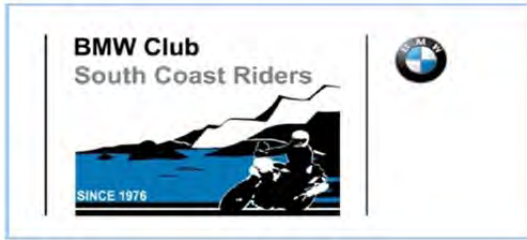


*December, 2017*



“Come Ride with Us”

*the*

# *South Coaster*

*Published by the South Coast BMW Riders Club*



# About the Cover!

**This photo was taken during the Pinnacles Park Weekend Ride  
Photo contributed by Mark Borgeson**

## **Cover Photos Needed!!**

**Keep in mind that each Newsletter issue needs a new "cover quality" photograph to grace the front page. Submissions by you, our readers, are welcomed.**

**The photo should showcase the essence of the club's name.  
From "South Coast" to "Riders" to "BMW Club", each element contains a plethora of potential for the artistic eye. Turn your inner shutterbug loose!**

## Newsletter Submissions (Keep 'em coming!)

Need – Content is always needed! Show us what you've got.

Schedule – Newsletters are published as close to the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month as humanly possible. Please submit content **by the 25<sup>th</sup>** of the previous month in order to give the editor sufficient time to compile the issue.

Formats – I'm really going to try not to be picky. It would be best if written content were submitted in an editable word processing format (.doc, .txt, .rtf, etc.), but an e-mail will work just fine. Photographs should be in .jpg format and less than 500 Kb in size. Thank you - Editor

Where to – E-mail submissions as attachments to [editor@scbmwrc.com](mailto:editor@scbmwrc.com)

Suggestions – Keep those coming too (be gentle). Always improving.

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## 2016/2017 BOARD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: John Crittenden -



VICE PRESIDENT: Larry Troffer



TREASURER: Danny Wassenaar



SECRETARY: Karl Wagner



BOARD MEMBER: Brandon Wilson



BOARD MEMBER: Mark Borgeson



BOARD MEMBER: Chris Roady



BOARD MEMBER: Erasmo Brenes



BOARD MEMBER: Jessie Vaca

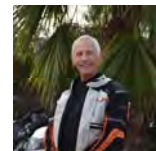


COMMITTEE CHAIRS

WEBMASTER: Rick Catarineu



NEWSLETTER: David Omlor



MEMBERSHIP: Jesse Vaca



FACEBOOK: Bill Reitz



MILEAGE CONTEST: Bob Wetzel



## Letter from the Editor

The month of November provided much appreciated *-thermal -* relief for motorcycling!

Bill Reitz led a day ride to Angeles Crest and Angeles Forest through Wrightwood following the November 4<sup>th</sup> General Meeting at Irv Seaver.

Mark Borgeson, Cindy and Larry organized a fantastic weekend ride and camping adventure (and culinary adventure as well) to the Pinnacles National Park.

Over the Thanksgiving weekend, Jim Foreman led a group ride into Baja for what reads like another festive weekend enjoyed south of the border.

Bob Wetzel has provided a summary of the Top Five Mileage leaders YTD.

December's primary events include the Christmas Party, graciously hosted by the Tripps and Jessie's Day Ride to Palomar, with lunch and a stop at Doffo Winery to view the motorcycle collection there.

I hope to see y'all at these events.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!

Please send your ride photos and write-ups to [editor@scbmwrc.com](mailto:editor@scbmwrc.com)

Letters to the Editor, comments and questions are all welcome.

