



June 2019

Public Service on Two Wheels

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the President	1
Minnesota Musings	2
Secretary's	
Garmin GPS	4
Love in Switzerland	6
Web Workings	7
Classifieds	7

From the President's Desk

We have welcomed June to the year 2019. Last month, we in MARC, celebrated our anniversary. The meeting united some old friends with some new ones. Travelers from near and far met for breakfast. There were some wonderful anniversary gifts given to MARC and won by a few lucky members.

Lewis Osborne, K7LVO, was down from Medford, Oregon and he won the AnyTone AT-D878UV-Plus hand held radio. The winner of the 2X4SR antenna from Comet was Jim Hammonds, N7JWL, and I was the winner of the SMA-24 antenna for a hand held radio. It was nice to see Chris, AF6CZ, and Kyle, AF6YK, who drove down from Idaho Falls, ID. And also Burt, N6USO, who won the chocolate chip cookies baked by Connie, KD6UZE, and the three glasses from Comet.

Mijo, KF6BEB, pocketed one of the three 50-50 cash pots and Alvin, KD6UZM won the other two. Congratulations to all our winners.

I hope you can join me for the MARC net on Wednesday 5 June at 1930 hrs. I will be on the N6USO repeater, 145.440-



PL 136.5. This repeater is also available on Micro Node 9663 and is linked to both the Sunset Ridge, 449.880 – PL 146.2 and the Santa Anna Ridge 445.480 - PL 131.8 repeaters. Our MARC meeting for June will be on Saturday 8 June 2019, at the Marie Callender's restaurant, 307 E. Katella, Orange CA. just a few blocks east of the 55 freeway on Katella. I have made reservations for our breakfast meeting here for the rest of the year, with the normal exception of July when I plan to be away.

The weather here in So. Cal. has not been cooperating with my riding style. The cool rain/drizzle is not quite my cup

(Cont. Pg-3)

Monthly Net

First Wednesday of the month at 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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Billy Hall	N6EDY
John Edwards	KC6ZOZ
John Reynolds	W5JFR
John Beckwith	N6JCB
Alvin Brown	KD6UZM
PRESIDENT	
John Reynolds	W5JFR
SECRETARY/TREASURER	
Ginger	KM6MIG
50/50 DOOR PRIZE	
Mijo Reynolds	KF6BEB
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	
Jeff Gallagher	WB6ALR
WEBMASTER	
Michael Rickey	AF6FB
MARC-Bay Area	
David Sawyer	K1DRS
MARC-Texas	
Jerry Irwin	K5JEI

Minnesota Musings

We finally are in June! However Climate change here is COLD. I just came back from the BMW Rally for the state of Minnesota. Brisk winds funneling between the bluffs in the south eastern side of Minnesota. My friend Dave won a top box! We were trying to figure out how to bring it home, so I offered to stick this small 21 liter box inside the BMW's top box. However the lid closed only 1/3 of the way. Cargo Net over the trunk, held that together.. Cinching down my 2 bags of tent equipment and shook David's hand... "I will text you when I get home, Dave." Dave nodded... "I was thinking 11 am I will come and get the box."

The other younger man, Ben was also busy. I walked over to his tent... He came out and we shook hands. "Thanks for inviting me, I enjoyed it!" I nodded, smiled and squeezed his hand, "I will call you later!" Walked back to my motorcycle.. The other 2 friends were still in their tents... they both had said good by last night and I suppose Duane and Tim W. didn't want to see me... heh?

Started the Oil head and slowly idled down the gravel trail that leads to the county roads...

We had been planning on this rally for months... Ben lives in Wisconsin and works at the corporate office of Menards. I helped him purchase a Honda twin 700 cc's. "You need a motorcycle to listen to the wind and unwind from listening to whiners!" And Ben would smile.

Then earlier this year there is a Wild Game Feed which brings in 100's of hunters and fishing people. Ben's Dad, John buys 8 tickets and invites his friends to come and have a meal and enjoy the food prepared. This year there was an extra seat as one of John's relatives had a wedding to be at. I invited Duane and he enjoyed the food too... And I introduced Ben to Duane.. and they jotted down their Emails... So we had our goal of getting Ben to a Rally!

David had tried to come last year but had fuel issues.. so i had made a comment that he should come... he checked his calendar.. the weekend was open.. he arrived at 2:30 pm. Ben was there around the same time as we came.. 12 noon. There was one more person coming... Tim W. who used to live in the southern suburbs of Minneapolis.. however now he lives west of Denver, Colorado.

