



# Sample of rallies scheduled in 2017

*submitted by Wunderlich America*

It may be early, but some clubs have already scheduled events in the new year—as far ahead as September! Mark your calendars now, and check in with your local BMW club for updates to the calendar.

## **Tarheel Travelers Ride in the New Year**

Just what it says. What better way to kick off a new year than with coffee, Beemers, and like-minded friends?

January 1, 2017

McDonald's on US401 and US421  
Lillington, NC

For more at Tarheel Travelers.



*Image courtesy of Rex Brown. Licensed under Creative Commons 2.0.*

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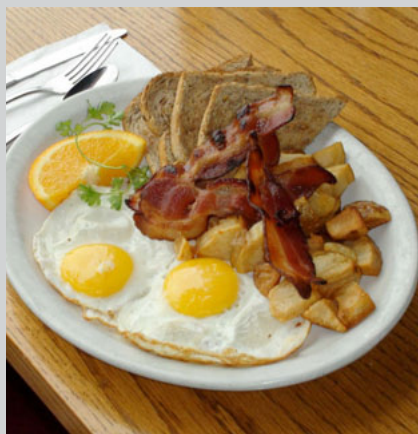
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### **MAILING ADDRESS:**

BMW Riders of Vancouver Island  
6-310 Goldstream Avenue  
Victoria BC V9B 2W3

## **Next Breakfast/Brunch**

### **Saturday, January 7**



#### **WHERE:**

Cherries Breakfast Bistro  
#3 - 4144 Wilkinson Road  
Victoria

#### **WHEN:**

9:30 am



# Florida winter rally claims to be the “coolest”

## BMWNEF Winter Rally

BMWNEF's 34th Winter Rally, “Florida’s Coolest Rally” is January 13-15 at Camp Blanding, Florida Army National Guard base, Starke, Florida (south of Jacksonville).

We’ve hosted 33 successful rallies at Camp Blanding and other venues. We limit our attendance to 500 and we have sold out every year in recent history. We have vendors, great food (a Brats & Beer on Friday and a steak dinner on Saturday night), excellent camping areas, clean shower facilities, local area rides, seminars and riding exhibitions .

Non-member fee is \$55, members \$45. All attendees MUST Pre-Register. No walk up registrations are permitted due to the base being an active military concern.

Information about BMWNEF can be found at : [www.bmwnef.org](http://www.bmwnef.org)

Rally information at: <https://bmwnef.org/2017-rally/>

As of November 6, 2016, 375 out of 500 slots have been taken.

January 13-15, 2017  
Camp Blanding  
Florida Army National Guard Base,  
Starke, Florida

More info at BMWMOA.

## Airheads Beemer Club Death Valley Rendezvous

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the “Oldest and Lowest of all Airhead Rendezvous,”

and, as in the previous 24 years, we will brave the unpredictable weather of February to gather at the Furnace Creek Campground in Death Valley National Park on President’s Day weekend.

The Furnace Creek Ranch is nearby with a well-stocked general store, restaurants, saloon, Olympic sized spring fed pool, showers, museum, gas station, & motel rooms. The Death Valley Nat’l Park visitor’s center is also a short walk from the campground. Whether you decide to explore the park or leave your ride parked for the day, we know you’ll have a good time. There are miles of dirt roads to explore and the paved ones take you to all the highlights the park has to offer.

The event is steeped in tradition, and last year we counted over 130 motorcycles with attendees from as far away as New Jersey! We all enjoyed the perfect 80 degree weather in the shady trees with friends old and new. We hope to see YOU there!

Here is what you get: 3 nights of National Park camping, an array of fine craft beverages kept icy cold. We won’t run out. 3 premium meals by Pixton/Kempton Moto Catering including Saturday Breakfast, Saturday Dinner, Saturday evening champagne toast, Sunday Brunch, Friday dinner & Saturday lunch may be available a la carte at a nominal charge. Healthy Snacks – Cases of fresh fruit / crunchy

munchies, & complimentary toothbrushes & toothpaste. Nightly bonfire, camaraderie with like-minded people & priceless memories.