*See you on the road*  
*- David Omlor*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Happy December!**

**This has been a great riding year for me, and I'm sure as well for others. Although we have not specifically been keeping track, it seems that there is more overall participation in rides and overnights—there are a lot of “favorite” events/weekend trips that fill up nicely, including Kernville, Pinnacles, and Anzo Borrego. We also had the MOA rally in Salt Lake City which was well-attended, and there were pre- and post-rally journeys. The roads that Rick, Lisa, and I took through Utah, Idaho, and Oregon following the Rally were great, and my personal solo trip, after splitting up with Rick and Lisa, to Portland, Astoria, and then down the Pacific Coast call for much more!**

**We have the Christmas Party, hosted by the Tripps, on 9 December, the “social event of the year”. If you haven't let Rob and Kellie know you will be there and what you will be bringing food-wise, please let them know, via email or the website, right away. We might even have a bad Christmas sweater contest, so wear your finest (or worstest)!**

**Our Very Best to All! And Ride Safe!**

**John and Beth**



# A Ride After

*Bill Reitz*

November 4<sup>th</sup> the ride after the meeting was 160 miles. A quick run up the 57 & 210 got us to Angeles Crest and a stop at Clear Creek Information Center. This makes a nice view point & rest stop before turning onto Angeles Forest or continuing along the Crest. There were four in this group, that makes it easy to manage. Bill Reitz, John Crittenden, Tom White, & Jessie Vaca headed out from Seaver after the General Meeting with clear weather ahead.

We headed onto Angeles Forest then turned on Mt. Emma Road heading to N4. This is a jewel of a road that follows the east side of the mountains with Angeles Crest to the west. We rode through Wrightwood and Lone Pine Canyon to I-15 for a short hop then onto Old Route 66, Cleghorn Rd. This road follows the way people used to travel into the LA basin. We made another stop to stretch legs and say our goodbyes because we would be going in different directions once we got back on I-15 or the 60.

The plan was to stop at good 'ol Dickey's in Chino but the time was such that we all just headed for our respective homes. Thanks to all for following me around this day.

Bill Reitz ( sorry, no pictures just use your imagination)

When you're stressed,  
You eat ice cream,  
cake, chocolate  
and sweets.  
Why?  
because  
stressed  
spelled  
backwards is desserts.



*-Ed*



# Pinnacles National Park weekend ride, 11/10/17 – 11/12/17.

*Article by Mark Borgeson*

*Photos by David Eastly, Tony Nguyen, and Mark Borgeson*

We had an awesome time riding and camping at Pinnacles National Park this month. There were 18 club members, 3 family members, and Larry the dog at the campsite, along with 3 members staying in nearby hotels. What a great turnout!



Most of us met up Friday morning at Panera's. A few folks met us at Pinnacles. Lucky Roberto took the scenic 3-day route up the CA coast to get there. Cindy, Larry & I, caged it so John and Brandon graciously lead the group up to Pinnacles.





We completely fulfilled the club motto of “ride to eat”. We had ribeye steaks for Friday night’s dinner, Saturday we rode to Hollister for breakfast, and Sunday we had bacon and eggs, hash browns, and pork chops. Yummm!



Check out thoes steaks!



Breakfast at Flap Jacks



It was cold. Notice Cindy is wearing a down jacket, down vest, a sweat shirt, and a tee shirt.



Everyone did their own thing on Saturday. Some took a day ride to Monterey Bay, some went hiking in Pinnacles, and some went into Hollister.





The evenings were fun filled with story telling, drinking, and, thanks to Brandon, a propane fire pit as fire restriction were in effect and no fires were allowed.



We all packed up and headed home Sunday morning. However, one bike wouldn't start. We tried jump starting it, push starting it, and just about everything else. It was just too cold, and it was an older carbureted bike. After about half an hour of adjusting this and that, and the magic fingers of David Eastly, we got it started. What a relief.

All's well that ends well 😊

# PINNACLES WEEKEND

## NOVEMBER 2017

*Story and photos by John Crittenden*

As we all know, I'm sure, the first Pinnacles weekend last November saw four of us blaze this trail. This year, what a great turnout. I want to give a lot of kudos to Mark B. for organizing this. The campsite, even though a group campsite, was perfect----shady, somewhat secluded, and large enough to hold all of us---I believe we had at least 20 campers, with several others moteling. The Friday night dinner and Sunday morning breakfast that Mark and Cindy had for us was most excellent! Thank you two very much!

