

## ON THE AVENUE

BMWRA#53  
BMWMOA#216

Knob Mountain North Carolina Motorcycle Chapter  
Newsletter #4 - November 2007  
Website: <http://knobbies.org>

### 2007/8 Officers:

President-Gene Smith   V. President-Dave Kiziah   Secretary-Crystal Gibson  
Treasurer- Sam Aycock   Activities Directors-Daryl & Penny Carswell  
Newsletter Co-Editors-Patsy Smith & Sharon Wilson

WEEKLY SUNDAY RIDES - Daylight savings time has started so our Sunday morning meeting time is now 9:00 a.m. at Timberwood Restaurant, I-40 Exit 106, Morganton, NC for breakfast and a day ride. Even if you can't ride, join us for breakfast and fellowship! First Sunday in every month is "picnic Sunday."

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS -- Keith & Jan Lackey, Statesville, NC, sponsor Gary Lackey. Jimmie Dawkins, Fort Mill, SC, sponsor Gary Clark. Other 2007 new members to date: Bettie Drum, Michael Sloane, Paul & Sara Phillips, Jay & Milinda Middlebrooks, Charlie Mosteller, Jay & Corinne Lindquist, and Mark & Margaret Gengler.

NEWLETTER INFO - If you would like to submit an article, please give to Patsy or Sharon. Or, you can email to [psmith1951@charter.net](mailto:psmith1951@charter.net) or [sharondannywilson@charter.net](mailto:sharondannywilson@charter.net).

2008 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL. It's that time of year again to turn in a Knobbie Membership Renewal Form. A copy is enclosed for your convenience. Remember, if you don't send in your renewal form, you will not continue to receive the newsletter. There is no renewal fee. No need to complete the entire form if there are no changes in your information. You can just "check renewal, no changes from last year" and write in your name. Please give to Patsy or Sharon or mail it in to the address on the bottom of the form.

MESSAGE FROM GENE - Anyone who has written any type of newsletter or letter to a club knows how hard it is to get started. On top of that, this time I wasn't sure to start with all the good news or the bad news.

If you have email you've heard by now that Lamar Strickland passed away last Tuesday October, 23. And what a sad day it was. Lamar was just one great guy and I along with our Knobbies will sorely miss him. Lamar and I shared the same

birthday, same day, same year, so I was always "politely" kidding him about how old he was getting. I sure wish he could have made it to a ripe old age, but some things are just not meant to be. I want to personally thank every Knobbie for their consideration and help to the family. Lamar's two brothers and his sister certainly appreciated everything from each person. They are like Lamar, just great folks and are welcome back anytime.

Good news, however, is that Pam Chester went through her operation with apparently NO glitches. Hoorah for that, so with that, let's continue with good news, eh? Get well Pam! I know speaking to Sam you are ready to ride mentally, just got to get that bod up and running!

What happened to summer? Here it is fall! The season for the time change, cooler weather and falling leaves. For the next few weeks or maybe months (if this global warming keeps up), we should have just great riding. Don't forget the week after the time change our breakfast meetings go to 9 am. Speaking about leaves, remember they are one more slick customer on the roads, especially after a rain or early am.

Keeping up the four corners ride, Mike, Pan McSwain and I did the NE corner while attending the North of the Border Rally, just south of Virginia Beach. We met up with Ed Blackwelder so we take off and locate the corner after riding back from the Kitty Hawk area. Trust me, if you haven't been to the outer banks in a few years you are about to enter culture shock. Looking at all the condos, houses, etc. that have been built up there; you would understand why I say this may be worse than Katrina WHEN we get hit. Astounding as to the development there. It seems NC has been "discovered" from the mountains to the sea with no regard to the weather.

