"CCN" BMWMOC's Quarterly Newsletter

BMW Club
Motorcycle Owners
of Cleveland

Cleveland Club News

Fall 2016

Inside this Issue:

From the Editors	2
President's Message	3
Calendar of Events	4
Here There Be Dragons Ride	5
Tales of a First Timer	6
The McClellan Meander	8
Election Time	9
Iron Butt Saddle Sore 1000	11
Southern Italy Extreme 16	12
BMWMOA Rally Brew Tour Photos	16
Niagara Falls Photos	17

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From the Editors

Dominic and Kristin Cioffi

Happy Fall!

Even though summer is over, the hot weather doesn't seem to be going anywhere. Although we didn't go on any major adventures this year, we were able to take a couple of long weekend trips. In July we went to the BMWMOA Rally in Hamburg, NY. Our favorite part of that trip was our visit to the US side of the falls. We were both impressed with the newly renovated park and were awestruck by the proximity to the edge of the falls.

We also rode out to the 50th anniversary Four Winds BMW Rally in August. After the off rode adventure we lead Barry on, someone may be ready to give his GT a partner GSA. As always, the rally was lots of fun and most of the people were nice. Warning- if you ever head to the rally in the future, be careful and don't put your tent to close to the R1100RS zoning czar.

We picked up a new addition to the family– an R nine T. We've been slowing putting some miles on, and in the next edition you'll hear the full review. So far it's a fun ride, and Kristin appreciates not having to swing her leg so high to get on the back. Beatrix the GSA likes having a little sister too!

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

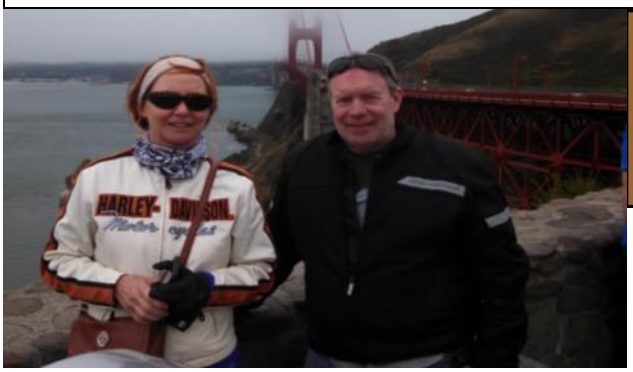
Dominic and Kristin Cioffi

CCN 2016

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

As another summer of great riding comes to a close, it was good to see our good friend and past President Marcial Ingal back on two wheels. As some of you know, Marcial had a non-motorcycle related sporting injury to his leg that took way too long to heal. It was a nice surprise to me to see he could make the September 11th Sunday afternoon ride and run a few gallons of fresh gas through his tank. Hopefully we will see Jay Wodtley be back in the riding fold soon.

The last club rally event for the year, the Oktoberfest Rally at the Jelly Stone Whispering Hills campground just south of Shreve is coming up this week. The weather forecast look like conditions will be perfect for riding and camping out. I hope everyone can join us if not for the weekend then maybe just for a Saturday motorcycle ride in the Ohio countryside. It is a great way to kick off the fall riding season.

Don't forget the Poker run coming up on October 8th. Details on that will be coming soon. There will be a few more Wednesday rides in September to close out the official club riding season. Some members are planning some great rides in October. These can be found on the club's website link https://bmwmoc.shutterfly.com/calendar . If anyone gets the urge to go riding and would like to invite people to join them, please announce your plans on the clubs forum and/or Facebook page. With the crazy weather we get in Northeast Ohio we may have a lot of opportunities for late season rides this year. Heck, I was out and about on riding on Christmas day last year.

A special thank you to Mick Skowronsky for putting together the Sunday rides again this year. From what I have seen posted it looks like all who went had a great time spending a few hours on Sunday afternoon with their friends.