Saturday was a hiking day for a good number of us. There's a shuttle from the visitor center to the trailhead/parking, and seeing this was Veteran's Day weekend, there was a nice big line to get on the shuttle, and lots of people on the trail to the Caves. The Caves aren't really caves but large boulders and rocks piled up. Walking through them is like walking through caves half the time. Anyway, coming out of the last one was a pretty reservoir.







**So, for me, this is going to be an annual event----the roads getting there (not counting the freeways) are great, with few cars.**







# Thanksgiving South of the Border

*Story and Photos by Jim Foreman*

Imagine, if you will, the motorcycles lined up at the toll-booth like horses at the starting gate for the Kentucky Derby. We are about to launch up the spectacular Scenic Highway 1D between Ensenada and Tijuana. It's often compared to Hwy 1 near Big Sur.

With the tolls paid, we began accelerating at a spirited pace. Down deep, I knew Tom White, Garrett Nowlin, and Chuck Waychoff was all grinning ear to ear inside their helmets.

Looking below one sees the sheer beauty of the Pacific Ocean smashing itself against the rocks below. One can not look too long because the road demands full attention. The highway brings wonderful turns, corners, rises, and drops alongside stunning scenes of the coastline.

Bringing the RPMs steadily higher, our pulses matched the quickening pace. The bikes seemed their happiest when leaned over hard while accelerating. With light traffic and the ever more excitement beaconing from the highway, we placed a bold exclamation point on what was already a spectacular day of riding.

As we reached La Fonda, to turn off, only one question was asked. "Want to do that again?" Of course, no answer was necessary. We jumped back on the bikes and headed southbound for another run of this magnificent speedway.

Several weeks prior, the official invite went out to members of the South Coast BMW Riding Club. Understandably, many would-be participants had family commitments during the Thanksgiving Holiday. Perhaps others were affected by the drumbeat of anger and fear toward Mexico that is belched out daily by what passes for news on TV. What was left was a tight group of great guys with wonderful attitudes who also happen to be phenomenal riders.

The trip began at our home dealership, Irv Seaver BMW. From there, we made the obligatory stop at Starbucks Coffee since no true adventure can start without that. With waivers signed, we made our way south and toward Tecate, Baja California.

Crossing the border was effortless. We all received green lights and made our way to the bank to withdraw Pesos from the ATM.

With cash stuffed in our pockets, we began eastward toward Mexicali on Mex 2. We chose the Libre road because it is in excellent shape and it offers more exciting terrain and corners. Also, it leads us into the town of La Rumorosa and La Cabana del Abuelo. Our first Mexican Dining spot.

Bellies full, we began the roller-coaster thrill ride going down the mountain from La Rumorosa. Combine exquisite desert mountain scenery with wicked twists turns and elevation changes.

From Mexicali, we headed south to our first destination, San Felipe. The weather was spectacular, and the roadway was immaculate allowing us to keep a brisk pace on cruise control. Pulling into San Felipe, we gassed up and checking into our hotel for the next two nights. Hotel El Cortez is on the southern end of San Felipe. It's a bit older, but has some excellent amenities including the best beaches, pool, a bar with very good food and motorcycle parking right in front of our room.

That night we dined at El Nido Restaurant a couple of hundred yards from our hotel. The food was excellent and the company, even more so. Conversation ranged from Mexican experiences, the quality of the riding and the roads, and what was in store for the next day.

While most Americans were stuffing their faces to the point of coma, we were sipping excellent tequila and enjoying some perfectly grilled steaks anyone would envy back home.

Friday, we all woke up fairly early to catch the impressive sunrise that morning over the Sea of Cortez. We decided to ride down the coast to Gonzaga Bay and veer over to Coco's Corner. This required about 8 miles of unpaved roadway.

