±
Net Income - \$

General:

Do we want to grow and how much

Agreed we desire to remain at Fireman's Park and as such the space will allow for limited growth.

Should we open up rallye to more bikes than British & European

Agreed we stay with the theme of British & European as per the BMOA bylaws.

Expand advertising

Agreed better advertising is necessary. Utilize event calendar in available Vintage Motorcycle periodicals and flyers at Polaris West, BMW – Triumph North, British USA, Wild West BMW.

Do we get porta potties for additional facilities

Agreed to investigate cost of 4each and rallye committee to decide.

Charity:

Should we name one charity or a number as we did in 2006

Agreed to propose to membership that President chose the Charity. The job has to have some perk, but the charity has to be a recognized charity that can be used for advertising.

One suggestion was the selected charity should assist with manning the booth at the rallye (you do not get something for nothing). We can also open the rallye up to silent auction / raffle of items donated to the charity.

Facilities:

RV parking areas

There are only 11 RV sites with hook ups. The base ball field can be used provided we confirm there are no conflicting base ball games.

Saturday ball games create serious insurance problem

This conflict will be avoided in the future. It should not have happened.

Space limitations at Firemans Park

We do not effectively utilize the covered area. The rallye committee to consider how this area may be better utilized say for Antique Bike Display with less dust.

Registration:

Fees:

Increase of fees for all attendees

Agreed that day passes to remain at \$10 per person – no increase.

Agreed that member's fee of \$30 for member or \$40 for family to be reviewed.
Seems members may be paying more for same benefits
Should door prize tickets be given for \$10 entry?
Does different categories of entry make it too difficult on staff?
Discussed proceeds from Rallye going to Charity (excludes sale of club items)

Discount for being a club member

Agreed only on a pre-registration discount basis
Agreed rallye committee to consider "pre-registration discount"

Use of Pay Pal for dues and registrations

Agreed to look into way to electronically pay and register on web site.

Field Events:

Add two more events – Barrel Roll and Obstacle Course with Water

Agreed to table for consideration by Rallye Committee

Change/No Change to start time

Agreed current start time for field events is okay

Add classes for Hinckley Triumphs in Slow Race and Drags

Agreed, more emphasis on Hinckley Triumphs is necessary

Bike Show:

Add tabs to Bike Show registration book

Keith to handle as this will make it faster and easier to register bikes for show.

Add "Class" line so participants can try to determine which class

Keith to revise as necessary.

Call all place winners up to table and make presentation at same time

Agreed, it will make awards go faster

Elimination of Third place in all classes

Agreed – Rallye Committee just needs to tell McGill what trophies to buy.

Color background on trophy plaques

Agreed – 1st place = Blue background; 2nd place = red background

Expand classes for Hinckley Triumphs

Agreed – need Hinckley riders to advise appropriate classes.

NEED KIDS RIBBONS OR MEDALS

Other Items

- Fireworks is an issue to be discouraged.
- Membership – Consider BMOA providing a subscription to Vintage Bike to members who pay dues by January 31. Vintage Bike will honor \$15 / subscription group rate.
- BMOA Event schedule to be on web site

Editor's note:

Twitchy's Last Ride

Everyone knows by now that David "Twitchy" Porter was taken by ambulance from the Rally at New Ulm on Saturday evening to a hospital in Bryan. He did not recover this time.

He was too young to pass away at 55 but then there is not a good age for leaving this life. He looked good reposed in his jeans and leather vest with a B.M.O.A. cap over his hands.

Twenty five motorcycles lead his procession from the funeral to his final resting place. Jeff Meyers rode Twitchy's motorcycle.

Jerry Caves and Dan Farr each took the lectern to give a eulogy and with their permission I've included the text here;

From Jerry:

David "Twitchy" Porter

My name is Jerry Caves, and I knew David through the British Motorcycle Owners Association. David was our Club's Ride Coordinator and the coordinator for our "Fun Run" at our annual Rally. David attended all the meetings; I can't remember him missing one. He planned and led club members on many enjoyable rides throughout the years. David was a faithful BMOA member and participated in all of our events.

Something I would like to say on David's behalf, today, as we honor his memory, "All the Important People are here." If you have been around David much, you were sure to have heard that comment from him. We've all met someone that says or does something that is memorable, and this is one for me. I'll never forget it.

I've known that David had some health issues, but I never thought I'd be up here talking to you today. I still can't believe he's gone. My last memories of David, were at the Club's annual Rally we held in New Ulm, TX in May. He and I and other friends camped near each other under some oak trees at the Fireman's Park. That Friday night a few of us sat around listening to blues music and talking. Saturday morning, I remember David coming over to the Registration desk to set up for the "Fun Run." David's "Fun Run" helps generate income for the Club, which in turn is donated to worthy, charitable causes. It was very busy that day, and the next time I saw David was when he came to announce his winners at the Field Events desk.

Later that afternoon, I saw David at the front of the park with the EMT people, and he was taken to the hospital. Without a doubt, I believe David truly loved what he was doing, he loved going to Rallies.

We will all miss David Porter, known as "Twitchy" by some. He was a friend and a great Club member, God Bless him.

In closing, as we pay our final respects to David,

"All the Important People are truly here"

And then from Dan Farr:

I am here today to share my remembrance of David

I only know David through the BMOA and please take no offence when I say when first met David I was offended; offended by sight, offended by sound, offended by smell (I had given up smoking).