Then last weekend, Patsy and I took off to locate the NW corner. Now get this, I had a GPS and definitely located the "real" corner, however, true to form for Gene Smith, I got lost! We ended up on a dead end dirt road, with very little area to turn around. So I crossed a small bridge and at the end was a farm house, four Rottweiler dogs, no trespassing signs and thankfully, literally, a little old lady. So here goes Geno, thinking to myself, well I've got my leathers on if these dogs want to eat me!! I made it, so speaking to the little lady, she said, "Well the actual corner is over that hill, except it takes a four wheel drive to get to it. Oh, the Mennonite church is just over the other hill over there! You can go through that gate then three more gates and over the hill; it couldn't be over 200 yards!!!! Don't think you can make it with that motorcycle". So, off we go, back down the same long dirt road, and of course, we then ran into, another dirt road. We turned around and located a nice Marathon gas/country store with great sandwiches. While standing in line, a lady behind me says, "What are you doing with a picture of my church?" I explained I was looking for the church, what we were doing and how our club was giving all the proceeds to the Ride for Kids. This really thrilled her because everyone in the church was wondering why in the world all these

motorcycles kept showing up at her church. Her, her husband and two kids then lead us up, guess what? The same dirt road we had turned back on. Up and over the mountain which by the way, had absolutely gorgeous scenery. Lo and behold who should we see coming at us but Paul and Sara Phillips! They turned around, and then we all chatted with this extremely nice couple. Knobbies strike again! I am hopeful I can make the SE corner before the end of the year, so wish me luck, good riding and the same to all of you. Keep on riding and ride safe!

One last note. Believe this or not, we still do not have a final count on our share of monies from the Biltmore RA Rally, so I am sure by our Christmas Party, we can give out the good news. Unfortunately I won't be able to make this year's party. Our son is getting married that weekend and with all the in-laws, outlaws, friends, etc., we just won't be able to get back in time.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY** - The Knobbie Christmas Party will be Sunday, December 2, 2007 at Little Sienna Restaurant located at the intersection of US 70 West and NC Highway 80 in Marion. The meal will be served about 12:30. The cost is \$11.50 per person which covers your food, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Please send or give your money and reservation to Sharon Wilson by November 25 so we can get a head count for the restaurant. Sharon's address is 3474 Icard Dairy Barn Road, Connelly Springs, NC 28612. Her telephone # is 828-397-6419. The gift exchange (\$5.00) is always fun, so don't forget your gift. Try to bring something that would be suitable for a male or female. Also, please bring your total 2007 miles for the club mileage contest. In addition, be thinking of your nominations for the Knobbiest Knobbie.

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING** - Our annual business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Jan 20th in the back left dining room at Timberwood Restaurant, I-40 Exit 106 at 9:00 a.m. There will be a breakfast buffet set up for us and the meeting will follow. The long distance riders for the year and the Knobbiest Knobbie will be announced. Plans will also be made for the 2008 Knobbie Campouts.

**KNOBBIE FALL CAMPOUT REPORT** -- Everyone had a great time at the Knobbie Fall Campout at Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground in Cruso, September 7-9, and the weather was beautiful! We had a great turnout of 40+ folks. Everyone took home a prize and one of our new members, Margaret Gengler, won the 50/50 drawing. Great riding, great food and lots of great fellowship! Another fun campout for all!

**SPECIAL THANKS.** Thanks to Sam and Laura Aycock for a delicious BBQ dinner at their home on September 16th. Also, Bettie Drum and Earl Jenkins hosted a pizza party at Bettie's home on September 31st. The pizza was great and enjoyed by all!

NORTH CAROLINA FOUR CORNERS TOUR UPDATE. As of October 25th, 42 have signed up and 12 completed - Haskell Shealy, Bradley & Candy Richey, Hal & Bobbie Smith, P.O. Wilson, Dave & Cheryl Kiziah, Daryl Carswell, Jerry Rector, Crystal Gibson and Truman Walton. There are still stickers, t-shirts and sweatshirts for sale. Contact Candy or Bradley Richey at 828-495-4456 or email blrcdr@hotmail.com for information or to receive a tour packet. Cost of the tour is \$10.00 each per rider/co-rider. As of this date, the Tour has made \$500 in proceeds which was donated to the Ride for Kids.

GRADUATION INVITATION. You are invited to the college graduation of Rachel Greene, daughter of Carroll Greene of Lenoir, NC. Rachel will be graduating from Western Carolina University on December 15 at 2 p.m. Carroll has asked that anyone who would like to ride up together as a group to meet at 10 a.m. at the Coffee House, I-40, Exit 100. Rachel would like to see as many bikes as possible!

