"CCN" BMWMOC's Quarterly Newsletter

BMW Club
Motorcycle Owners
of Cleveland

Cleveland Club News

Fall 2017

Romeo Rides

Retired Old Men Eating Out

(Ladies Welcome)

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From the Editor

Pat Corrigan

Hello and Happy Fall!

With this issue comes my first feeble attempt at rescuing and resurrecting the "CCN", aka the Cleveland Club News. In this instance of "Baptism by Fire", I beg for your indulgence as I not only get my feet wet but end up with a thorough dunking!

When I first joined the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland some ten years ago, one of the things that impressed me, along with the genuine friendliness and likeability of the members, was the quality of the newsletter. Now that I find myself in the daunting position of trying to maintain that proud tradition, I realize how extremely fortunate we have been over the years to have the talents of Robin Bova, Paul Mitchell and Dominic and Kristin Cioffi to turn this rag into a treasure. Thanks to them for their fine work and to Eddy Paoletta for keeping things afloat this past summer.

The one consolation I have in moving forward with this project is the knowledge that we are a diverse club, loaded with multi-dimensional and talented individuals and that this project is always a group effort. By that, I mean that I will be relying on you, the members, to submit articles (and/or your ideas for articles), photos, stories and what have you to help fill these pages.

Enjoying the riding while you can– this is Cleveland and we might have snow next month!

Pat (I hate riding in sand!) Corrigan

CCN 2017

The CCN will be published quarterly, at the beginning of each season. We welcome and encourage member submissions.

Deadlines for submissions are:

Spring CCN	**March 15**
Summer CCN	**June 15**
Fall CCN	**September 15**
Winter CCN	**December 15**

President's Message

Leo Buckon

Wow! That summer went by quickly. The Wednesday rides took on a life of its own and grew to where we were consistently seeing 10 to 15 riders. As I still work for a living I was not able to make any of these but was able to live vicariously through the many Facebook posts. The folks who were able to make it regularly experienced a lot of good riding, ate a lot of food and managed to throw in some site seeing too.

Everyone that found the time to attend The Fall Rally at Whispering Hills was treated to great weather, lots of good food and gemutlich. Thanks to Paul Koontz and all those who took time to help Paul for putting another outstanding weekend together. Also a special thanks to Kurt Shreffler and Mike Kanczak for leading the road ride and the GS ride this past weekend. There were some interesting photos circulating of one of the GS parked in the middle of one of the "roads" they took. It was a good time for sure.

Now into the fall riding season which looks to be full of opportunities for all of us to get out and put some miles on the Beemers before the snow and salt are on the roads. Check the club website and rider forums for upcoming rides and make it a point to join in for one or two. You won't regret it.

With the fall months comes club elections. Current membership is approaching 200 people which means we now have an addition director positions to fill along with the other club officer positions. Please make the time to come to the October meeting and join in on the election process and get involved. It is a great way to give back to the club, and make new friends while doing it.

Ride Safe and I look forward to seeing you all at upcoming events.

Leo Buckon

Calendar of Events

Visit the calendar on the club web site for an updated list of events

BMWMOC Mountain Magic Ride
October 13 - 15, 2017
Davis, WV
(see club web page for details)

BMWMOC Marietta Overnighter
October 21 - 22, 2017
Marietta, OH
(see club web page for details)

AMA Devil's Staircase Pro Hillclimb
October 22, 2017
1086 Corwin Rd., Oregonia, OH
Check weather in advance - subject to rain delay
(http://www.daytonmc.com/)

Membership Meeting
(Please note earlier starting time!)
November 2, 2017 @ **6:30 p.m.**
Sill's Motor Sales
1901 Brookpark Road, Cleveland, OH 44109

GS Giants Adventure Ribfest
October 19-22, 2017
Centerville, TN
(http://bmwmcon.org/)

Oktoberfest Open House
Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017
BMW Motorcycles of Cleveland
7315 N. Aurora Road, Aurora, OH 44202

Ohio BMW RA Halloween Camp Out
October 27 - 29, 2017
Tappan Lake Park
84000 Mallarnee Road
Deersville, OH 44693

Directors Meeting
7:00 - 8:30 PM
Thursday, November 30, 2017
To Be Announced

The BMWMOC is Chartered Club #196 with both the BMWMOA and the BMWRA national organizations. The BMWMOC is a Not-For-Profit Corporation of the Great State of Ohio consisting of about 145 riding enthusiasts mostly in the Northeast Ohio Area. The Club is an active group with a common interest in BMW Motorcycles and the people who ride them.