We also have door prizes from Sena, Butler Maps, Parts Haus, EPM Performance Imports, Touratech, Schuberth, Adventure Pockets, Mosko Moto, Sargent Cycle Products, Kermit Chairs, Fontana Village Resort, Adaptive Technologies, Warm N Safe and Wunderlich.

\$60 Registration Fee if received by December 31, 2016. \$70 Registration Fee if received after January 1, 2017. \$80 Onsite registration — no guarantee we will have enough meals, space, etc. Registration fee will be refunded to you if you cancel by February 1.

NEW for this year: Early bird arrivals are okay!! We have reserved a few select sites on Thursday night as well, so if you’re a day ahead of the official start time, we’ll have a place for you to set up camp without the hassle of dealing with the rangers, reservations, etc. We will ask for a donation to cover the cost of the extra night. Registration is still done the old fashioned way: You will mail a check once we’ve set the price: John Covington – Central California Airmarshal – 714-309-8077, 1707 Victoria Drive, Fullerton CA 92631 or [jwccov@yahoo.com](mailto:jwccov@yahoo.com)

For additional info, details, and



# Try a BMW rally on for size this year

questions: Call, text, or email:

Gary Jackson – Southern California  
Airmarshal – 619-559-0108, 3265  
Dwight Street, San Diego CA 92104  
[SoCalAirmarshal@gmail.com](mailto:SoCalAirmarshal@gmail.com)

## **Springfield Milers 35th Anniversary Aerostitch St. Louis Pop-Up Event**

Contact club for details.

March 10-13, 2017

Gravois Plaza Shopping Center  
St. Louis, MO

More info at Springfield Milers.

## **Port Washington BMW Club Wild Goose Run**

The Port Washington BMW Club will be hosting the 33rd Wild Goose Run on Sunday April 23, 2017. They would like to invite all Midwest-area clubs to join them for a noon brunch and festivities at the Bayside Supper Club (W9231 County Road G, Beaver Dam, WI #920-887-0505)

Price: TBD/per person includes gourmet meal, tax, tip, trophies and door prizes. Please make your reservation directly with your local BMW motorcycle club or with the

Port Club before March 31, 2017.

Guests are always welcome!

For map and more info: [www.portbmwclub.com](http://www.portbmwclub.com) or Brian Justman at [brianjustman@kewaskumpig.com](mailto:brianjustman@kewaskumpig.com)

April 23, 2017  
Beaver Dam, WI

## **ETBMW 5th Annual Texas National Picnic**

We're guessing on the approximate date. See last year's event here.

May 2017?

Check back with BMWMOA for updates.

## **BMW Riders of Oregon Chief Joseph Rally**

“Join us at the Grant County Fairgrounds, nestled in the scenic Strawberry Mountains, John Day Oregon, for a weekend of terrific riding, seminars, food and fellowship. This historic city is located at the Junction of Hwys 395 and 26. Enjoy the West's best riding; gold and cattle country, refreshing mountain passes, painted hills, river canyons, and wide open desert.

All this in one day's riding! Visit the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument or any of four different museums. Begin planning your trip now! Oregon is for Riders! Come to John Day and see what we mean!”

—Doug Tewksbury, BMWRO  
Rallymaster 2017

June 23-25, 2017  
John Day, Oregon

Check back with BMWRO for updates.

## **Finger Lakes BMW Club 43rd Annual Finger Lakes Rally**

Plan way ahead with this one. It's always Labor Day weekend, which means the date is already set. Check back with the club for updates.

September 1-4, 2017  
Watkins Glen Hidden Valley Group  
Camp

Preregistration normally opens in June

Preregistration not required to attend

See Finger Lakes BMW for more information.

## ***A Reminder to All..***

If you haven't already paid your 2017 BMW RVI membership dues please complete a membership renewal form and forward it with your payment to Peter Juergensen.

Alternatively you can hand it to Peter at the next breakfast meeting.

**Please click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the Membership form from our website.**



# In Memoriam: Rob Chapple



## Rob Chapple

We are sad to inform club members that Rob Chapple passed away on Tuesday, December 6, following a short battle with pancreatic cancer.

Rob was an active member of the club and supported our Facebook initiatives. He toured, attended rallies and was part of the Nakusp games committee. He came up with great ideas to make the games a success every year.

