



September 2019

Public Service on Two Wheels

Dedicated to providing service to the community while combining the two hobbies of motorcycling and amateur radio

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From the President's Desk

Hello all. This month we need to prepare for the Los Angeles Tour de Cure. This is a new route starting from The Glendale Community College. This ride will be on 6 October 2019, with the MS 150 not long thereafter. We will be trying something new by inviting some members of the Harley Riders Group to ride with us, augmenting the number of motorcycles we can put on the road.

Please join me for the MARC net on 11 September, 2019. That will be Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM (1930hrs) on 2M, 145.440 PI 136.5 (440 frequencies available: see the inset on this newsletter). Our MARC meeting will be on Saturday 14 September 2019 at the Marie Callender's restaurant, 307 E. Katella Ave., in Orange CA. Breakfast at 8 and the meeting at 9AM.

I shall repeat, we need to prepare for our fall events. Mark, KE6ZRP, has been trying to recruit members of the Glendale Hog club to help with some of our motorcycle mobile duties as we have fewer and fewer motorcycle mobile hams on the road for these events. Trusted friends on motorcycles (with cell phones) can help to fill in where our MARC



members are thinning. At this MARC meeting we will cover plans for the Los Angeles Tour de Cure and the MS 150 two weeks later. It is very important that we have all hands on deck to plan for these and other possible fall events.

I have not been doing a lot of riding to speak of, it has just been too hot. I did participate in a poker run for the Suicide Awareness (military veterans) group. It was a fund raiser to buy school supplies for the needy children of veterans who have committed suicide as a result of PTSD during or after completing their military service. No, I did not win the

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Monthly Net

Wednesday before the meeting
7:30 pm. All frequencies linked.

145.440 PI 136.5 Sunset Ridge
449.880 PL146.2 Sunset Ridge
445.480 PL 131.8 Santa Anita Rdg
IRLP Node 9663

Monthly Meeting

Second Saturday of the month at
8:00 am

Marie Callender's
307 E. Katella Avenue
Orange, CA

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Minnesota Musings

Summer on the Tundra is passing. 5 am and the skies are dark. At 6 am the Sun is starting to rise. June 22 we had Sun up at 5 am and dusk was 10 pm. We are people who love Light. Drawn to it like the bugs and the street lights.

After June's rides the month of July was normal with one trip north to see a cousin who was in the hospital in Grand Forks.

August came in and I was thinking about trading the BMW 1150RT. Researching about the clutch and transmission splines. Some of the motorcycles made it to 50,000 miles or others sheared the clutch splines at 20,000 miles... Reflecting on what I did by buying this machine in July of 2018, Maybe its time to find a better motorcycle.

Friday August 9. Headed for work in the dark. Then I heard the engine rumbling or maybe the transmission! Pulled in the clutch and quietly idled off highway 65, stopping behind a Fast Food building called White Castle. So much for trading in the RT! i called my supervisor and told him I would be late. He was saddened that the BMW had broken down. Called home at 5:05 am... I Knew Karen won't pick up the phone until she heard my scratchy voice... "Hello?" Her happy voice said, "BMW died... I plan to call around to my friends and see if I can get it home." I replied. "Call me when you get it home." Karen asked.

I wasn't sad, The splines had stripped out. Some have said its a BMW flaw.. that the transmission splines insert into the clutch splines but the clutch is rattling on the tranny splines... wearing the splines out. This problem can be solved by removing the spline shaft from the transmission and replacing with one that is longer. Prices are high... \$855... or I could replace the transmission with a used one and get the European clutch that has a longer splines on the hub. I was just happy that it didn't fail when I was running miles in June!

Called my friend Duane... this is still at 5:15 am... knowing that nobody is awake.. or if they are retired they aren't up anyway... at the prompt... "Hi Duane, yeah the BMW broke... your trailer service isn't a 24 hour /7 days, right?" and hung up. Called my friend Bob.. he answered but his phone was dropping my call every 3 minutes... Finally I started texting him. and we communicated. He asked what was the address where I was sitting. by this time the motorcycle was in the Planet Fitness Gym. I gave him the address and he finally showed at 6 am.

EVENT CALENDAR

- October 10 - 7:30 pm Monthly MARC Net
- October 12 - 8:00 am Monthly MARC Meeting
- October 6 - All Day LA Tour de Cure
- Oct 19 - 20 MS 150 Bay to Bay Ride
- November 6 - 7:30 pm Monthly MARC Net
- November 9 - 8:00 am Monthly MARC Meeting

Interested in Joining Us?

If you live in the Southern California area, you are invited to join us at our monthly meeting, usually held on the second Saturday of the month at Marie Callender's, 307 E. Katella Avenue.. Meeting and breakfast begin at 8:00 am.