Coco's Corner is a Baja tradition going back many decades. Octogenarian, Coco is a double amputee who remains as cantankerous as ever. Unfortunately, Coco himself was not there. He was visiting family in Ensenada. While there we had a marvelous conversation with a family from Bend Oregon who was towing a trailer further south for a month-long stay. They were a riot with great attitudes all around.

Once back we stopped in at a roadside café. They only had fish tacos and beef quesadillas on the verbal menu that day.

During the half hour it took to bring our food, we heard the lady in back chopping up the fresh salsa, cabbage, and guacamole. The wait was certainly worth it as we all agreed that they were probably the best fish tacos we've ever had.

The following day we headed to Ensenada via Mex Hwy 3. Mex3 passes by the turnoff for Mike's Sky Ranch. 95% of this roadway was in excellent shape with only a couple minor rough patches. The road is not boring at all as we were constantly treated to wide sweepers, beautiful scenery, and opportunities to run a little faster than we usually do, stateside. The last quarter of the trip is a wonderful set of mountain twisties that was a perfect way to approach Ensenada.

In Ensenada, the group stopped for Pozole at El Parian. This world-famous restaurant serves up some of the best pozole this writer has ever tasted. After this, we rode up the Ensenada strip and then took off for the Scenic Highway described at the beginning.

Once in our hotel rooms, we met up with a local named Nadja. All five of us (six including the driver) piled into a subcompact and made our way to El Cielo Winery. Yes, it was like a clown car, but an experience we all enjoyed. Nadja works as a tour guide for cruise passengers disembarking at Ensenada. She's a brilliant conversationalist and has a charming sense of humor.

We enjoyed an epicurean feast and some excellent wines from that vineyard. The conversation was lively and pleasant.

A return trip in an equally small subcompact car left us laughing and considering the sheer silliness of the situation.

The following morning we rode to Restaurante Mustafa in the wine region. We were greeted by Mustafa, himself and later, his effervescent and lovely daughter, Sharim.

Breakfast was terrific, and we began our journey back to the US, but not before one final incredible roadway to challenge us. Heading back to Tecate, we tossed and flogged our bikes up the mountains for another ear-to-ear grin maker of a roadway.

The final and most poignant benefit to our trip was riding past several miles of cars waiting to cross the border. Yes, motorcycles are allowed to ride up to the front. We shrunk 6+ hours of waiting into 20 minutes.

Heading up CA Hwy 94 we stopped again at Starbucks Coffee in Jamul to say our farewells and make our way back home to enjoy the remaining weekend.

It was a wonderful trip none of us can wait to repeat.

The total journey was 989 Miles.

Oh... This year's Ensenada Beer Fest is in March. Stay tuned for more information.





















**The mileage report for the top 5 riders, in no particular order:**

Men:

Mark Borgeson

Steve Hughson

Chris Roady

Karl Wagner

Jesse Vaca

Women:

Jawna Prieto

Lisa Catarineau

Michele Stone

Sharon Wagner

Cindy Borgeson

**- Bob Wetzel**



- Dec. 9      ***SCBMWRC Christmas Party***  
Food, Fun, White Elephant, and More!  
If you are planning on attending the Christmas Party please sign up on the Ride List. Rob and Kellie Tripp are hosting the party-----Please let Rob and Kellie know what you would like to bring: Dessert, appetizer, side dish.
- Dec. 17      **Palomar and Doffo Winery/Motorcycle Display Day Ride**  
Led by Jessie Vaca
- Jan. 7      **Rock Inn – General Meeting**
- Jan. 19 - 21      **Death Valley Weekend**
- Feb. 3      **General Meeting – Irv Seaver**
- Feb 23 – 25      **Borrego Springs Weekend**
- March 4      **General Meeting and Ride: Santa Paula Airport**

*Check the website for details on the above events.*



*Wishing You and Yours*

**Merry Christmas** *and*  
**Happy Holidays**



**Irv Seaver Motorcycles**





December, 2017

“Come Ride with Us”