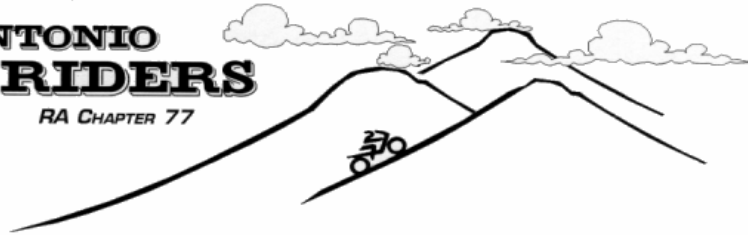




**SAN ANTONIO
BMW RIDERS**
MOA CHAPTER 62 RA CHAPTER 77



ISSUE # 151

January/February 2007

President's Notes

By Graham Littrell

SABMWRA State of the Union

Here's to a great year to everyone, 2007 is up and running and the club has a great 2007 calendar that is growing with rides and community activities.

As the newly elected president, for those of you who were not at the Christmas Party it was a landslide victory, probably due to the fact that no one else was volunteered for the position. My thanks to John Dunn for his service and commitment to not only being president but the 'Web Page Editor' as well. I have been a member for 14 months, we just returned to Texas, are living in Boerne, and this club has been a pleasant surprise. This is a good group of people and we all need to get involved. It's really not a big commitment of time or energy. The Web Page Editor is probably the most time demanding. So if you have an interest in 'doing something' let us know. You can call or email us with your interest or area of expertise, also you will see the involvement opportunities in the calendar, we are planning more community efforts than last year and with some worthwhile groups.

You heard about the two December accidents, I have seen both helmets and both riders would have received some big time face and head injuries if it was not for the full face helmet. At the most serious accident, one of the riders on this ride is a physician and the way he attended to the rider made me realize that many of us would be interested in a (pick one) workshop, seminar, or article on basic first aid and accident awareness, i.e. what to do at the scene. We have several physicians, and certified safety instructors in our club. Our goal is to get some direction from them as to how we can identify some programs and the best way to make them available to the club members. So, hopefully these are the things you're looking for in a club. One of my personal goals is to make the newsletters, the workshops, the rides and community projects worth the investment of your time.

Here's to your riding goals for the year,

Graham

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John Dunn -webmaster

Club dues are \$12 single, \$18
w/associate(s).

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Newsletter is published bi-monthly
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Classified ads are free to members
Please call or e-mail the ads to the
editor. Advertising rates for
businesses are:

One year - 6 issues

Business Card	\$30.00
Quarter Page	\$50.00
Half page	\$75.00
Full Page	\$100.00

Safety corner



It appears that pretty much the entire membership of our club wears a helmet as standard safety practice. But maybe it is time to remind everyone why we should always wear a full face, full coverage model.

The helmet pictured above is from a dog/motorcycle encounter that left the rider with multiple broken ribs, a punctured lung, a fractured wrist and various areas of road rash. Needless to say the dog fared much worse (the dog was speeding and totally at fault) than the human and the bike. But note the scratches on the face shield. It is quite obvious that the rider would have suffered painful and perhaps even more distressing injuries without the structured barrier offered by the full-face design. So, the next time you see a good friend of yours don less than full protection, show 'em the love!

And when should I replace my helmet?

- Did you crash it? Replace!
- Did you drop it hard enough to crack the foam? Replace.
- Is it from the 1970's? Replace.
- Is it uncomfortable to the point of distraction? Replace.
- Does it lack a DOT, Snell or ECE 22.05 sticker? Replace.
- Can you not adjust it to fit correctly? Replace!!



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Reminders for 2007

- Check membership roll online and renew now, if applicable
- Verify current contact info (e-mail, ph#, address) with Karen, nazabell@att.net
- Please RSVP to Karen for attendance at EACH THURSDAY NIGHT SOCIAL so that we will have room for everyone. Let her know by Wednesday of the current week, please!
- Check website regularly for scheduled rides, events, and announcements
- VOLUNTEER some of your time or SUBMIT an article...
WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

SABMWRA Club Activity Calendar

We will continue to meet at the Walmart parking lot on 1604 & 281 each Sunday at 8am for a breakfast ride, led by Chuck Wetzel

January

Thursday 18th – Social 7PM – Main Street Pizza & Pasta, Crossroads Blvd – RSVP to Karen!

Saturday 20th – January 20, 2007 Ride to the "Come and Get It Cannon" in Gonzales

Breakfast at 8:45 at Piedras Negras Cafe 1312 S Laredo

Rendezvous at US Post Office at S. IH-35/ S. Alamo Street Exit (Within sight of Pioneer Flour Mill).