Fall Weather Riding Tips

Courtesy of the Illinois State Police

Check Your Skill Set

In Ohio, our weather can run the spectrum. Riding a motorcycle is a physical and a learned skill. As such, your skill set can diminish if you don't ride regularly. So if you have been off the bike for an extended period of time, take some time to re-acclimate yourself to your bike. If you are new rider, be sure you have the proper classification to ride your motorcycle. Find an open area or a parking lot and do some slow speed maneuvering and some braking drills, if the surface is conducive.

Hazard Awareness

Your nice, relaxing ride through the country should be fun, but don't relax too much. When riding, you have to maintain a constant state of awareness. If you ride with the concept of trying to identify every hazard you see, there won't be any surprises. When identifying or calling out hazards, there are no wrong answers. Call out everything: driveway, intersection, children, dogs, parked cars, oncoming line of cars behind a slow moving vehicle, blind curve, hillcrest, deer, gravel, construction, potholes, railroad crossing, etc. This exercise will help you prepare for something, but more importantly, it will force you to scan beyond your normal boundaries.

Wet Weather

If you ride your motorcycle as much as I do, you are going to get wet. I'm a big fan of the weather channel, but weather is what it is. Riding in the rain can be done safely if you follow a few simple rules. Keep rain gear with you if you have room. Riding while dry will keep you more comfortable and is less distracting. Keep a pair of clear glasses or wear a helmet shield of some type. Keeping the rain out of your eyes is imperative. Adjust your riding speed for the conditions. Keep in mind, when it rains for the first time after an extended dry period, there will be excessive amounts of oil on the road, making conditions extremely slick. Watch for standing water. Motorcycle tires by design are efficient at displacing water but are not exempt from hydroplaning. Remember water will pool in the normal vehicle tracks on the road and most roadways are crowned and, as such, water will be deeper on the right side of the road. Gear up, slow down, create distance, and stay focused.

Leaves are Falling

When fall begins to set in, the falling leaves can present an unassuming hazard. Many people venture out to see the fall colors, presenting a couple of hazards. Drivers may be a little distracted and not paying attention to the road and further may not see you. Be sure to keep your distance from other vehicles. Also, as the leaves begin to accumulate on the roadway they can be very slick. Whether wet or dry, driving through stacks of leaves can reduce traction, making it difficult to stop. A simple reduction of speed and awareness can make all the difference.

Fall Weather Riding Tips (con't.)

Deer Season

Fall riding can present some particular hazards, none more problematic than deer season. As crops are harvested, the area deer can forage is reduced. Additionally, as farm equipment run through the fields, deer are being pushed into other areas and, in many cases, closer to the road. Hunters are also in the timber, pushing deer into other areas. We also have to consider this is the breeding season for deer and the fact they will be running more actively than normal. The best defense is to stay aware, particularly while in rural areas. Scan the roadway and just off of the shoulders and watch for deer crossings. Typically deer movement will peak at dusk and dawn. Areas where crops or timber are relatively close to the road will present the greatest challenge. These are ideal places for deer to cross and, unfortunately, will provide you the shortest reaction time.