I will close with a quick reminder that nominations are being taken for club officers and director positions. To run for the enjoyment of all, the club always needs good people to step to the front and help with the planning and operations of the club. Any time you can take to help is greatly appreciated and enhances your experience with the club. Nominations will be taken at the next meeting on October 6th which will be held at Felix and Oscars which is at the corner of Detroit and Clague road just off I-90.

Calendar of Events

Visit the calendar on https://bmwmoc.shutterfly.com/calendar for an updated list of events

BMWMOC Octoberfest Fall Campout
September 23-25, 2016
Whispering Hills Jellystone Campground, Shreve

Directors' Meeting
September 29, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Harry Buffalo
18605 Detroit Ave., Lakewood

Membership Meeting
October 6, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Felix and Oscar's
23800 Detroit Road, Westlake

BMWMOC Annual Dealer Poker Run
October 8, 2016
Details TBA

AMA Devil's Staircase Hillclimb
October 9, 2016
1086 Corwin Rd., Oregonia, OH

Here There Be Dragons Ride
October 13– 16, 2016

Membership Meeting
November 3, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Location TBA

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.

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Here There Be Dragons Ride

October 13—16, 2016

The Ride: Route 16 through West Virginia and into Virginia where it becomes the "Back of the Dragon, 32 miles of the most exciting and technical road you will ever ride on". Ride the "Back of the Dragon" from Tazewell to Marion then head north-northwest hitting the twisties in western Virginia and West Virginia on the way back north.

The Plan: Ride down to Ripley, WV after work on Thursday, 10/13, Leave Ripley bright and early on Friday, 10/14 and head down route 16 to Marion, VA. Spend Friday night in Marion, VA and head back up north on Saturday (10/15). Spend Saturday night in Huntington, WV and head home Sunday (10/16) morning.

The Details:

Cleveland to Ripley, WV

I-77 south to exit 138, left on Clay Lick road, left on Ripley drive, right on Duke drive. Super 8, 102 Duke drive, Ripley, WV 25271 (304)372-8880
Dbl. room, $82.20 ($73.98 with AAA card) including tax

Ripley WV to Marion, VA

Route 33 west to route 119 south (26 miles) to route 36 south (east-.5 miles) to route 16 south (17 miles), turn right on to Stoney Ridge road (190 miles), turn right on to Fairground road, turn right on to Crab Orchard road, turn left onto BF Buchanan Hwy, turn left onto Park Blvd, turn left onto Park Blvd, turn left onto N Main St. Econo Lodge, 1420 N. Main street, Marion, VA 24354 (276)783-6031
Dbl. room $79.30 including tax

Marion, VA to Huntington, WV

Reference PDF file for route.
Red Roof Inn, 5190 US Route 60 East, Huntington, WV 25705 (304)733-3737
Dbl. room, $100.79 including tax.

Please note changes to the original plan for the ride north from Marion, VA. All route are tentative and mileages are estimates. Hotels would not hold rooms but showed availability as of 9/9/16, so book early to guarantee lodging. Mention the BMWMOC when making reservations. Many thanks to Mike Kanczak for lending his expertise with the Navigator V and the PDF files.

Download gps file from the forum section of the club shutterfly site.

All are welcome, please let me know if interested (remind me even if we spoke previously) so I can get a head count.