NEW TRAVEL AGENCY. Two of our members, Paul and Sara Phillips, have asked that we let you know that they are now involved in the travel agency business. The website is [www.paulphillips.worldventures.biz](http://www.paulphillips.worldventures.biz). They can book cruises, hotels and flights at a greatly reduced price. Please check it out.

LANCASTER RIDE WEST 2007. Like the by-roads and crossroads were calling Paula and me, we mounted the Valkyrie, and were ready again to ride, explore and head West. In the early morning hours of August 1, we were packed up and departed Morganton for Colorado, it being one of our favorite states to visit. As you have to cross Kansas heading West, we took advantage of the opportunity to see firsthand the damage to Greensburg where the class four tornado touched down four months ago. Having never witnessed the aftermath of such a tornado words cannot describe what we viewed. Most of the town and homes were gone, nothing left but some concrete sidewalks and streets. They had stacked debris on corners and painted signs so people could identify where things use to be located. The town probably will not rebuild as most of the residents have decided to move elsewhere. We continued on our journey. The weather across was hot, but we had our water device aboard which kept us fully hydrated before arriving in Colorado Springs.

We spent a couple of days in Colorado Springs enjoying the ride on the Cog Railway to the top of Pikes Peak arriving at 14,110 feet above the tree line. The view at the top was worth the four hour round trip aboard the railway which has been in operation since 1891. If you are in that area, we both recommend taking the time to enjoy this experience. To arrive at the railway you must travel through a small town named "Manitou Springs" which is also a great place to spend some leisure time.

Upon departing Colorado Springs our route took us through Fairplay, Colorado, where by chance I observed the name of a lawyer on his building who used to

practice in Lenoir. We stopped, but his partner said he was out of the office or in court (likely story) so we did not get to visit with him. Our route of travel took us on through Breckenridge, Frisco, up to Granby to the entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park.

Our ride across the Rocky Mountain National Park was an experience within itself. We had not had rain since leaving home but upon entering the park the rain started. With rain suits on, we started the climb to the summit at 12,454 feet taking you above the tree line. During the course of the ride up we encountered road work....I mean bad roadwork with the surface of the road gone exposing only dirt, fine gravel and a strange mineral based soil. The soil would stick to your tires, underside of your motorcycle, under the fenders and anything else it touched. At times we were stopped waiting for traffic to clear from the opposite direction. Of course there are no guardrails on the mountains with a drop off straight down thousands of feet, and you are only four feet from the edge. Riding the park you arrive at a full understanding as to why they are named the "Rocky Mountains" and can only appreciate all of the views offered in the area.

Upon leaving the park we arrived in Estes Park...what a beautiful small town. We had reservations for the night at the American Wilderness Lodge, which turned out to be like camping in a room. However, it was dry with a hot bath and within walking distance of town. The rain stopped and we were off to explore Estes Park and really enjoyed visiting the town.

Like all rides the time comes to head home. We rode state and county back roads all the way across until we got to Pine Mountain State Park in Kentucky where we spent our last night. We had stayed there on a prior trip and would encourage you do to the same if you are in the area. While crossing Kansas we came upon the Geographic Center of the United States marker where we stopped for a picture.

The end comes to all good rides and fourteen days later it happened. There is a Japanese Proverb which applies to many different events in life and it goes...."We're fools whether we ride or not, so we might as well ride." See you on the by-roads and crossroads across our great Nation. Paula, Ron and the Valkyrie

PASSAGE FROM ECCLESIASTES 3:1-8 NIV was sent via email by Paul Phillips after the death of Lamar Strickland in hopes that it would help someone in the death of a loved one. It helped him deal with the death of his son, Mikhail.

There is a time for everything,  
And a season for every activity under heaven:  
A time to be born and a time to die,  
A time to plant and a time to uproot,  
A time to kill and a time to heal,

A time to tear down and a time to build,  
A time to weep and a time to laugh,  
A time to morn and a time to dance,  
A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
A time to embrace and a time to refrain,  
A time to search and a time to give up,  
A time to keep and a time to throw away,  
A time to tear and a time to mend,  
A time to be silent and a time to speak,  
A time to love and a time to hate,  
A time to for war and a time for peace.

