



Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Club of Akron
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Editor's Corner

We motorcyclists are usually familiar with the concept of a journey. We travel between two points, the origin and the destination. If the journey is long, we may start fresh and full of energy and finish exhausted and worn out at the end of a trip. If we are lucky, we cover the distance without any incident or accident and without any bruises or worse injuries.

What we sometimes forget is, that we all are on a very similar journey without riding the bike.

The journey of life.

Just during the last few weeks, it hit close to home and made me think about all this.

My sister passed away at the young age of 73. Then, two weeks later, Cindy's stepdad passed away at the age of 84. Then it was Robert Stockman the father of a good friend of ours at the age of 91 and now Bob Stonerock at only 65.

Four very different journeys have come to an end. The rest of us are still traveling.

We don't know how close we are to our destination.

And that is the only real difference to a well planned motorcycle journey. Riding a bike, you know how far you are going until you reach the end. On the journey of life, the destination will sneak up on you. Maybe.

In both cases, we have to be able to look back and be able to say:

"That was a good trip".

Make sure you travel with your eyes open and take in all the sights, that the journey has to offer.

**We all run
 like a river
 runs
 to the sea**

Mike



Sad news top the page this month. Our long-time member Robert (Bob) Stonerock passed away on April 19. He was only 65 years old. Only a few months ago, we all mourned the passing of his wife. They were both present at many Sunday breakfasts and Bob attended several MOA rallies He rides on a different road now! RIP, Bob!

The date – **May 22nd** - for our Spring Poker Run is rapidly approaching. A separate flyer is attached, please print a few copies and distribute them. The volunteer sign-up sheet still has some spots that could be filled. Come on, you can do it!

Some of you may go to the Georgia Mountain Rally before, it's **April 29th – May 1st** ! Make sure you return safely.

Another local event to put on your calendar before the Poker Run is **BMW of Cleveland's Open House on May 14**. Besides the great *Bratwurst* to sample, a visit is a good opportunity to show our appreciation for Dale Kramer's support – he will open that Sunday and serve a hot dog lunch just for the Poker Run stop at his place.

On very short notice: This **Sunday, April 24**, the MAPS Air Museum in North Canton holds their annual Spring Pancake Breakfast. Several members planning to attend, some after our regular Sunday breakfast at the Farmer Boy.

Looking further ahead and farther away, there will be several events in June and July. The **Annual Vintage Rally** will take place **June 4** at the National Motorcycle Museum in Anamosa, IA, followed by the **RA Iowa Rally June 9th through 12th** in Amana, IA. Colliding with this is the **Americade** in Lake George, NY **June 7-11** For our contingency of British bike fans, there will be a large collection of oil drip-pans to admire at the **23rd Annual Triumph Rally** at the fairgrounds in Oley, PA **June 24-26** In July, we will have **AMA Vintage Days** at Mid-Ohio, **July 8-10** and, then the **MOA International Rally** in Hamburg, NY on **July 14-16**. (*I wish, the MOA would leave the German speaking to Germans- they call it "Das Rally", correct is "Die Rally", bunch of ignoramuses! Well, at least the logo is in compliance.*)

Looks like there is plenty to do for all who want to venture out and away. For the rest, there are always the Sunday rides. Come, join the gang on any Sunday



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A Presidential Address:

Hello Club Members!

One of the issues that is dear to my heart, is club membership.

I just checked into the Motorcycle Club of Georgia website for the Georgia Mountain Rally and read that they had **20** new members signing up in 2016 already! Point well taken, this is the **only** BMW motorcycle club in the state of Georgia, but still...

Seriously, what do we need to do to attract new members. Anybody with ideas or suggestions, please step up!

Our preparations for the Spring Poker Run are well under way.

Leigh has sent out several updates of the volunteer sign-up sheet and I would like to ask everyone to look at it and see if they would want to put their name on it, if they have not already done so.

The Poker Run is a good opportunity to spread the word about the club and maybe create some interest among riders to join.

Print out some copies of the flyer and hand them out at places or post them where you know riders will see them.

I know, mouth to mouth is one great tool to get potential members interested in joining.

That being said, I would like to welcome **John Pavkov** from Tallmadge into our ranks. John was at our last club meeting.

He just purchased a 2004 R1100RS – (I hope I remember that correctly) In addition, John owns several other bikes.

Jeff