

# the **Legendary** **SHAFT**

News from the Land of Enchantment BMW Riders • December 2000

## ***No More a Weenie***

Okay I take back everything I said last month about me being a wimp and a sluggard. Though the weekend weather has still sucked, I've gotten out several times lately, and even washed my bike! What I've most noticed on my excursions is a big lack of bikes on the road. The Henrietta's breakfast in November, usually a packed crowd, found an intimate gathering of RJ Mirabal, John Ephlin and his wife, and me. Just so you don't think I'm blowing my own horn too loud, John and RJ went out for a ride (the high that day was about 40) while I turned tail back to Albuquerque. Then yesterday, the beginning of December, I hit the road again to a dearth of two wheeled compatriots going in either direction. It restored my faith in my own



*Sipapu was as great another great riding rally. Relive some of it with the photos in this issue.*

## ***Ride 75, the Last Clue!***

Riders: Get your Ride 75 results to Bryan in time for the Christmas Party. Results must be received by midnight, December 8th. You can send them to the club PO box, or directly to Bryan at:

Bryan Lally  
505 Oppenheimer #902  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

*Ride 75 Mystery Site Unveiled!*



stubbornness and folly. Then I remembered back to the rotten fall weather, riding through rain and snow, and I felt better about myself in a twisted sort of way.

So what's the point? I'm not advocating going out and riding no matter what, even if the weather's lousy, but to go even if you think it might not be as great as you'd hoped. The Datil weekend, one of the worst in recent months, was a great time for all who showed up. And my little trips of late, not in such great climate, still felt good when I was done.

I'm dreaming more and more of having a four-wheeler to, but I know from past experience that when I do take the plunge I'll still do most of my travel on two wheels.

*David Wilson, Editor*





## Generous Donors and Beating the Odds

by RJ Mirabal

Having recovered from a recent bout of "amnesia," I discovered I had not published the list of vendors that so generously contributed to our record-breaking 2000 Sipapu Rally. Humor me and pretend it's still a dry and sunny early October – well, no... those of you who went to Datil know better. It was cold and rainy, but, hey, the twisties were still great except for John Gillis's unfortunate experience with an invisible "road demon" or Bill Koups's failed experiment to get another 400 miles on his rear tire.

And then there were the four stalwarts-Jim Salas ("Fearless Leader"); Steve "What me worry?" Mounce; "calm under pressure" Robert Keen; and steely-eyed "Rafa" Nevis – who took their own route braving mud (of a consistency and quality preferred for the ceramic tiles on the Space Shuttle), dirt, cold, darkness, endless rocky roads, and great hamburgers. These four have single-handedly defined the words "Adventure Touring" for the more squeamish among us.

Not wanting to be outdone in the spirit of trying to beat the odds, I crossed the San Augustine Plains on a teacup of gasoline in the darkness of Saturday morning, but that was more a result of over-confidence in my airhead's ability to go 35 miles on gas vapors than having the good sense to fill up the night before.

Why does it always come down to some personal choice that I make that gets me out in front of oncoming traffic or passing by the VLA on a hope and a prayer? (Don't answer that!) The last time I wrote a *Shaft* article, I was in a cast and very depressed contemplating never riding again. Well, it's no longer news that I'm back in the saddle and wishing for milder fall riding weather than we're currently having. I may not always keep the tank full, but I lust for the distant horizon and "Miles to go before I sleep."

**2000 Bavarian Mountain Weekend Vendors' Hall of Fame**  
Another "senior moment" for me was at the rally (they're getting to be quite frequent) when my "English teacher's" ineptness with sorting a list in MS Excel caused a sensation when I published the door prize winners with the wrong item numbers, (but thank God, as I later discovered, the correct prizes were on the list!). Everyone really enjoyed it when I savagely ripped down the winners' lists and disappeared for over a half hour. That won't happen next year, but something else equally exciting probably will! Anyway...

I would like to take a little personal privilege and express

special appreciation to the long term support and generosity of Deming Cycle Center and Don Cameron (we know you're enjoying your retirement, Don!), High Plains BMW (now a part of Southwest BMW history) under the leadership of Ronnie Fry and Jim Davidson (both enjoyed Datil with us), and Roadgear (in spite of staying home because of his wife's critical illness, Mansoor Shafi, the owner, donated a wonderful jacket and had it sent by one of his representatives).