Paul and Sara Phillips, Parents of Mikhail Phillips, 1986-2003

The death of their son has been extremely tough, because he was a healthy, very active in school & church (music especially), scouts, road his bicycle regularly (long distances) helped around home, etc. He simply went to bed one night and never woke up the next morning.

ELECTRIC CLOTHING - submitted by Carroll Greene. With cold weather starting to arrive, one of the best ways to extend your riding season is to have an electric jacket or vest to keep you warm and comfortable. Electric vests and jackets are commercially available but can be expensive. You can make your own electric jacket with great results. Take a lined summer jacket and insert the wire between the lining and tack it in place with thread and needle. Basically, it is fine Teflon coated wire which warms up when 12 volts DC is applied. 60 feet draws about 3 amps, giving you 36-40 watts of comfortable heat. The wattage can also be modified by changing the length of wire. Changing the wire length will also change the power consumption and the amount of heat generated. Be careful about cutting the wire too short. A short wire can generate a tremendous amount of heat, resulting in severe burns to you and your jacket. Since some of the commercial jackets draw about 6-7 amps/80 watts, bikes with a limited amount of charging capability will find this homemade jacket with reduced power consumption easier on the electrical system. A switch and connector on a 10 amp fused line is also needed.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A BIKER WHEN ...Sunday is set aside for riding instead of watching sports on TV!

CHIT CHAT AND SUNDAY RIDES - by Sharon Wilson.

August 3- Patsy and Gene took off to Cruso, NC Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground with their camper. They had a great time with the Motor Guzzi group who was having their annual campout.

August 5- Picnic Sunday and PO Wilson lead us to Hungry Mother State Park, Va. for out hot dogs, PO's cole slaw, Cheryl's cake and all the fixings. Riders

were PO, Bobbi, Dave & Cheryl, Pam & Sam, glad to have Jerry Rector with us, Hank, Bettie & Earl, and Danny and I. We made our way from Hungry Mother State Park to Damascus and then to Shady Valley. We found a lot of interesting roads on our way to Damascus, but it was really fun. Road 300 miles.

August 26 - Several of us met at 7 am to ride over to Lake Lure to help with the parking of motorcycles at the annual Ride for Kids. There was over \$95,000 collected for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Research. There was one of the largest groups of children there I had seen. Several had completed college and smaller children who were still in treatment. Thanks to the parents of these children who had them there for us to enjoy.

September 7-9- Knobies Campout at Blue Ridge Motorcycle campout.

September 16 - Hal, Joey, Danny & Sharon met at Timberwood at 7 a.m. for breakfast and then over to Lenoir to help in the 100 miles of Pure Hill Bicycle event. They had 750 cyclists to enter the event, which went from Lenoir to the top of Grandfather Mountain. It was a little cool compared to the 100 degree weather we had been having. After seeing that all had made it past the Unifour Trail Bike Aide Station, which was over 50 miles into their ride, we left. We then rode over to Sam & Laura Aycock's home for a great BBQ feast -- they did it themselves as usual. We always enjoy the hospitality at the Aycock home. They have such a beautiful view looking out over the horses and the pasture. After eating all that BBQ, they topped it off with ice cream sundaes. We were then ready to just take it home and call it another great day. Thanks to Sam and Laura for opening their home to the Knobies. PO, Bobbi, Michael Sloane, Cheryl & Dave and John Inman took a ride around Lake James to Marion, up NC 80 to Micaville and on North to NC 226A to 226. In Bakersville took 261 North across Roan Mountain, down Tenn. 143 to Roan Mountain, South on 19E to 184. Picked up 181 in Newland. South on 181 where we passed Danny, Sharon, Hal & Joey working the Bridge to Bridge. They then took left toward Brown Mountain and then right on to Piedmont Road then turned east onto Bost Road to Sam & Laura's Home.