I was sure I would only know David from a long distance.

At a Concan rallye, I happened to ride behind David for a while, I was there when he got his nickname, "Twitchy." When he rode his motorcycle a lot of things were in motion, all at the same time. It was a scary sight.

Again, I was sure I would only know David from a long distance, I gave him lots of room.

Soon after, the BMOA was invited to display Classic old motorcycles at a small art gallery in Keema. It was an Art of the Motorcycle type event. David knew his Triumph was a piece of art.

I arrived a bit late with some old bikes for display. I observed David with the Art Director. I could only imagine what was in her mind at the time.

As it turned out, David was coordinating, communicating and helping the Art Director wonderfully. His actions represented himself and the BMOA wonderfully.

I guess you could say he was "colorful" to an artist eye. This was my first insight to the real David.

As the BMOA club rides and rallyes came and went, I found that David could be counted on: he would contribute more than most, he was always ready to lend a hand, always ready to help however he could.

My opinion of David had changed.

I will always remember a morning in Luchenbach, Texas. David, myself and a friend of mine were having coffee, talking about things men talk about over coffee,

I thought it was ironic we were having such a good time. A gathering of diverse men enjoying the moment, David, myself (an engineer), and my friend, President of a Major Oil Co. All enjoying the moment, all enjoying life.

I realized how great life is. How "colorful" people add enjoyment to our life. How David influenced my life.

I am here today, doing something I never imagined I would do. I am wearing a tee-shirt and jeans, and riding my motorcycle, at a funeral.

Speaking at my friend's funeral.... David Porter

God Bless you David

For making our lives richer.



And this from Bill Bath:

In Memoriam

Our friend David Porter was a real motorcycle enthusiast and an asset to our club. Like a lot of other folks, I got to know David at a motorcycle rally.

I first met David, sitting under an umbrella in his old folding chair, at a Lake O' the Pines Rally. He was waiting for the rain to stop so we could go for a ride. Dave loved to ride. He had several modern Triumphs that he would alternate riding. One of his favorite bikes, the one painted with an American Indian motif, had over 70,000 miles on the speedo.

Dave also loved the Blues. He was a great supporter of local Blues bands and he often turned up at a rally with the CD of some emerging band that he had found. Dave and I, and a lot of others, spent many happy hours around a rally campfire playing those CDs on my old boom box.

When the sun was shining David loved nothing better than to lead a group of us on a ride. One time he took us on a hundred-mile ride to get a cup of Community coffee at the Louisiana border welcome center. David always organized the fun run at New Ulm and he took the time to scout out the roads to be sure everyone would have a good time.

David will be missed by all of us, especially when his jokes and tall tales are told and retold around the rally campfires for years to come.

And then Bill Bath contributed this for something totally different:

The Problem with Ethanol in Gasoline

Here is some information from an engineer friend of mine that he got from an antique outboard motor web site. This explains why so many of us are having clogged carburetor problems.

Ethanol is an oxygenated hydrocarbon compound that has a high octane rating and therefore is useful in increasing the octane level of unleaded gasoline. The EPA has allowed the use of ethanol in gasoline at levels up to 10 percent as an octane enhancer and to provide beneficial clean-burning combustion characteristics that help improve some emissions.

Ethanol is hydroscopic (it has an attraction for water) and will more readily mix with water than with gasoline. It has different solvency behaviors than does gasoline, which allows it to loosen rust and debris that may lie undisturbed in fuel systems. And it can more readily remove plasticizers and resins from certain plastic materials that might not be affected by gasoline alone. Loose debris will plug filters and can interfere with engine operation. Additionally, ethanol is corrosive to some metals, especially in combination with water. Although gasoline does not conduct electricity well, ethanol has an appreciable capability to conduct electricity and therefore can promote galvanic corrosion.

Editors Note:

On the Brit-Iron email list there have been numerous complaints of ethanol-enhanced gasoline deteriorating fiberglass tanks and carburetor floats.

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BRITISH MOTORCYCLE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

of Houston, Texas

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The BMOA hosts an annual British and European Motorcycle Rally for south central Texas the weekend after Mother's day in May. This three-day event consists of camping, food, planned rides, field events, vendors and in general a lot of buying, selling, swapping, and showing off British motorcycles and parts. The Rally concludes Sunday with a Motorcycle Show and awards presentation. The club promotes an annual Swap Meet the last Sunday in October. Throughout the year BMOA has planned picnics and parties and overnight rides and numerous day rides.

The BMOA meets the first Wednesday each month at Hickory Hollow Bar-B-Que Restaurant, 101 Heights Blvd., Houston, TX at 7:30 PM. Membership is open to anyone who has interest in British Motorcycles. Dues are due each January 1st.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!



B.M.O.A.

Application for Membership

Annual Dues \$20.00 New Renewing Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

AMA Membership Number _____

Please make checks payable to BMOA

Mail to: BMOA • c/o Danny Hall • 4524 Sunburst • Bellaire, TX 77401

B.M.O.A.
c/o Gale Gorman
742 Sue Barnett Dr.
Houston, TX 77018



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Vice President: Dan Farr (281) 359-4107
Treasurer: Danny Hall (
Ride Coordinator:

Secretary / Editor: Gale Gorman (713) 870-0282
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The BMOA of Houston, TX Newsletter is published monthly. Deadline for Newsletter contributions is the 20th of the month.