Frost

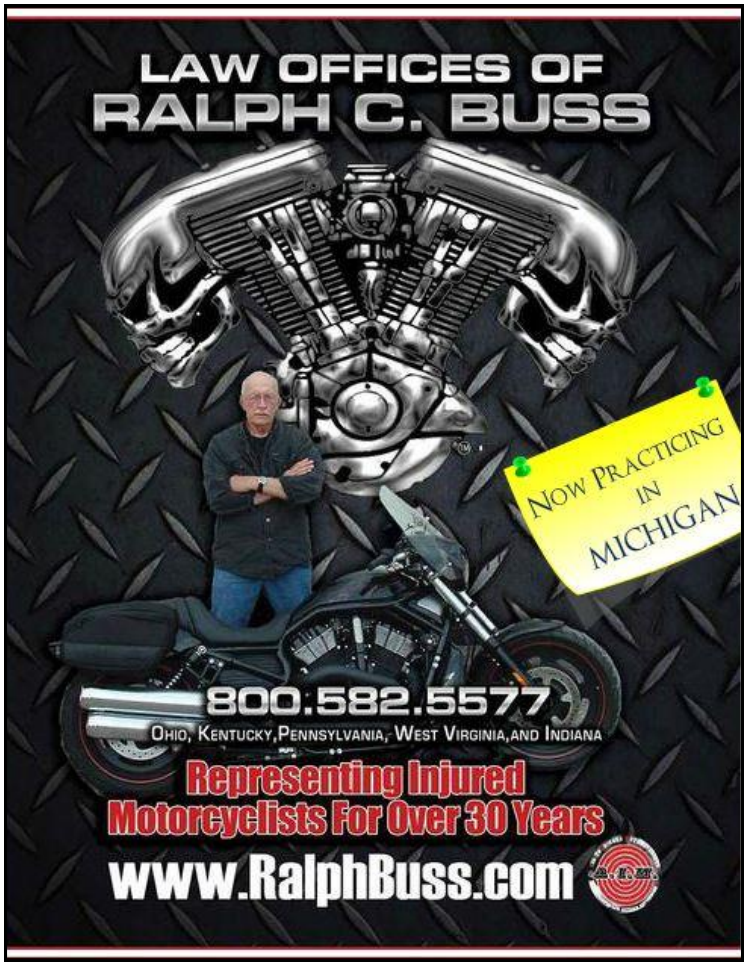
Fall in Ohio brings variable weather conditions. Often midday temperatures may be warm and comfortable for motorcycle riding, while overnight temperatures may be near freezing. It becomes necessary to be cognizant of frost on the roadway in the early morning hours during the fall. Be sure to pay particular attention for frost on bridge decks or other elevated surfaces, railroad crossings, and in shady areas where the morning sun might not have melted the frost yet.

Ice

It's a clear, sunny winter day. The temperature is below freezing outside, but you have new warm riding gear and the roadways are clear, so you decide to take a ride on your motorcycle. Be sure to watch for ice on the roadways, even if there hasn't been any rain or snow. Ice can form on the roads very quickly from a number of sources, such as fog, frost, a driver who pours an old cup of coffee or other beverage out the car window, or from leaking vehicle fluids and car exhaust to name a few. Pay attention for ice on the roadways in the center of the lane of traffic and on bridge decks over bodies of water. Also, pay particular attention near intersections. They are the most likely spot for people to pour out liquids and for other fluids to accumulate.

Dress for Success

Don't get left in the cold. In the fall, temperatures can run the spectrum from warm to below freezing. In most cases, regardless of midday temperatures, the temperature will significantly drop once the sun starts to set. It's always a good idea to keep cold weather gear with you just in case you get detained or ride longer than you anticipated. Riding while extremely cold can cause a number of distractions. The rider will begin to shiver, get stiff, or ride in an unorthodox position trying to pick up some engine heat. All of these distractions can reduce your ability to control the motorcycle safely, not to mention just being uncomfortable. It's also a good idea to keep a pair of clear of glasses or a clear helmet shield for riding in low light conditions. You will want to treat them with some form of anti-fogging agent before riding in cold temperatures.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Club Highlights

Members of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland were pleased to participate in the BMW MOA 2017 Charity Challenge, which this year provided much needed support to the Motorcycle Relief Project and The Christmas Box International. What we didn't realize until the results of the campaign were listed in the October issue of The Owners News, however, was that our club came in second place in terms of donations from local chartered clubs.

The Motorcycle Relief Project (MRP) is a 501c3 tax-exempt nonprofit organization that provides relief to veterans with PTSD and other injuries by taking them on multi-day motorcycle adventure tours. Their mission is to honor and encourage veterans while providing them with opportunities to decompress, get unstuck, and connect with other veterans.

The Christmas Box International partners with local, national and international communities and groups to prevent child abuse and to improve the quality of life for children, teens and young adults who have been abused, neglected or are facing homelessness.

2017 Charity Challenge

Karol Patzer #27994

WE HOPE YOU FOUND YOUR CROSSROADS THIS YEAR!!!

This was the 24th year of the Charity Challenge for our national rally charity, and many clubs met the challenge by supporting our two charities, The Christmas Box House and the Motorcycle Relief Project.

