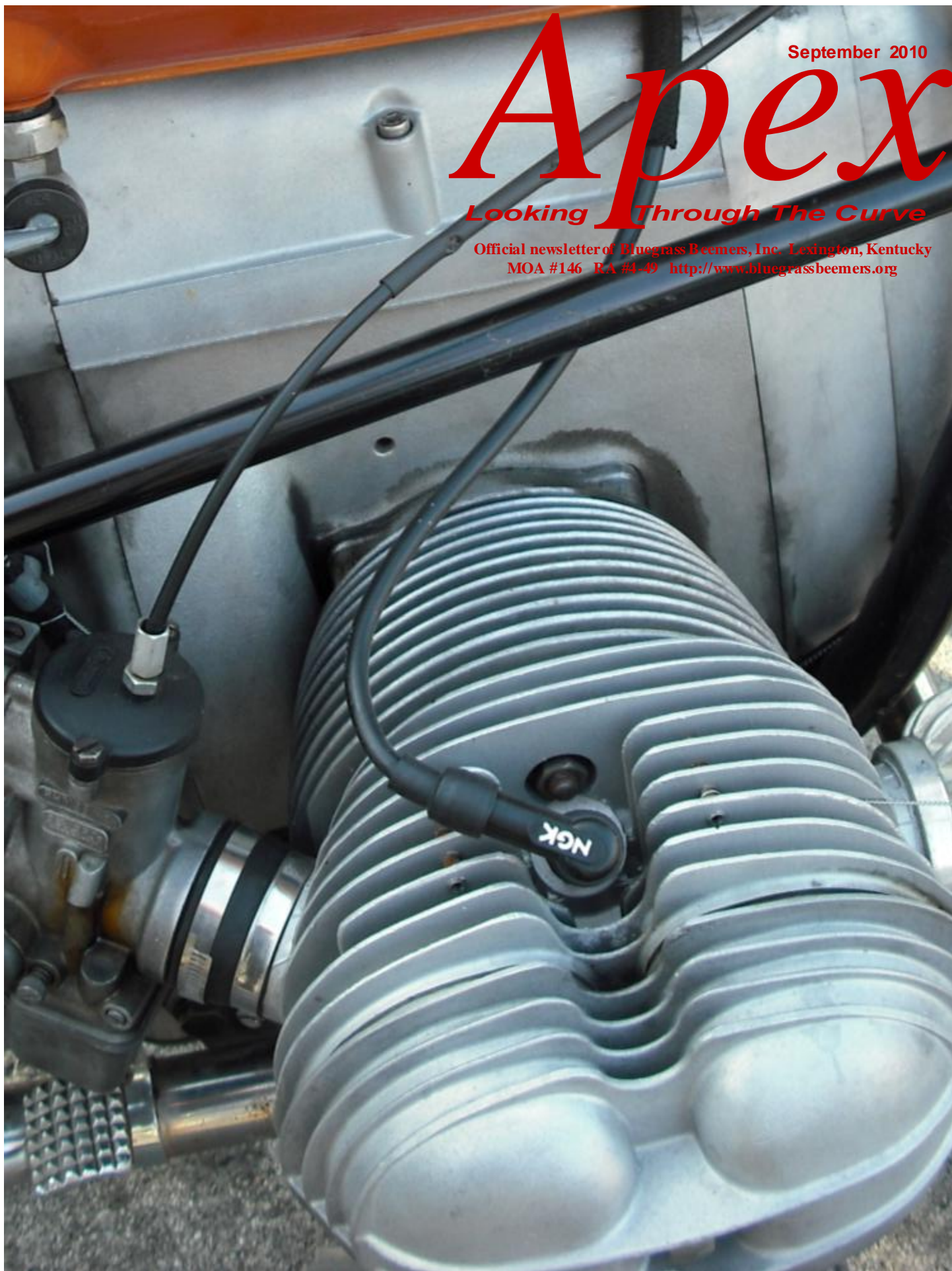


September 2010

# Apex

*Looking Through The Curve*

Official newsletter of Bluegrass Beemers, Inc. Lexington, Kentucky  
MOA #146 RA #4-49 <http://www.bluegrassbeemers.org>



# NEW LOCATION

# NEW ATTITUDE



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# Stuff happens

**S**tuff happens while traveling. You know what I mean.

At breakfast on August 28th several of us shared some stuff. Here lies some of mine.

Having just ridden through the lovely Ochoco National Forest northeast of Redmond, Oregon, I was high on stunningly beautiful scenery and perfect, twisting pavement.

Following a brief stop for water and a snack at a small Mom&Pop, I pulled up to the next route change and cavalierly failed to consult a map in the decision to turn north onto Oregon 19. The approximate destination was Pendleton, Oregon, to the north, just south of Washington.