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Bob told me that he had gotten to bed at 2am... i called and it took him a few seconds to figure out who I was... Interesting that he even answered the phone... The church that I used to work at has a Food Distribution on the 2nd Friday of each month. I had

A Big Thank You

Tour de OC is so grateful for the outstanding and generous turn out of MARC members to our ride. We hope you enjoyed your goody bags and t-shirts. MARC's presence created a unity among our riders and many riders expressed their appreciation for your presence. They truly felt our ride was safe and supported due to your excellent support. We even had riders from Las Vegas.

We send over 100 kids to a week-long camp and they become part of our year-long mentorship program. We truly are making a difference in the lives of these kids; many from group homes.. Most of these foster care kids have had more homes than birthdays and some have never even had a birthday celebration. We have two counselors per child and have a huge birthday party mid-week. We have a grandma and grandpa, wood working workshop, girls activities, swimming and hiking. Each child receives a new duffle bag, a water bottle, a photo album, a handmade quilt made by our ladies in the church, music, t-shirts and other items.

Even though we are a small ride, we are making a difference and MARC provides us with professionalism and credibility not available on other rides. We couldn't do it without you and please know how appreciated you are.

Scott Farthing K6IXQ

Kim Farthing KI6MRQ

asked if he the Penske straight truck. "Yeah I am going to get it at 7:30 am, why? You need me?"

We drove to the Rental truck place. Left his car there and drove the truck back to where the BMW was sitting. Lowered the ramp and I removed the saddle bags and trunk. rolled the broken Beemer onto the ramp... Bob looked at me.. "Ready?" I nodded... Electric Ramp lifted, unnerving when the ramp moves horizontal away from the truck... then back again to the lip on the frame or flat bed of the van box... Rolled the motorcycle to the left front corner.. No straps! Bob had bungee cords... I left the bike on its side stand, removed the left mirror and we closed the door of the van box rode the ramp down and folded it back.

Somewhere on the way home i heard a noise... Drove down the alley and rolled up the back door of the van box. The side stand on the BMW had flipped up! The Bike was resting on the side of the box but the bungee cords were holding it. "Tim the last time you had the motorcycle on its center stand." Bob commented. rolled the BMW back on that aluminum ramp... my feet planted on the ramp.. straddling the machine... Bob looks at me... with a smile... "Ready?" I nodded... Soon I had it in the garage... "Thanks Bob, I owe you!" Bob shook my hand, smiled and drove the truck out.

I headed to work... and did 5 hours of work.

Instead of giving up on motorcycle for the season i decided to buy another one. So the RT I had bought on July 26 and figured I rode it for 54 weeks, 1 day... 17,000 miles.

Watching Craigslist, I decided to send an email on a BMW K1200RS. I had traded in a K12RS on the RT. Yellow checkered flag one that had almost 99,000 miles on it. I had added 17K on that one too... The 03 k1200RS is in better shape than the yellow RS... i sent the letter on Sunday the 11th and Duane wanted to help me get it but was working on Monday. We

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headed to the owner's home, 29 miles south west of my home.

Pouring Rains with Thunder and Lightening. Duane drove his car.. "I suppose I will have to pay you hazard money for this?" i squawked... Duane was intent on driving in the deluge of water. We finally found the address and i texted or emailed 'we are hear' as we watched the rains pouring off his roof.

there was someone looking out at us.. and then the garage door opened sitting in the dry garage was this Dark Blue on White BMW. Duane had his tiny flash light and was going over the motorcycle as we talked. Duane wanted me to test drive it... I gave the owner the money in the envelope and he grinned, depositing it in his shirt pocket. too wet to test drive... He gave me the windshield that he removed plus the slave clutch that needs to be repaired.

We were there for about an hour. The owner or rather the previous owner moved the machine outside and i suited up, shook his hand and inserted the ear plugs. slipped on my helmet and started the powerful RS. idled out of his driveway... watching the mirrors for Duane's car... Sunshine was streaming under the clouds, Water flowing along the curbs. I headed for I-94. Left or west, the motorcycle purred... however I needed a rest area... and pulled in.. Duane had a concern look when walking up to me... "What's wrong?" i shook my head... "I need to go." Duane smiled... "Maybe I should use the restroom too!"

Back on the Freeway i watched Duane's car shrink... while i also watched the speed rise. Back to average speed and Duane was still following. No problems... Duane had all the paperwork and told me... "I was going to tell the police that you stole my motorcycle.. see? I got the title!"

Duane continued.. "I was praying for you, Tim. You have had a tough 4 years!" I stuck out my hand. we shook and he waved and was gone down the alley.

Stuffing 3 BMW motorcycles and 1 car in the garage... I had asked at the dealership about buying the RT back. NOPE... but they have people that buy these bikes and repair them. No word from the dealership. Duane was telling some of his friends and there is interest but no one has come forward to check out the RT.

The other item that is happening in September is my birthday... Planning on Retiring on the 5th of September... I turn 66 on the 4th. More time to ride? Maybe... or write another book...73!

2004 BMW R1150RT, 58,300+ miles
Tim Lindstrom, ab0ts
Columbia Heights, MN

MARC Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2019

Marie Callendar's Restaurant, Anaheim

Meeting called to order by President John Reynolds about 8:30 am.