Thanks to the following clubs for meeting or exceeding the challenge:

BMW Motorcycle Owners of America	$1,000.00
BMW Motorcycle Owners of Alabama	$500.00
BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland	$325.00
BMW Free Rides of Washington	$300.00
BMW Motorcycle Owners Club of Minnesota	$300.00
South Coast BMW	$280.00
BMW Motorcycle Club of Nashville	$120.00
Badger Motorcycle Club of Wisconsin	$100.00
BMW Motorcycle Club of Indianapolis	$100.00
BMW Motorcycle Club of Port Washington	$100.00
BMW Motorcycle Owners of Vermont	$100.00
BMW Club of Houston	$100.00
Citi Beemers of New York City	$100.00
Madison BMW Club	$100.00
Moose Whiskapalians	$100.00
Wisconsin BMW Club	$100.00
Yankee Beemers	$100.00
Kansas City BMW Club	$20.00
Northern California BMW	$20.00

During the rally, Miranda, Bruce and Deborah, along with their team of 50/50 Volunteers, raised another $6,207, while three lucky winners took home some unexpected cash and donated it back! Donation collection points included Ice Sale (collecting $320), Electronics/Charging Station ($252), and Bike Wash/Oil Change ($320), and Black Ops dunked some folks to add another $225 to the pot.

Charlie and William and the coffee team collected $650, while Linda, Allison and the sewing team collected $1,480. Thanks to Jack for all of the patches.

Through our combined teamwork, we were able to present a check for $6,500 to Stefani Zind and Gina Barker for The Christmas Box House, while Tom Larson of the Motorcycle Relief Project accepted our check for $6,234, for a grand total of $12,734.

Thanks for your generosity, and thanks to a lot of hardworking volunteers at the rally. If you're a member of a club that wasn't able to meet the challenge this year, please consider challenging your members for 2018.

MOTORCYCLE RELIEF PROJECT

THE CHRISTMAS BOX INTERNATIONAL

Karol Patzer, 2017 BMW MOA Rally Charity Chair, presents checks to representatives of the Motorcycle Relief Project (above) and The Christmas Box International (below) during closing ceremonies.

Club members took time from the September monthly meeting to visit the Cleveland sign for a photo op.

It's BMWMOC Election Time

The following is from the BMWMOC CONSTITUTION and BY LAWS

5. ELECTIONS

a. A summary of the election process will be published in the Club's newsletter serving as notice to the membership prior to opening the annual officers election nomination window. During the September membership meeting, the President will appoint a three member Election committee from the general membership and declare the nomination window open.

b. An individual must meet all applicable membership requirements, must have attended at least five monthly membership meetings during the 12 months prior to the September membership meeting, and must expect to be able to attend all Board and monthly meetings during the coming year to be eligible for nomination. Meeting sign in sheets will be used to verify the required attendance.

c. Nominations must be seconded by another member.

d. Individuals may be nominated for more than one position, but can only accept one nomination.

e. The Election Committee will confirm that each nominee is willing to serve. Nominations of unwilling nominees will be withdrawn.

f. At the end of the October meeting, the President will make a final request for nominations and then declare the nomination window closed. Additional nominations are prohibited prior to and on the Election Day unless there are no nominees for a particular position; then nominations will be accepted only for that position. The President shall appoint any additional directors as needed to address the growing membership per Section IV, Part 2.

g. In the case where nominees for all positions are running un-opposed, the election may be declared Moot by a membership meeting vote at the November meeting. If so voted, further efforts and expense to conduct an election shall be suspended. The new Board of Directors shall be announced at the January membership meeting.

h. The Election Committee will compile an Annual Election Ballot and a document containing optional nominee position statements. If a nominee chooses to provide a position statement, it must be received by the election committee no later than thirty days following the October membership meeting. The Election Committee will distribute electronically or by mail, one ballot per member and the optional nominee position statements at least thirty days prior to the January membership meeting. The ballot will provide: a list of nominees, a space for write-in votes, an address where the mail in completed ballot must be returned or instructions for returning the electronic ballots, and a deadline date (December 31st) after which ballots received will not be counted.

i. The results of the election shall be announced at the January membership meeting and following on the Clubs website and in the next Club newsletter.

j. Vote counts shall not be announced or posted. They will be recorded in the minutes of the January membership meeting and will be available to be viewed by any interested member. In any reading of the minutes at a membership meeting, the actual counts will be omitted.