Of course all our benefactors are great people, so here are the businesses and individuals that generously donated over a 150 items to our rally. Please consider them first when getting ready to satisfy your motorcycle addiction:


- Aeroflow
- Al Simmons/Mustang
- Alamogordo Cycle Center
- Allyn Air
- Joanie Barbier
- Bing Agency International
- B-M'R Bike Bags
- Bob's BMW
- Chick's Harley-Davidson
- Collett Electronics
- Competition Chemicals
- Conspicuity
- Deming Cycle Center
- Dennis Kirk
- Discount-Euro-Parts.com
- Dowco
- Ehlert Publishing Group (Rider)
- Gerbing's
- High Plains BMW
- Kermit's Touring Chair
- Motorcycle Consumer News
- Motorsport
- Moto-Techniques
- PITS Roadrunner Rally
- Progressive Suspension
- Roadgear
- Santa Fe BMW
- Sipapu Lodge
- Sliks
- WISU (Bill & Sue Leslie)



Photos by David Wilson, Robert Keen and Ira Agins. These and more of Ira's pictures can be seen at <http://albums.photopoint.com/j/AlbumIndex?u=91180&a=8898793>. All photos are copyright by the photographers.





# On the Road

DECEMBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**Saturday, December 9**  
**The LOE Christmas Party**

Nothing ends the year better than a big crowd of bikers reliving the rides of an excellent riding season, and the annual Christmas party is the perfect place for that. Come join all your friends at one of the club's most popular events, and we'll all eat until we start looking like Santa Claus.

Check out the story following the calendars for the whole dish on this year's holiday extravaganza.

JANUARY 2001						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 	29	30	31			

**Monday, January 1**  
**The Real Millenium Ride**

Despite the reigning confusion in our country and the world – who's President, when does the new millenium really start, is Regis actually Satan – there's no question that now the third millenium is really under way. And what better way to start it than a motorcycle ride? Meet at Hurricane's at Eubank and Candelaria at 9am, have a huge breakfast burrito, then decide on which course will give your life direction for the next thousand years.

**Sunday, January 28**

**The Progressive Breakfast**

The weather has never disappointed for the annual Progressive Breakfast, and this year the route will be more ambitious than it's been lately (read: there will be some riding in addition to the eating this time). Anyway, this is always one of the best attended club events of the year, and why not, when it's all about riding to eat, the life blood of the LOE BMW R. So come along, do some riding, do lots of eating, and start the new year off on the right riding foot. Help kick off another excellent year for the club!

Details on the wheres and whens will be coming in next month's newsletter.

*Please note that if no person is listed as ride coordinator, you can check the club website at [nmbmwmc.org](http://nmbmwmc.org) for updated news and events. Or call Bill Koup, Activity Committee Chair, at 856-7513, (email [koup@swcp.com](mailto:koup@swcp.com)).*

## Holiday Party 2000

It has been a long, cold, and wet fall in New Mexico. The weather has taken a toll on our riding, so take a break from the weather and come join your friends and cohorts for a Holiday Party Saturday, December 9th, at 6pm at Leonard and Pam Espinosa's home. The Holiday Party is the best attended club event of the year, so it is the ideal time to get together, see old friends, and meet new ones.

The party starts at 6pm, a buffet style dinner and soft drinks will be served sometime after that. Those who prefer something other than soft drinks are welcome to bring their beverage of choice.

The Espinosa's live just off Rio Grande in the North Valley. Their address is 8675 Rio Grande NW.

If you are coming from the north, go south on Rio

### Join the LOE BMW Riders

Yearly dues: \$15 single, \$20 couple; payable each January 1. New member dues prorated on a quarterly basis. For more information or to pay dues, write or go to the web site:

**Land of Enchantment BMW Riders**  
**PO Box 92095**  
**Albuquerque, NM 87199-2095**

[www.nmbmwmc.org](http://www.nmbmwmc.org)

or call Ken Goode at (505) 892-5690.

Grande from Alameda 8/10ths of a mile and turn right (west) at the equestrian sign onto a private drive. Follow the road until it turns to the north and look for a house with a lot of cars parked by it.

From the south, take the second road to the left after you cross the bridge over Paseo Del Norte.

Please RVSP to biglen@rt66.com or 899-5347 by December 2nd.

Share your favorite photos. If you have pictures (bikes, bikers, trips, club events, etc.) in electronic format (.jpg preferred) that you would like to share, email them before December 2 to biglen@rt66.com, you may see them at the party.