We were eating our supper, "That's Tim! Duane exclaims... and dashed out of the picnic area to grab him.... Duane came back without Tim W... "The soup ran out...and he is finding a hamburger at the Cafe!" "Who had those second helpings of

Cont'd pg. 3

EVENT CALENDAR

June 5 - 7:30 pm	Monthly MARC Net
June 8 - 8:00 am	Monthly MARC Meeting Anniversary Photos - Wear Your MARC regalia
July 10 - 7:30 pm	Monthly MARC Net
July 13 - 8:00 am	Monthly MARC Meeting

Interested in Joining Us?

If you live in the Sourthern 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.

Cont'd from pg. 2

Soup?" I hadn't seen Tim W. , 13 years! We talked of course , families and semi retired. He had purchased a brand new BMW R1250GSA... so we talked.

We bought wood for our fire and sat around the fire ring, catching up or telling jokes, embellishing the

SECRETARY'S CORNER

May 2019 Meeting Wrapup

We had our anniversary meeting on Saturday 11 May, at Marie Callenders Restaurant. Thanks to a great turnout of 19 members and family, it was a noisy and enjoyable time! While we couldn't quite recall if it was our 27th or 29th anniversary, we concluded it was "more than 25, less than 30". Close enough for me!

We had special 50/50 raffle items donated to us from Comet and AnyTone, in addition to our regular things. Wow!

It certainly paid off to come to this anniversary meeting, especially for Lewis O. K6IXO, who was in the area delivering a very nice 5th wheel trailer. He walked away with the grand prize of the AnyTone 2M/440 radio, latest in their product line, along with a couple smaller prizes! We had three cash pots to distribute, of which Alvin B KD6UZM won two, and John R W5JFR won the third one.

In this season of traveling, if you are in the area any second Saturday of the month [except July], make plans to attend one of our monthly meetings. Meet the people you only read about, make some new friends, talk radios and motorcycles [and many other topics]!

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

Ginger White
Secretary/Membership

stories and laughter. The weather on Friday was in the upper 80's. But we knew there was rain coming.. always seems to rain in the south Eastern part of Minnesota. I did notice though that the foliage wasn't as green as around Minneapolis. Tim W. wanted to know where we were going for breakfast. So the debate began with the idea of going instead of having the breakfast made by the Local Lions club in Houston, MN. Agreed that we would go to Petersons.. a small town along the Root River, and to Birdy's a Local /Famous cafe. First one out was Tim W. on his GSA.. then Duane on his 95 Kawasaki Concours, I on the BMW 1150RT then Dave on his Concours and last but not least, Ben on his Honda 700.

Roar of Duane's Concours as he backed it up against the curb across from the Cafe. Tim W. looked back at Duane.. and I rolled back. Dave got off His Concours and was beside Duane's... Tweaking the idle screw or turning the handlebars... Starting the motorcycle ... Finally we were all parked and walking across the street. Duane's comment "Every time I remove the carburetors, the cable's connectors on the carbs break! Then I take JB Weld and reset the cabling!"

"Duane, maybe it's time to Buy parts instead?" Tim W. smiled... a small jab at Duane's talent of cleaning carbs. We had a good breakfast for a reasonable price. The Locals, though LOOKED at us in our fabric gear...I just smiled.. "What are we doing? Riding or?" David... looks at me.. "No we are going to take the same route back to Money Creek and repair Duane's,"

"Sure, Lindstrom Leave me here!" Dutifully I followed my friend and pulled into the area where our tents are. Duane was removing plastic and finally loosened the fasteners and struggled with the full gas tank. muttering something about just filling it in Rutherford..

It wasn't the metal flanges that holds the cables.. The fuel enrichener was the suspect! David pulls his gas tank and Duane checks out the way David had rerouted the cable. "I need some tape to hold the cable in place." Duane asks. Tim W. goes to his GS with the black aluminum boxes and i go to my jacket.. and pull

Cont'd pg. 4

Join Us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/groups/1573778489517365/

Visit our Website: www.MARC-HQ.org

Cont'd from page 3

out electrician tape... "This work?" Duane strolls over... "Every time, Tim." The Concours gurus finally done... "Whose leading?" I ask... "You ARE!" I looked at Ben... "How many states you have ridden in?" He lifts his hand, 2 fingers pop up.. "Yeah, OK south to Iowa!"