North on 19 made perfect sense, until many miles later I asked the friendly gas station clerk in Condon, Oregon, "Where are we?"

She kindly said, "You're in Condon, Oregon."

"Yes," I said, "I saw the sign that says that, but *where on this map* is Condon?" having finally resorted to looking at a map.

She laughed and pointed to Condon, which was in the middle of nowhere.

I said, "Good grief! We're way up here?"

She said, "Yes, you are in the middle of nowhere. Where are you going?"

"Pendleton," I said.

"Your best bet is to go to Heppner, buy more gas, then go on to 74 to 395. Be sure you buy more gas in Heppner."

The ride from Condon to Heppner on 206 didn't look too bad on the map. All that white space on the map, however, suggested that there might not

be too many people along that road, which was the case.

Desert travel isn't something I do very often, so a bit of mental adjustment was necessary to acclimate to the remoteness of travel along a lumpy road with frequent elevation changes, no guard rails along deep ravines, very few residences...and those that could be seen were far, far away from the "main road."

After gassing up in Heppner, I told myself that 395, then Pendleton, were not that far away.

Then 74 began to reveal itself, a fresh oil and chip pavement offering plenty of loose, oil-covered chat flinging about clinking off the exhaust, clacking against the bodywork, tickling my booted toes, and nearly concealing more roadway lumps, offering more drama in the non-stop hairpin curves marked 15 or 25 mph.

Elevation changes were steep. The roadway offered about 12 inches of shoulder. With no guardrails, the drop-offs promised to be capable of swallowing a motorcycle and rider, forever to be hidden from all but the most stubborn helicopter search team. (Notice that I do not refer to "rescue team.")

Thirty-seven miles on planet earth isn't a long distance when saddled up on a capable motorcycle, but 37 miles on that lunar landscape at less than 25 mph seemed an eternity.

Two other vehicles passed by. Maybe two residences could be seen in the distance.

My heat-soaked brain processed little things like no cell service, sheer drop-offs with no guardrails, loose chat in the curves, suspension-bottoming lumps in the pavement, ...and the logistics of finding and transporting my remains back



**Middle of Red River Gorge, Saturday afternoon, August 28th: Four bikes, but only enough gas for three. We enjoyed a quiet break in the shade while Paul Rice made a run for gas.**

**—John Rice**

to Kentucky.

Pendleton eventually appeared, along with a comfortable motel room and nourishing restaurant, all on the threshold of stunning scenery north through Walla Walla, Washington, and the even more beautiful U.S. 12 flowing along the Lochsa River (Lewis & Clark Trail) on the

way to Missoula, Montana.

All turned out fine, but firmly etched into my elderly mind while following the Lochsa River was the admonishment, "Look at the map next time before assuming you know which way to turn."

Otherwise, you're inviting stuff to happen.

**—Paul Elwyn**

**Apex is the official newsletter of Bluegrass Beemers, Inc.  
Lexington, Kentucky MOA #146 RA #4-49**

**Paul Elwyn, Editor  
paul.elwyn@gmail.com**

**Deadline for submissions is the last day of the month.  
Back issues of Apex can be accessed at  
<http://www.bluegrassbeemers.org>**

**Join us at Frisch's on Harrodsburg Rd.  
on any Saturday, 7-9:30 a.m.**

# 17th Beemers in the Bluegrass Rally



Art from the first Beemers in the Bluegrass Rally, 1994

## 17th Beemers in the Bluegrass

The 17th Beemers in the Bluegrass Rally will be held September 10th, 11th and 12th at the Stillwater Campground, 8 miles north of Frankfort, KY on US Highway 127.

The \$25 entry fee provides two nights camping, non-stop coffee, door prizes (must be present to win), and Saturday breakfast and dinner.

The poker run on Saturday morning will begin around 10 am.

Lodging and dining options exist in Frankfort.

For further information, contact Roy Rowlett, 859-223-5459 or email [kr4mo@yahoo.com](mailto:kr4mo@yahoo.com).



**Contact Roy to see what *you* can do to help make this rally a success.**

—Editor

## A Saturday Adventure with Other People's Money

**A**h, what fun in helping other people spend their money!

It's a vicarious pleasure. On Saturday the 14th, Dave McCord rode his Ducati GT1000 to breakfast and casually mentioned that he was going over to Lexington Motorsports "just to look" at a V-Strom 650.

Immediately, the motorcycle-acquisition antennae went up on several of us at the table. "

The game's afoot, Watson, step lively now !"

I had a short errand to run after breakfast, but as soon as that was done, I hot-footed it over to the dealership to watch the slow-roasting of a fellow motorcyclist on the spit of bike-lust.

There was Dave's Ducati in the parking lot, helmet and

jacket on the seat. In the showroom sat the lone V-Strom 650, pristine and spotless, waiting for a proper introduction to her suitor. The scene was set, but the main character was missing. I soon found him ensconced in the office with a grateful-looking salesperson (We are still in a recession).