## Lest Election Confusion...

by Tim Stone

As announced at the club birthday party last August, this year's nominating committee consists of Bill Koup, Mike McKee, and Robert Keen. They were charged with recommending candidates for President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer for 2001.

They did a fine job, and delivered this slate for 2001: Mike McKee for President; Robert Keen for Vice-President, and Ken Goode is up for a second year as Secretary/Treasurer.

The official election of officers happens at the Progressive Breakfast, which will occur January 28th. Anyone who objects to the recommended officers is welcome to offer themselves or nominate other candidates. Balloting is by a show of hands, there will be no swinging, dimpled, or pregnant chads, and no recounts.

## You Can Write!

Send in your stories, reviews, opinions – don't forget pictures, too (shots of club members and their bikes strongly encouraged). We'll publish anything! Send your contributions to:

David Wilson  
5700 Copper NE, #B34  
Albuquerque, NM 87108  
Voice: 505-232-0266  
Email: mrmtv@aol.com

Computer files are best; please send material via email or on disk saved as Text (ascii). I can also scan photos and graphics, so take lots of pix on that cross-country trip and send them along.

**NOTE:** The deadline for the January issue is Monday, December 18th. Start typing!

## For Your Buying Pleasure

### FOR SALE

**1995 R1100GS**, 17k Miles. White, metal tank, RID, PARabellum & stock windshield, BMW hard bags, hand protectors. Less than 2k miles on new T66 tires. \$6800.

Call Terry @ 821-0063 or email ttombaugh@uswest.net

**1992 BMW R100GS**, black/yellow (Bumblebee), 30K mi, BMW bags, WUDO & stock windshields, spline lube, full tool kit, well-maintained, excellent condition, \$6100.

Call Ed at 254-9092.

**Roadcrafter** riding suit. Size Men's 42, gray and black, good condition. \$400.

Call Ken Goode at 892-5690.

**NOTE:** Classified ads run for 3 months, then are deleted unless I'm told to keep them running.

## LOE BMW R Officers

President: Tim Stone, **343-8396**

Vice President: Bryan Lally, **(505) 662-4083**

Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Goode, **892-5690**

Activity Committee: Bill Koup, **856-7513**

Newsletter: David Wilson, **232-0266**

Newsletter Delivery: Dan & Ann Houck, **890-0310**

Rally Chairs: Bill Koup, Tim Stone, Mike McKee

(505) 546-2193  
(800) 626-3338



### DEMING CYCLE CENTER

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DON S. CAMERON • OWNER  
JEFF KEELER • MANAGER

820 EAST SPRUCE  
DEMING, NM 88030

## FOR THE WORLD AHEAD.

Scott Kuhns, General Manager  
Bill Morris, Parts and Accessories Manager  
Janet Kovacic, Service Manager

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# No Trap, Lotsa Speed

by David Wilson

The Speed Trap Extravaganza started innocently enough: John Ephlin, RJ Mirabal, my girlfriend Lynn and I met at the Giant station in Bernalillo. It was a warm, sunny day, a perfect day for riding. We headed up toward the Jemez, and John turned back in Jemez Springs. RJ, Lynn and I continued on a gorgeous cruise through the mountains.

No speeding tickets yet; in fact, the day was so beautiful and the scenery so captivating we didn't even feel the need to turn up the wick, and just kind of ambled along in a BMW sort of way. A Mexican lunch in Santa Fe provided a break and let us all talk about the nice day.

We hit the highway on the way home, and at that point picked up the pace. I was following an SUV into a construction zone near the San Felipe Pueblo when traffic started to slow. Suddenly the SUV slowed very quickly, there was a green blur in the lane to my right, and a red car went tumbling across the median in front of the SUV.

Apparently the driver saw the green car coming up and tried to get into my lane in front of the SUV, but not fast enough. The green car never even slowed and plowed right into the car. It rolled three times, almost into the oncoming lane of I-25.

I stopped and Lynn and I helped the victim. Amazingly, there were no serious injuries, despite the evidence of the wadded up car. We stayed for the ambulance and accident reports, then saw the aftermath of several more accidents on the remainder of the trip to Albuquerque.



So despite all the hype, the Speed Trap Extravaganza saw no legal action against the bikers, but hopefully plenty against the idiots racing around in metal cages not paying any attention to the amount of damage they can do in a fraction of a second. Good thing all us bikers are always watching for the nuts around us.





## The Rear View

I think the club needs one of these, so we can make Margaritas in the wild.  
*Submitted by Bryan Lally*