Continued...

Continued...

k. Determinations:

(1) Except for directors, the nominee with the greatest number of votes for a particular position will assume the duties of that position at the February membership meeting. Nominees determined to have won the election for their respective positions shall endeavor to attend the January Board meeting along with the current office holders for that term.

(2) For directors, members vote for the mandated number of the director nominees as stated on the Official Ballot:

(a) If the out-going president is re-elected, elected to another position, or declines to become a director for the year following presidency, the highest tally of votes cast for director nominees shall determine the director electors.

(b) If the out-going president exercises the right to become a director for the year following his or her presidency; the past president and the highest tally of votes cast for director nominees shall determine the director electors.

If a member is elected to a position by write-in votes, the Election Committee will confirm that that member is willing to serve in that position before finalizing the results for that position.

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Winter Storage Tips

Courtesy of Aaron Cortez @ Bike Bandit

We may not want to admit it, but winter is just around the corner. And as the air cools off and the snow starts falling, most of us begrudgingly store our bikes and impatiently wait for spring to ride again.

But storing your bike in the winter isn't as simple and just throwing a cover over it and hopping in the car. In order to keep your motorcycle in top running condition, there is some work that needs to be done before storing it for several months (talk about adding insult to the injury of not being able to ride!)

However, if you properly get your bike ready for winter storage, it'll make getting it running again when the riding season begins a whole lot easier, and prevent any unwanted surprises such as dead batteries, corrosion, and rust spots (or worse.)

Depending on what kind of motorcycle you ride there may be different things that will need to be addressed, but there is some general wisdom on how to get it ready to be stored for the winter. Your main enemy during winter storage is damage from *moisture*, so most of our winterizing efforts will be aimed at keeping that away from your bike. In addition, well give some love to your fuel system, battery, tires, and all your moving parts as well.

With just a little prep work using these ten simple steps, you'll save yourself a lot of time and hassle come spring time, and your bike will be ready to hit the road as soon as you are!

Ten Simple Steps to Winterize Your Motorcycle

1) Surface Prep

Washing your bike when nobody will see it for a few months anyway can be a drag, but giving your bike a thorough cleaning before storage is important; letting bug guts or water spots sit on your paint can corrode the finish permanently. Wash your bike and dry it completely to get all the moisture off the surfaces (an electric leaf blower is a great way to get all the nooks and crannies really dry.)

Add a coat of wax, which will act as a barrier against moisture and rust. Finally, spray exposed metal surface with WD-40 to displace all moisture (fun fact: the WD in "WD-40" stands for water displacement) and to give them a protective coating against corrosion.

2) Change Oil and Filter

Change your oil and filter. It's better for your lubrication system to have fresh oil sitting in it for several months than to have used, broken down oil in it, not to mention the last thing you'll want to do when riding season begins is change the oil before you can go ride. Using a winter weight oil like 5W30 can help it start up easier come spring time as well.

If you're going to be storing your bike for a long time (4-6 months or more) you will want to protect your engine's internals against moisture by coating them lightly with oil. You may not be able to see it with your naked eye, but the cold winter air is perfect for moisture to gather in your engine and cause rust to form on your pistons and cylinder walls.

In order to do this, remove the spark plugs and put a little squirt (about a tablespoon) of engine oil into the holes, then turn your engine over a few times to coat the cylinder walls by spinning the rear wheel with the bike in gear. Once everything is coated, replace the spark plugs.

3) Lube Moving Parts

Keeping moving parts lubed during the winter will help keep moisture from building up on them and causing any rusting or binding. Any part of your motorcycle that needs to be lubed at any point should be lubed again before storage. Some parts to check are: chain drive, cables, controls, fork surfaces, and any other pivot points.

4) Prep Fuel System

Gas tanks have a tendency to rust when not in use, and untreated pump gas breaks down and becomes gummy over time. To prevent rusting and make sure your fuel is ready to run after a few months in storage, you'll want to fill your tank completely with fuel treated with a product like Sta-Bil Fuel Stabilizer.

On your last ride of the season, stop in at the gas station nearest to where you will be storing your bike and add the proper amount of fuel stabilizer, then top off the tank. A full tank will keep moisture from building up on the tank walls, and adding the stabilizer before the short ride home will help mix the gas and stabilizer together and run it through your fuel system before storage.