Dave was still talking himself into the trade, impaled temporarily on that cusp we've all felt, not wanting to turn loose of the seductive Duck but wanting the more practical charms of the Japanese all-rounder.

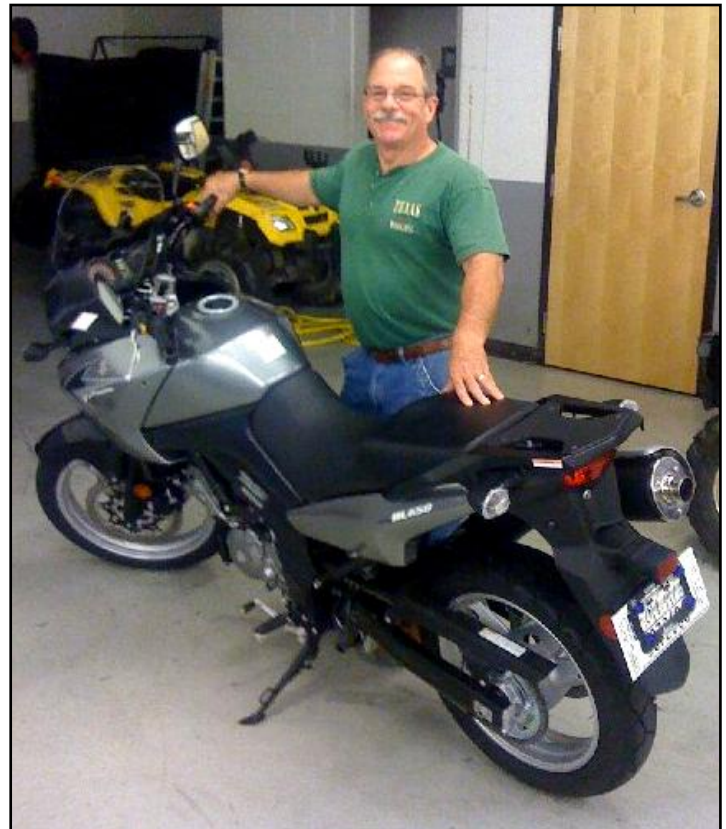
Catherine Zeta-Jones will turn heads and cause the red mist to cover the eyes of any male, but I'm sure Emma Thompson is *much* easier to live with.

Watching Dave's internal struggle was like a re-run of a movie we've all seen....you know the outcome already, but

you just have to wait for the protagonist to get where he doesn't yet to realize that he's



John Rice



going. Finally, with a resolute look in his eyes.

Dave stood up and said, "Let's do it," a firm statement of a decision that really was inevitable from the time he walked in the door.

There was a flurry of paperwork, signatures here and here and here, then it was his. and he was off, sitting upright and proud on the dual-sport all-rounder, heading for home and the dirt road up to the creek

crossing to his front door....conditions the V-Strom will find comfortable instead of, like the Ducati, complaining about the dust in her contacts and fear of breaking a nail and if you really loved me, you'd pave this road right now.

I felt sort of responsible, since I'm the one that told Dave he'd like the V-Strom ("I dated her sister for a month, I think you'd have a lot in common.")

So I felt compelled to stay for the wedding, but I let them go off on the honeymoon alone. From what I hear, it's going well so far.

**A brief farewell outside to the Duck: " Bye, Catherine. Emma's moving in to your room."**

## The KICKSTAND's Rally Van is on the Road Again!

After three months, a new motor and a new water pump, The KICKSTAND's rally van is finally on the road again! While it's running, (we say that because it didn't make it all the way home after just installing the new motor,) we're making plans to take it to the Bluegrass Beemers Mini Rally/Campout and then on to the Hoosier Beemers Rally.

We TRULY appreciate everyone's concern, contributions and comments during this time. Stop in to see us while we're out and keep your fingers crossed the fixes stick. As of today, our rally van fund is broke and Plan B is a pick-up and a pull-behind trailer!

—Lynn and Raymond Montgomery



# HOT SPRINGS *Arkansas* Spa City News



*America's First Resort*  
[www.hotsprings.org](http://www.hotsprings.org)

## 58 motorcycle Cannonball riders on pre-1916 bikes will stop over in Hot Springs on coast to coast endurance run September 16-18

Final details are coming together for 58 riders of antique pre-1916 motorcycles to stop in Hot Springs September 16 - 18 as part of one of the most unique motorcycle events in the world - the Motorcycle Cannonball 2010. The Motorcycle Cannonball will take the 58 riders all the way across America, starting at Kitty Hawk, N.C., and ending two weeks later in Santa Monica, Calif. Participating motorcycles must be pre-1916 vintage classic machines.