One thing about being the leader... Nobody ahead of me! Cloudy skies with some sun shine... Winds from the south. We rode to Houston, Minnesota that is... and headed East. Last year there was a skeleton sitting in a lawn chair with a newspaper on his bony lap and a wave from the muscle less arm.. I had told Ben and David about it... This year? No Skeleton....

South of Hokah and then west on MN 44... to Calidonia... then south on MN 76...Milk Truck, however the speed through the twisted road was around 50... Passed that truck only to see a brown Ford pickup in the way. I waited for the crew to finally appear after passing the Ford pickup... Wanton, Iowa... I stopped along the highway and then pointed at a parking lot.. we headed there... David said that Ben had been stopped... by the Ford Pickup... oooboy!

Tim W. finally comes over the hill and stops in the parking lot. "Yeah he is getting at least one ticket!" Duane is asking what I thought... "Just a warning." i hoped... Ben pulls in... shakes his head... "195 bucks for passing on a double yellow"... I nodded... "Hey, Its' OK!" Ben puts 2 thumbs up... and I headed for the RT... Tim W. asks.. "Where to?" I point east... "To the Mississippi!" And we headed out.. Duane suggested keeping the pace at 55... I had agreed.

Lansing... Iowa.. not Michigan.. and we stopped for Ice cream, parking 5 motorcycles and eating COLD Dairy products on a cloudy June First and topping off that the Mississippi is still at Flood Stage. I had a Milk Shake. Some had hot fudge Sundae... We stayed 30 minutes... however the moisture was coming behind us... so we headed north on County Road 26. I had told Ben that Now he would be riding through Reno, Brownsville and Houston... Famous town names but all of them in Minnesota! He just needed to drop the town names when he gets back to work...

We rode in the rain and I was looking for a short cut instead of heading all the way to I-90. County Road 7 looked good. and it worked! Came back to Hokah then back on Minnesota 16 to Houston. Filled the gas tanks and rode the last 7 miles back to Money Creek.

We had a few hours to take it easy before the main meal on that Saturday night. I took a much needed NAP. Duane commented "If I take a nap, I'm out for 2 hours!"

"Really? I am a light sleeper... 20 minutes max." I replied

We got in line for our meal of pulled Pork, brown beans and coleslaw. and a tiny ... err tiny chocolate cup cake... Ben suggested a tall glass of milk.

After the meal more door prizes... That's where Dave got this top box or trunk.

Minnesota Rally is over. One of the best Rallies due to just sprinkles of rain!

Next issue will be the ride to Lebanon, TN... June 13 -16...

73!

2004 BMW R1150RT, 58,300+ miles

Tim Lindstrom, ab0ts

Columbia Heights, MN



(Pres. Desk - pg. 1)

of tea. I have had the cycle out for a short ride or two but nothing to brag about. Last month I wrote about my Honda 250 ATV and the work I was doing on it. I have finished putting it back together but, as yet, have not put gas in the tank and tried to start it. That will come in a day or two when the weather clears and warms a bit.

School will be out soon and children will be everywhere so, please, drive carefully and give the kids a break. Also happy Father's Day to all our MARC dads out there.

Keep notes about your summer rides and send Jeff, WB6ALR, a newsletter article. I and others in MARC enjoy a ride along.

John F. Reynolds

President MARC

John W5JFR@roadrunner.com

GARMIN GPS ON MOTORCYCLES

I've done some research on the latest Garmin GPS's designed specifically for motorcycle use and thought I would share my results.

I currently have a Garmin 660 and before that the 550. Both are dedicated motorcycle units and have served well. Had a couple of display problems with the 550, but Garmin was very good at replacing at little or no cost. The 660 has been flawless for many years. But Garmin is ending hardware support for the 660 s I thought I'd see what their latest offerings are.

They have two motorcycle specific units – both Zumo's – the Zumo 595 and Zumo 396. In fact, when I contacted them for some info, they offered me a discount on the 595 as a "loyal" customer. (List price on the 595 is \$699, available on Amazon for \$569 and they offered it to me for \$489.). However, their new 396 is listed at \$399 but is available everywhere for \$299 – so still \$190 less than the 595.) So I ordered both the 595 and the 396 from Amazon, knowing I could return them with little or no trouble. (Can't find either locally. Though Cyclegear sells both – but at full list price.)