KSU - Kick Stands Up - We will leave Post Office at 10:00 AM. Come join the SABMWRA in a Texas Heritage Ride to Gonzales. It will feature the rolling hills of SE Texas and its wide sweeping high speed turns. A circumnavigation of the BIG Peanut in Floresville is also on the agenda. Wow, how can you miss that phenomenon? Then on to Gonzales thru maybe Gillet, Nixon, or Smiley. The ride will end in the Gonzales Town Square. Several restaurants are ready and able to fill the void. My vote is for the Gonzales Meat Market BBQ Texas style. After touring the town or the Long Branch, I recommend a ride home via 466. Put Woody's cell # in your phone – 210-219-2176

Thursday 25th – Social 7PM – Main Street Pizza & Pasta, Crossroads Blvd – RSVP to Karen!

February

Thursday 1st - Social 7PM – La Fonda Oak Hills – RSVP to Karen!

Saturday 3rd - No ride but please volunteer to help at the food bank. See website for details

Thursday 8th - Social 7PM – La Fonda Oak Hills – RSVP to Karen!

Thursday 15th - Social 7PM – La Fonda Oak Hills – RSVP to Karen!

Saturday 17th – 8AM

3rd Saturday ride. Meet at the Exxon station at 1604 & Bandera Rd. for a ride to Lums in Junction for some of the best burgers in West Texas

Thursday 22nd - Social 7PM – La Fonda Oak Hills – RSVP to Karen!

March

Friday 16th – **Sunday 18th** – **Big Bend trip**

Chuck has set aside 15 rooms under the San Antonio BMW Riders, Fri & Sat Mar 16th & 17th.

Call and reserve your room @432-426-2112. You can cancel up to 30 days in advance, no penalty, 30 to 8 days 25% penalty. If you wait until the last week you are charged for the room.

I'm sure we can have more than 15 rooms if you call now.

Product Review

Lee Parks Design DeerSports PCI riding gloves

By Paul Mulhern

I hate winter gloves. I know they are a necessity in certain weather but the bulk and loss of control feel always bothered me. There was also the issue that many winter gloves were made out of nylon or thin leather to make them less bulky and I was concerned about their ability to hold up in the event of an accident. Many years ago I crashed wearing winter gloves that, though they were leather on the outside, didn't hold up as well as I expected (in other words they wore through in a slide) because they were too thin.

Over the years my glove wardrobe has evolved to four basic pairs of gloves; summer, long gauntlet unlined (for cool weather), long gauntlet lined (for cooler weather) and winter gloves (for cold weather). When I came across the DeerSports PCI gloves I was able to eliminate one of those pairs of gloves.

DeerSports PCI's are made from deer and elk skin so they have excellent abrasion resistance but still retain good control feel. The gloves are lined with Phase Change Outlast material on the bottom and Thinsulate on top. This allows the gloves to absorb heat generated by heated grips and then the thinsulate on top helps retain it. This design allows the gloves to be much warmer than their bulk would indicate.

The gloves are advertised as having a temperature range of 30 to 70 degrees. Without heated grips the gloves are only comfortable down to the low 40's. With heated grips the gloves are comfortable into the 30's. But, once it starts to warm up, so do the gloves and by the time the temperature gets into the 70's you will be forced to change gloves. Of course the amount of hand protection your bike setup provides and how you react to cold will determine the temperature range you find comfortable with these gloves.

These gloves are extremely rugged and designed to protect your hands in the event of a crash.

There is still nothing better than leather in a slide and these gloves are thick enough to survive even racing speed crashes. The gloves have a Velcro strap at the wrist to ensure they won't fly off if you tumble in an accident and another Velcro strap at the end of the gauntlet to keep them from flapping in the wind.

These are not winter gloves as they lack sufficient insulation to keep you warm in really cold (below 30) temperatures. They are not waterproof, and it is recommended you do not treat them with any waterproofing treatment. But, due to their operable temperature range they do replace a couple of other pairs of gloves. And, due their construction and weight, they offer good protection while still maintaining good control feel. The gloves are available in all black, all tan or half and half. They are available from Lee Parks Designs, <http://www.leeparksdesign.com> or Aerostich, <http://www.aerostich.com>. The price is \$179 a pair from either source.

* * *

Thanks to all who donated to the Jim Adair Fund. The fund is now closed, but we are starting a contingency fund for circumstances such as these. Please help us get it going!



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MAIL**

**S A BMW Riders
PO Box 15143
San Antonio, TX
78212**

**Please RSVP to Karen for all
weekly socials.**

**Check your mailing label.
Most club memberships expire
in December.**