Rob, we will miss you  
*Ride in Peace.*





# Ethanol: Everything you did or didn't want to know

*We apologize that technical oversights meant that the entire ethanol article was not published in the December 2016 issue.*

*by G. Murray Crosbie*

Like it or not, ethanol in pump gas is here to stay. Although it does reduce pollution in our atmosphere, it can cause problems for many collector cars, boats and motorcycles because of some of the detrimental effects related to its use.

Ethanol is ethyl alcohol which is the same alcohol found in your glass of beer or wine. Ethanol is added to gasoline to reduce carbon monoxide emissions and boost octane levels. Nowadays most cars can run on an ethanol fuel blend of up to 10% which is the most common gas sold in the US. This is known as E10 fuel. You might also have heard it referred to as gasohol or renewable fuel, as the ethanol comes from renewable sources. Ethanol is refined from grain alcohol; most specifically corn here in North America, but it can also be made from switch grass, manure, willow trees, and even sugar cane in some countries.

The use of ethanol will only increase. Federal law in the U.S. mandates the use of 36 billion gallons of an alternative fuel per year by 2022. The only way they would get there is to buy more gas – which is unlikely to happen,

given the cost of a gallon these days – OR - increase the “ethanol content” in each gallon. Many recent production motorcycles are able to accept E10, but unless your owner’s manual states

specifically that it is an E85 or Flex Fuel compatible, you cannot use E85 fuels.

\* Two points to



remember as you read:

## OCTANE RATING:

The higher the octane number, the more compression the fuel can withstand before detonating / igniting.

## BTU - as a unit of Power:

One BTU per hour converted into horsepower equals = 0.00039 hp -or- 1 horsepower is approximately

2544 BTU/h

## The GOOD:

- Ethanol is clean-burning and is a higher-octane fuel than conventional gas.
- Ethanol is produced from renewable sources.
- Ethanol-powered vehicles produce lower carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide emissions.
- Ethanol production keeps farmers in business and creates new farming and ethanol processing jobs.
- Because ethanol is produced domestically, it reduces dependence on foreign oil and increases the nation’s energy independence.
- Ethanol production requires less fossil (coal) and petroleum (gas) fuels to produce a BTU of energy opposed to gasoline, although it does require much more water.

## The BAD:

- Ethanol creates 34 percent less energy than unadulterated gasoline per gallon.

This equals a loss in fuel economy of up to 3 miles per gallon for E10 fuels. In terms of heat, ethanol produces 76,330 BTU per gallon, whereas diesel fuel produces 128,450 BTU per gallon, gasoline 116,090 BTU per gallon and LP gas 84,950 BTU per gallon. The fuel economy gets even worse with E85, a loss of 7 to 8 miles per gallon with



## Ethanol fuel absorbs moisture plus it separates

its higher ethanol content.

- Ethanol is corrosive. It erodes fiberglass, rubber hoses and plastic fuel lines. It contributes to rust in fuel systems by creating condensation in the unfilled portion of gas tanks. It will also dissolve varnish and rust in steel fuel components. These dissolved ingredients sit in the bottom of gas tanks until they are removed or they will enter the fuel system if the fuel level in the tank gets too low.

- The main problem with ethanol fuel is that it absorbs water from the atmosphere, it's Hygroscopic!. Even fuel with a small amount of ethanol such as an E10 blend can absorb up 50% more water from the atmosphere than gasoline.

- Ethanol Causes Fuel Separation. A major problem with ethanol fuel from the maintenance standpoint, is that it absorbs water from the atmosphere. Therefore, once the amount of water in the fuel reaches saturation point, it causes the fuel to separate into two layers; one thick and one thin. The thick layer contains gasoline and a small amount of ethanol. The thin layer contains water with ethanol. Even a small amount of water will cause this separation. Even in a modern sealed fuel system water can separate out, for example when there are changes in temperature.

So what is the concerned owner to do? Especially if their machine is sitting unused in the garage more

than it is on the road? It has been stated that you can counteract the poor fuel mileage by driving at a consistent speed of between 40 and 60 MPH but that doesn't really apply to the average moto enthusiast or ZOOMER!

Several recommendations of things you can do that should help come from OE Marine Manufacturers who have been seriously battling these ethanol-related fuel problems.