Note: Another method that some advocate is to drain the tank and fuel system completely. This is more troublesome to do, and requires that you treat the inside of the tank with fogging oil to prevent rusting. This method may be preferred for very long-term storage (6 months or more), but for winter storage, a full tank of treated fuel is easier and completely safe to do for both carbureted and fuel-injected bikes.

5) Safeguard Battery

Batteries have a tendency to self-discharge when sitting over time, especially when they remain hooked up to the bike. The easiest way to combat this is to hook up a battery tender like the Battery Tender Super Smart Junior which uses smart technology to monitor the charge and keep the battery topped off without overcharging. Normally you should pull the battery from the bike for storage, but with a smart tender you can also connect the tender with the battery left in the bike. Before doing this, make sure the electrodes are clean and corrosion free; if necessary, clean them off and give them a light coating of grease.

6) Protect Tires

If your tires are left to sit in the same position all winter long, they could develop flat spots. Keeping the tires off of the ground will prevent this, so if you have Motorcycle Stands, put the bike up on them for storage. If you don't have stands, try to get at least the rear tire off the ground, or you can rotate your tires by rolling your motorcycle slightly every few weeks. If you need to leave your tires down on concrete, put a piece of carpet or plywood under them to keep any moisture from seeping into them.

7) Check Coolant/Anti-freeze

If you'll be storing your bike somewhere that gets below freezing, make sure you have adequate levels of anti-freeze in your coolant system. This is very important; if you run straight water in your coolant system and it freezes, you could come back to a cracked head in the spring!

8) Plug Out Pests

Mice and other rodents are notorious for hiding from the cold inside exhaust pipes and making homes out of air filters. If order to avoid any furry surprises when it's time to ride again, plug up your pipes with an exhaust plug like the BikeMaster Rubber Muffler Plug. You can also simply stuff your air intake and the ends of your exhaust with some plastic bags - but do use bright colored bags or tie something to them so you don't forget take them out when you fire up the bike!

9) Keep it Covered

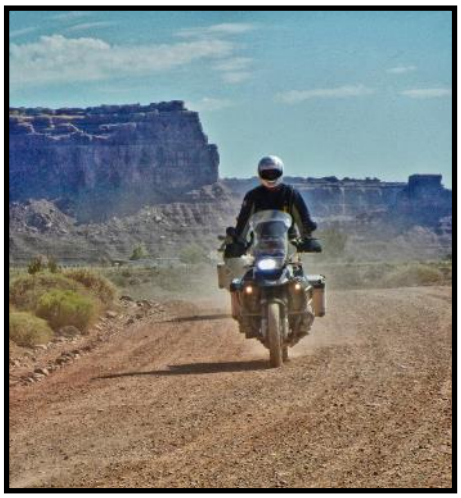
With your motorcycle fully prepped for winter, invest in a proper motorcycle cover. A quality motorcycle cover will not only keep dust off the bike, but will keep the moisture out so it doesn't get trapped underneath it, and create corrosion or rust. If you're storing it outside, be sure to get a cover with tie downs to prevent it from blowing loose in wind. If you're storing it inside you're in much better shape, but you should still use a cover to prevent dust from building up on it.

10) Theft Protection

If you're storing your bike outside, bear in mind that being parked unattended for months at a time makes it an easy target for theft. In addition to protecting your bike from weather, using a cover will conceal it from view, and securing it with a heavy lock and chain can give you some peace of mind.

MOA National Rally and EPIC! Utah

Many club members took full advantage of the Salt Lake City location for this year's national MOA rally to explore the magnificent scenery and riding offered by the state of Utah. With five national parks, there was no shortage of twisty canyons, magnificent mountains and off the beaten path locations to explore. While the July heat did add an extra dimension, the well prepared rider was amply rewarded. For one intrepid group of riders, known as The Black Sheep, it resulted in a road trip that yielded memories to be enjoyed for a lifetime.



Cruisin' with Sandi & Donna

Globetrotters Sandi Valois and Donna Petrow are all smiles after enjoying their 19 day Scandinavian tour. Although they traveled by plane and by cruise ship instead of motorcycles this time, they were able to enjoy a visit to a motorcycle museum during their trip. Ports of call included Reykjavik, Iceland and Copenhagen, Denmark as well as Scotland, Newfoundland and two ports in Norway.

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