14 members in attendance. No Visitors

President reviewed next meeting and net

Passed around last year's signups for LA ADA and MS150 – for members to review and update for this year's events in October.

John Edwards reviewed plans thus far for MS150

Mark Kanzler reviewed plans thus far for LA ADA. Indicated he and John Beckwith were working on other groups for additional support. Especially SAG's – anticipated for the first 5 miles of all uphill for most riders.

Alvin Brown indicated he was working with Bill Douglass on having a UI-View computer available for the events to monitor APRS. Richard Saunders also suggested use of Live 360 and Mark indicated that has been used in the past and is being considered for the upcoming LA ADA event.

Secretary John Beckwith reported a total of 79 members on the roster with 45 being current through at least 2019.

John Reynolds indicated Michael Rickey would be stepping down from webmaster and thanked him for his support.

Jeff Gallagher commented on his involvement with his American Legion unit.

Mijo Reynolds conducted the raffle.

John Reynolds adjourned the meeting about 10:00



Accessory Power for My 2009 Heritage Softail

Last month in my article about installing my Yaesu FTM-350 on my 2009 Heritage Softail I also referred to adding a new accessory for power in the same saddlebag. This is a small module that provides both a 12v Aux outlet as well as 2 USB ports. Included is an on/off switch and a voltmeter. So, a lot of utility. It comes with the mounting pieces to mount on a handlebar, but I adapted it to mount in my saddlebag.



charged (Duh!!!). And leaving them sitting in the trunk or saddlebag does not guarantee they will stay charged. Unfortunately, many of these don't come with any kind of "stay charged" specification, so how long they will stay charged is unknown to start with. And, bottom line, they will all discharge eventually. So, how to solve that problem.



I mounted this accessory box in the saddlebag right next to the radio. I pulled 12v from the battery (via a fused block) and split it in the saddlebag – with one lead going to the radio and one going to this Accessory box. I keep a jump starter battery (more on that below) plugged into one of the USB ports (it charges on 5v as well as 12v). Then, before I go for a longer ride, I just open the left saddlebag and turn on the switch. When I get where I'm going, I turn it off. This is not ideal, but it's a whole lot easier than finding an ignition-based circuit – at least on this bike.

As I mentioned above, in that left saddlebag, I also keep a "jump starter" battery. If you haven't added one of these to your vehicles, you should seriously consider it. They really work! I was skeptical but have used mine a couple of times – bike and cars. Lifesavers! However..... They only work if they're



What I've done in a couple of vehicles is plug them into a 12v power source that is on the ignition. So, anytime I'm driving, they're being charged. But that's a problem on the Harley. It's a bit of a

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challenge to pull off an ignition circuit on a bike – some are easier than others, but mine is real challenge. I also wanted to have 5v USB charging available. So, I looked around and came up with the neat little package described above for under \$20. With a single 12v input, it provides both a 12v Aux socket and 2 – 2.1 USB ports. AND an on/off switch.

BTW – the Jump Starter battery I have in the bike is a little different – it's has a built-in flashlight (many do these days), can be charged by both 12v and 5v USB, and has a USB output as well. So, it's pretty multi-functional. The Model is the Scosche PBJF400.



And, like most of these jumper batteries they use high-current connectors – they all seem to use the same kind. I wrote some time ago about how I installed a permanent charge cable to my battery using these type connectors (See below). So, when I won't be riding for a long time, I put a smart/trickle charger on that connector. And the jump start battery uses the same connector so, if I need to use it to jump start, all I do is plug it in. Works great for me and minimizes the pieces I have to carry. (When was the last time you tried to put a pair of battery clamps on a motorcycle battery? Especially a Harley where you have to remove the seat just to get to the battery.)

Don't hesitate to holler if you have any questions or comments about what I've done here.

John Beckwith, N6JCB



(Pres. Desk - pg. 1)

high or low poker hand, A,K,Q,J 9 just didn't quite make it.

I did make a couple of other short rides. One was to the Honda shop in Redlands for an oil change to prepare the cycle for our upcoming events. Check your cycle and SAG vehicle. Make sure it is ready and safe for the upcoming events.

Please check your MARC safety vest to insure it is serviceable for the Tour de Cure and MS 150. I will have several extra at net control to issue to our "guest" riders so they can be easily identified as riding with our MARC group.

Also, have a look at the for sale section of this newsletter. I still have the hand held and mobile Yeasu radios along with the power supplies that I have been entrusted to sell.

John F. Reynolds

President MARC

Johnw5jfr@roadrunner.com

Classified Listings

For Sale

Estate sale for a friend. Astron RS 20 Amp power supply \$50.00, Pyramid 12 amp Power supply \$30.00, Yeasu FT60 hand held (with new battery) \$50.00 and Yeasu FT7800 mobile with separation kit. \$125.00. All items plus postage/shipping if not sold locally. Contact John, W5JFR

Classified listings will run for one month. You must submit an updated listing for each issue.

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