1. Replace any plastic or rubber fuel lines with ethanol-resistant hose or nylon tubing.
2. Install a water separator filter in the fuel line leading to the carburetor. Water collects in the filter and can be removed periodically.
3. Replace any fiberglass tanks with steel or aluminum.
4. Ensure that any O-rings in the fuel system are also ethanol-compatible.
5. Keep your tank as full as possible to prevent air space where condensation can form.
6. Use ethanol-specific fuel additives. These are normally blue in colour.
7. Vent your fuel system during storage for extended periods; the moisture your fuel system might absorb from the outside will be less than the moisture created in the air space inside. This perhaps sounds counter intuitive, but it is a reality

during indoor storage.

8. Use a fogging solution in your carburetor or throttle body during storage prep. to prevent condensation from collecting in fuel bowls and passages.

9. Use of isopropyl alcohol-based dry gas will help to absorb system moisture. Isopropyl-based additives actually combine with the water molecules and remove moisture through the combustion chamber while in operation.

10. Use of a flex fuel-compatible fuel filter where possible will prevent degradation of the paper media in your filter by water in the fuel system. There are also stories floating around that imply the "absence" of ethanol in high octane pump gas, well not necessarily ....

There are differences between states on whether premium gas specifically has ethanol in it or not. Or, more correctly, whether it's required to have it in it. Missouri and Montana, have specific exemption to allow ethanol-free premium gasoline. So if you fill up in one of those two states, you can be thankful.

Otherwise, we are faced with the unpleasant reality that the refineries are all but tied into putting ethanol in premium gas. This is because they have to use the ethanol to raise the octane level of their gasoline blend in order to satisfy the higher octane requirements of premium.



# Ethanol final word - Use the Blue

This is one reason why you don't get better gas mileage with premium gas, because an essential part of that blend is a component that has less energy and forces the gas mileage down simply by nature.

So don't get fooled into thinking you can escape ethanol's grasp simply by paying more and getting premium gas. Avoid Ethanol Supplemented Fuels if you can. However if you must accept ethanol fuel be prepared to add the proper

Ethanol Oriented fuel additive as required, as per the manufacturers instructions.

### The Bottom Line: Pay Attention When You Refuel!

With a little planning and attention to detail, you should not experience any major difficulties. However it is clear that the Ethanol movement has generated additional costs, directly passed on to the consumer, again! It certainly appears that due

diligence is required to protect you and your ride from the possible ravages of this "fuel of the future"!

Remember..... use the Blue Stuff!

### Resources:

- Hemmings Motor Magazine
- Recochem Inc. - STP
- Gold Eagle Manufacturing
- Sta-Bil 360
- Lucas Oil

# The Re-launching of BCCOM

*contributed*

We're very excited to re-launch BCCOM and get more of our motorcycling community involved with what we do. Thank you everyone for the continued support throughout the years!

We'll need everyone's help on social media to help spread the word and get BCCOM's message and mission

out to every rider in BC.

Please stay tuned for more details!

### Vancouver Motorcycle Show January 20th – 22nd, 2017

<http://www.vancouvermotorcycleshow.ca/>

Interested in VOLUNTEERING?

Please e-mail or call to office.

### Times and Dates:

#### Friday, Jan. 20th

3:00 - 6:00 pm

5:30 - 9:00 pm

#### Saturday, Jan. 21st

10:00 - 1:00 pm

12:30 - 3:30 pm

3:00 - 6:00 pm

5:30 - 8:00 pm

#### Sunday, Jan. 22nd

10:00 - 1:00 pm

12:30 - 3:30 pm

# Club 2017 Event Schedule

Date	Event	Location
Sunday, January 1, 2017	TROC	Island View Beach / Bob's House
Saturday, January 7, 2017	Monthly Gathering	Cherries Breakfast Bistro
January 20-22, 2017	Vancouver International Bike Show	Tradex/Abbotsford
Sunday, February 5, 2017	Monthly Gathering	Spitfire Bar & Grill
February 2017	Pot Luck Dinner	Location TBD
Saturday, March 4, 2017	Monthly Gathering	The Crooked Goose
Sunday, March 19, 2017	Rider Training - Coffee & Conversation	Location TBD