Kurt Shreffler
kkshref@roadrunner.com
(216)496-4042

Tales of a first timer

Brett Rue

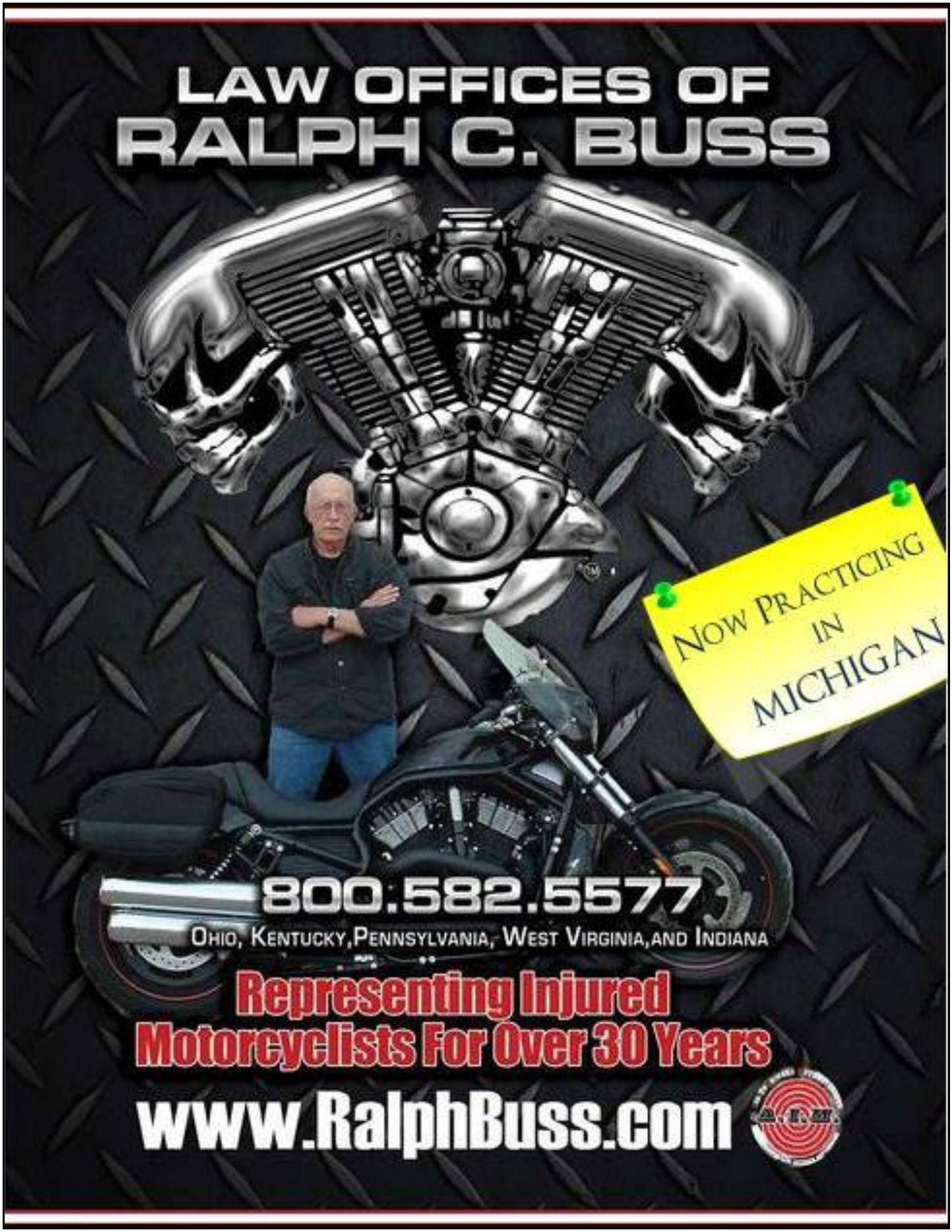
What to say other than my first experience at a national MOA rally was tip-top. Having the event take place at a location that was relatively close to us Clevelanders was an added convenience that I can't complain about. The roads themselves were nothing too interesting in the immediate area of the rally, but the people who were in attendance more than made up for that. And I love the idea of a larger trip to experience new parts of this country, but it is always difficult for a working stiff to get the extra time off work. So, in this case, closer was better.

The event itself was well-planned from start to finish. The venue was clean and well-equipped to handle a crowd of 6,000+ riders from across the continent. My girlfriend had the opportunity to volunteer for a couple hours selling 50/50 raffle tickets while I took the skills course. According to her, it was a great chance to chat with people from all over the country. It didn't hurt that the benefiting charity was a camp geared towards assisting children of active military members.