The Garmin 595LM (all come with lifetime maps these days – i.e. "LM") – has a 5" screen vs. the 4.3 on both the 660 and the 396. And the body is "huge". It's a big unit. The first thing I noticed is the display – it is "dull". Not very much contrast. I compared it to both the 660 and the 396 and both of those have much better contrast. (A caveat – there are "Map Themes" that I later discovered – which might improve the 595 readability. But I had already returned the unit, so I couldn't check. However, on the 396 – the default was much better than the default on the 595.)

Also, when on battery power, when the battery reaches a certain low level, the display dims to about 40% and cannot be overridden. This is also true of the 396, but not the 660. And at 40%, you'll never be able to read the display during the daytime. And, speaking of batteries, the 595 has a removable battery, the 396 does not.

Another limitation of the 595 (as well as the 396) is a maximum of 29 waypoints on a route. If you build a route in Basecamp with more than 29 points, it will load into the unit, but when you import that route on the device itself, it will break the route into multiple routes. The good news is – the end point of the first segment is the beginning point of the next segment. I have since worked an event with this limitation, and it was not a big problem, though I'm spoiled by the 660 not having this limit.

Checking with Garmin on this 29 waypoint limit – those I've "talked" to can't explain why the limit is there, however, they did give me an alternative. There is apparently a way to set a waypoint to a "shaping point" (they call it) – basically set it in Basecamp to "Don't alert on arrival (shaping point)". Which theoretically means – I can now load a route with more than 29 waypoints, but I have to set the "Don't Alert" to enough of them so that the total "Alerts" is 29 or less. A quick test showed that this appears to work. When I open the route, all the waypoints are there – but some are marked differently as no "Alerts". That seemed to work on this last event as well.

Another annoying limit on both the 595 and 396 – there are no labels on the waypoints on the map of the unit. Very distressing. So you can't tell from the map which waypoint you're approaching. There may be another display that you can bring up to show you nearby waypoints, but still working on that. Again – not a problem on earlier units.

The 595 comes with their traditional motorcycle wiring harness - with several cables (single out of the unit/mount, but eventually spreading out over several.) In addition to the power cables (+/-) there's a USB cable, a microphone cable, a stereo in cable and a stereo out cable. This pretty much matches the earlier cable for the 660 and 550. The 396 only has a single power cable. Interestingly, the 595 power cable has an inline fuse. The 396 manual shows an inline fuse but that was eliminated and there is a small inline box that is a power converter – from 10-30v down to 4.9-5.5v (USB levels.). And that box apparently has a built-in auto-resetting fuse.

Also – on the 660 there are two data displays in the bottom left and right corners of the display. Both can be customized to show whatever data you like (e.g. Time to Destination, Distance to next turn, Elevation, Sunset etc.). On both the 595 and 396 – only one of those can be customized. The other one can be selected to show many other data fields in new window – but none can be selected for the default. On the other hand – there is a "tool" option on the map that gives you some other options as well.

One of the more disappointing things about the 595 is the lack of ability to turn off Auto-recalculation. This seems to be a hit and miss item for Garmin units. I can turn off Auto-recalc on both the 396 and 660 (and old 550) but not on the 595, or my wife's 3590. And Bill Douglass reports similar results – some units have that ability, some do not. For our purposes in supporting events and following routes – being able to turn off auto-recalc is significant. Seems like the Garmin designers don't talk to each other?

Cont'd. From pg. 7

Another disappointing thing about the 595 – while it does come with both a M/C mount/cable and an Auto mount/cable – the cable for the auto mount is proprietary. At first glance it looks like a micro USB cable, but it is not. Go figure. So, if you move it from one car to another – you have to take the cable with you. Not a huge deal, but I hardwire my GPS mounts so I can freely move the GPS without messing with cables.

As for the 396 – as noted it is brighter, more contrasty and, in general, easier to read. The big difference between the 396 and the 660 is the definition of the lines (roads etc) on the display. They are much finer, so easier to read. Again – according the published specs, the resolution and display type are supposedly the same on the 660 and 396 – however, there is a clear difference between the two. And for me – this is a “difference” maker. The 396 is a nice compact unit. While the display is the same size as the 660, the unit itself is a little smaller and lighter. This unit I could carry around as a handheld if needed. Though the battery life is listed at only about 4 hours (as is the 595 – the 660 is listed at 5 hours.).

One other improvement on the 396 over my 660 is its touch sensitivity. It is much more responsive (sometimes too much so) such that it is a pleasure to use.

Both the 396 and 595 are supported in the Garmin Smartlink app (for both iPhone and Android) but I have yet to mess with that very much. Supposedly you can get some traffic and weather info from the app to the device, but I haven't checked that out yet.