September 23- PO & Danny met at Jack B Quick in Icard at about 5:50 a.m. to fuel up. But they were checking out at shift change so you would think we were trying to start World War III. We went on up to Granny's Kitchen for breakfast with Hal and Bobbi. Gary Clark and Sam Aycock joined us there. We got on I40 East with PO in the lead at about 6:55 a.m. Dave and Cheryl was waiting for us at exit 133. We took I77 north to Wytheville, Va. and on to Princeton, W VA. When we stopped for fuel, Sam noticed a strange noise coming from his wing. Danny and Gary determined it was the alternator bearing. Thankfully Sam was able to proceed and we followed I77 to Beckley and Hwy US 19 North to the New River Bridge at Fayetteville, W Va. What a sight! Gary had made the trip before and he mentioned that we could ride Route 82 down into the gorge and up the other side out. We passed under the bridge 5 times. We decided to take a different route home. At Bluefield we picked up US 460 to Abington. From there to Damascus, Mountain City to Boone and back to Myra's at about 6:40 pm. PO had a total of 507 miles. Dave and PO made some really good pictures. PO, Hal & Bobbi, Sam Aycock, Dave & Cheryl, Gary and Danny. Written by PO. From breakfast

Sam Chester & Pam lead a group up around Watauga Lake. Those following Sam were Pam, Bettie & Earl, Paul & Sara, Vern and a friend Paul, Gene & Patsy.

September 26- Pam had her heart surgery which lasted a few hours longer than expected but she did great and went home on the 3rd day after surgery. She is already back to work.

September 31- PO lead us on a ride around Lake James to see how bad the water was down, then up 221 to 226A to Little Switzerland and Spruce Pine, 19 E to 194. From Banner Elk to Boone on to 105. Stopped to say hello to Daryl and Penny's daughter Chelsea in Boone at her apartment, where she is attending college. Then down 421 to Wilkesboro and Hwy 16 into Conover and old 321 to Maiden and we ended up at Bettie Drum's Home where she had Pizza, cake and ice cream waiting on us. Thanks to Bettie and Earl for having the Knobbies. Bettie's son Rodney and his wife were there and also Bettie's sister. There were probably 50 Knobbies that showed up, it's always good to see some of the wives that don't ride. What a great ride and a great day. Hope everyone that likes popcorn was able to buy some from Haskel's great grandson. They are trying to save enough for his Cub Scout troop to go on a trip to Charleston. I think he did pretty well with sales from the Knobbies. His little sister sure was helping him out. Thanks again to Bettie for having the Knobbies at her home.

SWAP SHOP/WANT ADS - If you have items for sale or trade or looking for something in particular, please give information to Patsy or Sharon for the next newsletter.

2003 Suzuki 400 Burgman Scooter for sale. Like new - only 2,700 miles. Includes hand guards and detachable heated handgrips. \$3,000. Contact Gene or Patsy Smith at 828-439-9754. Or email [gsmith1949@charter.net](mailto:gsmith1949@charter.net).

2006 Yamaha 250 Morphous Scooter for sale with about 2000 miles. Contact Sharon Wilson at 828-397-6419 for details.

Moto Guzi with side car for sale. Contact David Powell at 828-327-4868 for details.

Dowco XXL. Guardian Cycle Weather Cover for sale with heat shield, vents and lock loop. Designed for tour and large cycles. Gray and silver colors; storage bag; new condition. \$35. Contact Ron Lancaster, 828-438-3979.

Rally Pak two piece luggage, extra large for sale. Lots of storage; black; fits on sissy bar or back seat; new condition. \$45. Contact Ron Lancaster, 828-438-3979.

Goldwing and Trailer for sale with many extra parts. Also, a Honda Rebel which is loaded. Contact Bill or Sherry at [billsgw@bellsouth.net](mailto:billsgw@bellsouth.net).

2000 BMW R1100RT for sale. \$6,000. Very good condition with touring extras. 40,000 miles. Contact Hank Rowland at 828-201-7322 for more information.

2000 Softail Custom Bike for sale. 108 cci S&S motor, crane hi 4 cam, kury-akyn hyper charger, custom chrome weld alum mags, open primary belt drive, custom paint and many more extras. \$14,800. Call Greg 828-754-3046 for more information.

BMW K100RS for sale. Has been covered for about 10 years. Probably a good runner with \$1,000 and a little work. Perfect for parts. Contact Bill Cruse at 704-258-7156 or email [billc@sdvneuralnetwork.com](mailto:billc@sdvneuralnetwork.com). Link to see is <http://www.sdvneuralnetwork.com/deadmansale/BMWK100RS.htm>

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