Some of the highlights of the weekend included:

- Taking a skills class that helped to hone my skills as a rider. This class is normally offered out on the roads near to wherever the rally is taking place, but due to the location, the instructors felt it was better to keep the course on site.
- Meeting a Scottish gentleman from the club that planned the Georgia Mountain Rally (another FANTASTIC rally). While I don't recall his name, I will not forget our fun conversation. We may have even asked the age-old question of whether a man wears boxers under his kilt. Turns out he cooked the delicious vegetarian chili that I enjoyed at the GMR! I'm looking forward to crossing paths with him again at the next Georgia Mountain Rally.
- Any first timer such as myself was given a blue #1 pin. This pin was a great way that encouraged people to strike up conversations and welcome you to the event. Everyone we encountered was kind, welcoming and genuinely glad we were there!
- There were a few charter bus tours offered from the rally site as well. We attended a beer tasting event that took us to 3 breweries around Buffalo as well as the Anchor bar…home of the first buffalo chicken wing!

My biggest take-away overall would be the kindness and openness of the people at the rally. It was great to catch up with lots of familiar faces represented from the Cleveland club as well as meet others from all over the US and Canada. I cannot emphasize enough how quick people were with a smile or a conversation. And as an added bonus…I even met some other R1200 ST riders. We were even able to have an informal meeting in the beer garden to discuss our "rare gems"…all three of us! The kindness of the people there will keep me coming back to a rally year after year after year. So if your life provides you the opportunity to get yourself out to the 2017 rally in Salt Lake City, Utah, I strongly suggest you go… especially if you can get a #1 pin!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The McClellan Meander

Don Poremski

It is doubtful that anyone who has had the occasion to deal with Sills Motors has ever come away with a bad experience. That also holds true when they put on a dealer ride.

On a very pleasant recent Friday afternoon, Darwin McClellan led 18 two wheelers on a ride. Note that I didn't say BMWs. That's because all manner of bikes took part from small displacement (and small tired) Hondas, to large displacement Harleys with a couple of scooters thrown in for good measure. At one moment you'd be alongside a booming V-twin with high handlebars and next a vintage Honda. On-lookers' expressions varied as the group passed. WHA?? Hells Angels, Mods and Rockers, Beemers???

It is summertime in Ohio so it pays to know the area in which you are riding. Darwin was therefore not the least bit flummoxed when the group encountered detour/road closed signs. He successfully got the group huddled into Szalay's for a cool drink, a sandwich or ear of corn and a group picture. Then it was back to Sill's for more eats.

Pam and Roger et al put on a great feed for the returned riders. The brats, more corn, salad and drinks were completely refreshing after the ride. One participant was so fully recovered that she successful blew out 100 candles on the National Parks birthday cake complete with photograph so we could all have a piece. Thanks, Sandy!

The balance of the event was taken up by drooling (at least for the author) of the fantastic machines available for sale. There was a machine for everyone, no matter what your style preference or riding habits.

A huge MOC thank you to Sills for a great afternoon of riding and socializing.

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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Iron Butt Saddle Sore 1000

Judy Gau

So, you want to challenge the miles for your chance of completing the Saddle Sore 1000? It's an accomplishment you won't soon forget whether you complete or not. I attempted and finished my ride several years back and another tick mark checked off my bucket list. 1,050 in 18 hours with a few hours rest at the bridge and seven (7) gas and rest stops the entire adventure.

For me, I chose July to attempt the right of passage as the days are longer and the weather warmer. My solo trek up to the Mackinac Bridge and back was an easy ride and all highway. With the longer days, more light to see any possible road hazards that you may encounter, mainly BEAR, DEER, ELK and the pesky ground hogs and possum. Yes, the larger hazards do wander out on the roads as I'm sure most of you already know. Michigan is full of wildlife. The State of Michigan from the city of Clare on up to the bridge and beyond, your chances of visuals become much greater. And, it seemed, the farther up north you head, the speed picks up and rarely any State Troopers lurking on some of the dirt side roads connecting to the highways, not like in the lower parts of the state.