I have generally limited my discussion to points I think are important to us in working events. There are many reviews online for both devices, so I won't go into those.

In my case, I've settled on the 396 as enough of an improvement (primarily the display and touch sensitivity) to warrant the upgrade price of \$300. I could not begin to justify even the \$489 price offered by Garmin. I'll hang onto my 660 as a backup – though it's starting to act a little flaky.

Interestingly – I just did a quick out-and-back (300 miles round trip) with Zippy (Mark – KE6ZRP) to Santa Ynez and back and had both the 396 and 660 mounted. Both worked well on the route Mark setup, but he didn't use as many waypoints as we would normally use and, between us we had 4 GPS's running. And there were times when all 4 were saying different things. Some of that had to do with whether auto-recalc was on or not (I had one on and one not). But it was interesting to see how well they tracked with turns etc.

Don't hesitate to holler if you have any questions about these units – especially the 396 now that I've put a few miles on it.

John Beckwith, N6JCB
Jbeckwit47@gmail.com



Love in Switzerland

On May 1st, I traveled to Switzerland to participate in the Swiss Love Ride 27, which was held on May 5th in Dubendorf Switzerland near Zürich. My plan was to rent a Harley on Saturday from a dealer in the town of Roran and ride over the pass to Zurich and spend the night there, then ride the event on Sunday.

Well, the weather was not letting me do that with solid rain all day on Saturday, and snow flurries on Sunday. So we (Hermann and Betty, the friends I was staying with) decided to take the car and participate in the event, but not ride. The dealer understood and there was no problem with the cancellation.

The event itself was good, with about 1,000 bikes of all makes, trikes, and even a few quad vehicles all lined up on the runway of a military base in Dubendorf. When they took off, they had a police escort taking them around the city for about 2 hours. A nice event and fund-raiser, but not near the spectacle of the Love Ride here in LA.

I visited all points of interest of Switzerland, including the Matterhorn and Lake Geneva, Interlokken, and the wine country of Switzerland. I now own a grape vine in Salgesch, where each year I will receive a bottle of wine made from my grapes and others, and will have to go there to retrieve it!! OH, poor me!!

I also took the train to Verona to see my ham buddy Michele (pronounced Michael) and his new baby, and then visited Venice for a day. Wow, the food was great. All in all, a great time in Europe, and can not wait to go back next year.

THE EVIDENCE



You can always tell a Ham by his antenna



Grand Prize Winner Lewis Osborne, K7LVO



Thanks, Comet, for the great antennas



Cookie Monster Burt, N6USO, with his stash...



Alvin, KD6UZM, Won the gold.....twice!!



She wouldn't even let John hold it for a second

LISTSERVER?

Jeff Gallagher WB6ALR

Our longtime listserver, hosted by nxport.com is no longer in operation.

Our new group mail site is hosted by groups.io and can be found at

<https://marchq.groups.io/g/main>

This list is much easier to use and has more features such as file and photo storage, and an event calendar.

To enroll, go to the link and click the signup (or login if you are already an io group member) and signup with the group. Unlike Yahoo Groups, you can sign up with any valid email address.

Once signed up, posting to the group is as easy as replying to an email. Members can also decide whether to receive individual emails, digests or no email posts at all, if they choose to read the posts on the group website.

Members may also attach photos and files to their emails. There are limits on size so please try to keep photos in the 300 dpi range.

Please remind other members you may know to sign up so they do not miss out on the information we pass along regarding rides and events.

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

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Netgear AC750 WiFi Extender.

Dual band WiFi - Fast Ethernet port connects a wired device like TV, game console or streaming player to your WiFi network - External antennas for better coverage and more speed - Compact AC750 wall-plug WiFi booster is small and discreet giving 750 mbs throughput to your devices. Asking \$20.00 or trade for ?? - Jeff KB6SUP ocpd44@gmail.com

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

Sponsors

Please support our sponsors with your business. When you visit their stores be sure to mention you are a MARC member

Embroidery by Sheron

Shirts
Hats
Jackets
And More

Sheron Guthrie
760-662-6534

Vestskc6zsh@gmail.com

Comet Antenna

Antennas
Analyzers
Mounts
Power supplies

<http://cometantenna.com>
800.962.2611
sales@natcommgroup.com

Huntington Honda

New Honda Motorcycles
Used Motorcycles
Service
Generators
ATVs

<http://hbhonda.com>
714-842-5533