My best advice is to stay hydrated, bring some snacks to munch on at gas and rest stops, and the most important thing you can take on this trip is a zip lock bag to keep your receipts in should the weather become ugly. Another item I would suggest is some Baby Wipes, Wet Ones, whatever you want to call them, for any very large bug or bird strikes. I was lucky to survive only two bird strikes on my run, and the wet wipes sure came in handy. No damage, just a little shocked at the hits. And yes, the bugs up north are large and splatter wide. Weekend departure was preferred as from about noon on Friday until late in the evening, many Michiganders head north for their weekend cabins, and traffic jams occur. Just a word from experience.

If you've been contemplating doing this run, I encourage you to do so whether it's in the Spring, Summer or Fall. I display my Iron Butt Pin on my bike proudly and smile every time I look at it reminding me of the memories of the ride.

Ride on and ride safe.

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South Italy Extreme 16

Roger Pivonka

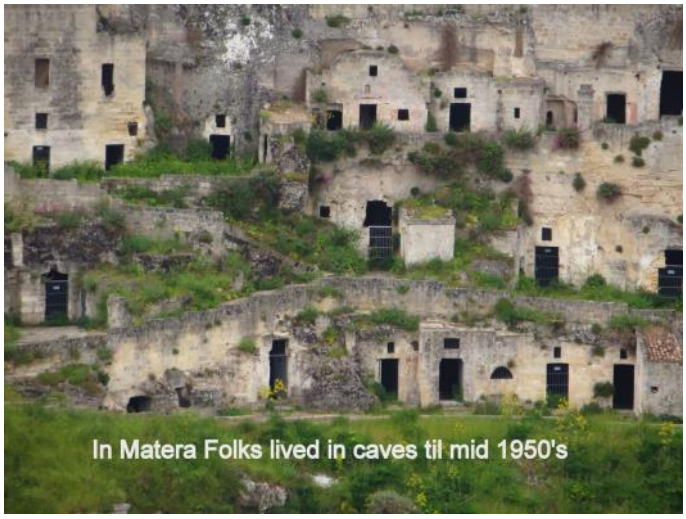
During the last week of April 2016 I took the Southern Italy Extreme tour with Edelweiss Bike Travel. "We" were 5 from USA, 2 from Germany, 1 from Tokyo and our born and raised in Naples Italian guide Domenico. Plenty of sun and twisty roads were in store for us AND some snow and ice too. Edelweiss grades this tour as "Tough" for the number of narrow twisty roads to be encountered.

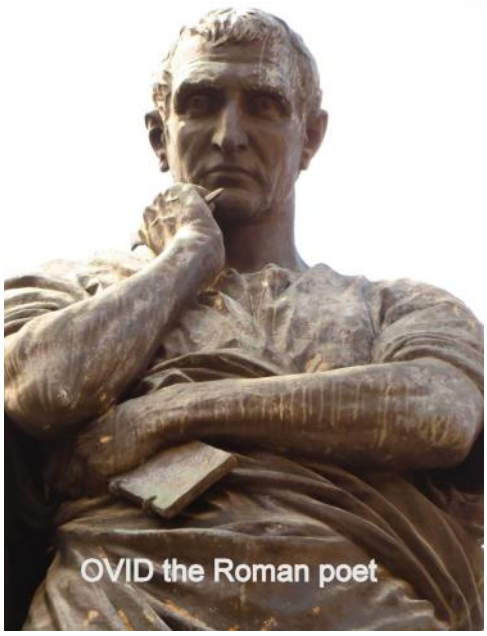
Some of the more notable towns were Naples/Pozzuoli,Sperlonga, Pescasseroli, Sulmona, Melfi, Castle del Monte, Matera, Castelmezzano, Brienza

This tour took us to places which have not yet attracted massive tourism. Starting in Naples, the seaside city dominated by Mount Vesuvius, the route went northwards to the famous National Park of Abruzzo, in the heart of the central Apennines.

There we rode along winding twisty roads through the scenic Appennine mountain range, also called the "spine" of Italy, to the beautiful medieval town of Melfi, in the Basilicata region. An imposing castle is located just above the old historical center and the view makes for some great postcard pictures. In Matera, the European Capital of Culture for 2019, we explored the historical center called Sassi, where people have been living since the Paleolithic period! Matera is without doubt one of the oldest continuously-inhabited settlements in history.

A side trip to Alberobello took us to see its typical Trulli buildings, which look like someone took them from a fairytale! Back at the Thyrrenian Coast, we headed to the Cilento area, famous for its national park and some of the cleanest and clearest seas in Italy. Numerous curves later, the shape of Mount Vesuvius rose in front of us and our trip was at its end. Bella Italy – what else can I say?





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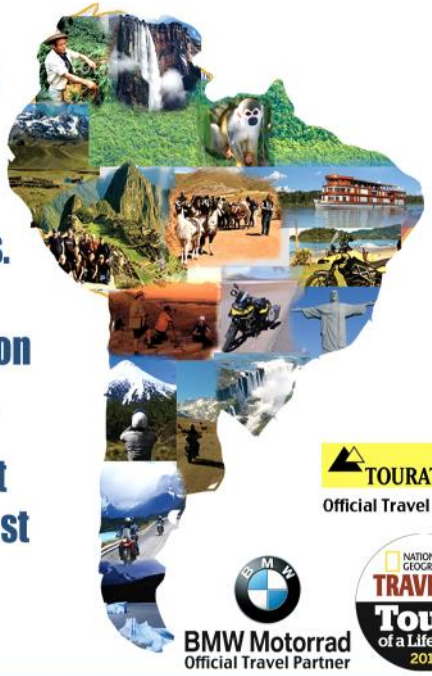

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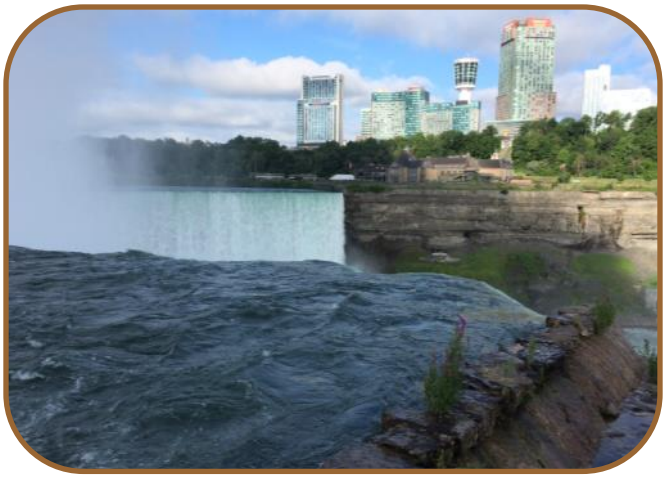
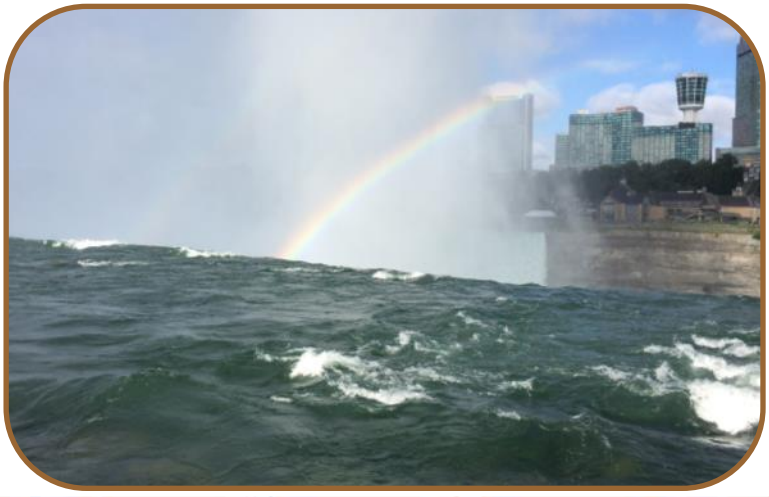
BMWMOA Rally Brew Tour Photos

Kristin Cioffi

Niagara Falls, New York

Kristin Cioffi





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