Hot Springs will host the riders and their amazing bikes for two nights and one day - September 16 - 18, according to Steve Arrison, CEO of the Hot Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The first bikes will begin arriving in Hot Springs on September 16 at 4 p.m., Arrison said. The final group of riders will arrive around 4:55 p.m. "The riders will come into the city on Malvern Avenue," he said, "then take a right on Convention Boulevard, then a right on Laurel Street, which runs between the Embassy Suites hotel and the Summit Arena."

"We are asking Hot Springs residents to welcome this incredible event to our city by lining both sides of Laurel Street, where we will have an

informal 'finish line,'" Arrison said. "These classic antique motorcycles then will be parked on Church Street behind the Convention Center where they will be on public display until 6 p.m."

Arrison said security will be provided for the motorcycles overnight.

Some of the riders are very interesting people, he said. Their names and biographies are available at the [www.motorcyclecannonball.com](http://www.motorcyclecannonball.com) website. Cris Sommer-Simmons, one of two female competitors, is married to Pat Simmons, one of the Doobie Brothers. Arkansan John Hollansworth of Hot Springs Village will ride his 1914 Indian in the Cannonball.

"Hot Springs is the only day off for the riders during the entire Cannonball," Arrison said. "They will rest here on September 17 and then resume their journey on the 18th. This is a great event for Hot Springs."

"The annual HOG Rallies and the Hot Springs Rallies have drawn thousands of riders and their families to Hot Springs over the years," Arrison said. "But we haven't seen this many priceless vintage bikes in one place."



"This amazing family-friendly event should cement Hot Springs' reputation as the most friendly place in America for bikers to meet and have fun," said Charles Moore, chairman of the Hot Springs Advertising and Promotion Commission.

Mike Thomson, president of the Diamond Chapter (Arkansas) of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America, said, "The potential for our state and our city and our club is mind-boggling."

The Motorcycle Cannonball route will cover 3,325 miles starting September 10 when the riders dip their wheels in the Atlantic Ocean at Kitty Hawk, N.C. It will conclude September 26 when the finishers dip

the wheels of their bikes in the Pacific at Santa Monica, Calif.

The Motorcycle Cannonball will include pre-1916 motorcycles made by Pope, Sears, Flying Merkel, Excelsior, Henderson, Indian, Triumph, and the Harley-Davidson's Silent Grey Fellows.

For more information contact Steve Arrison at 501-321-2027.

### **HOT SPRINGS CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**

134 Convention Boulevard - Hot Springs, AR 71901

Phone: 501-321-2835 or 1-800-922-6478

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

*Information shared  
by Jeff Crabb*

# *Saturday* at Frisch's

These two were among the 25 or so riders at the August 28th breakfast.

Tom Weber (left) stands with Paul Kennedy who owns the red 1989 R100RT that Tom has ridden for the past 5,000 miles or so.

We all need a friend such as Paul!

The RT is the former ride of Dave Breshear, the "B" in T&B Sales in Linton, Indiana, the former BMW dealership that served us so well and for the most part no longer exists.



# ***Saturday*** at Frisch's



# ***Saturday*** at Frisch's



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Okay, so Utah may make for a long weekend, but the poster is cool, isn't it?



The poster for the 6th Annual Barber Vintage Festival features a central illustration of a vintage motorcycle racer in a red helmet and black leather suit, leaning into a turn on a track. The motorcycle is dark blue with yellow and white accents, and the number '9' is visible on the front and side. In the background, a tall digital scoreboard displays '06:47' and various race numbers. The text '6th Annual BARBER VINTAGE FESTIVAL' is prominently displayed at the top in a stylized font. Below the illustration, it says 'Presented By MICHELIN' with the Michelin Man logo. Further down, it lists activities: 'Roadracing • Motocross • Trials • Cross Country • Motorcycle Auction • Swap Meet and More!'. It also mentions 'Gates Open at 7:00 a.m. Daily • For Details • Call 205-699-7275' and 'Barber Motorsports Park, Leeds, Alabama • www.barbervintagefestival.org'. At the bottom, there's a section titled 'Motorcycles by Moonlight' with a small 'BARBER' logo and several sponsor logos including 'BARBER MOTORSPORTS PARK', 'VIMC', and others.

6th Annual  
**BARBER**  
VINTAGE FESTIVAL

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**MICHELIN**

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8-10, 2010

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**Motorcycles by Moonlight**  
A Presentation Sponsoring BARBER VINTAGE MOTORSPORTS MUSEUM 2010

## 6th Annual Barber Vintage Festival October 8-12

The Sixth Annual Barber Vintage Festival features AHRMA vintage road racing, motocross, trials and cross country (both vintage and post-vintage).

There's a bike show, swap meet, demonstrations of exotic motorcycles and cars, vendors and a lot more.

Visit the festival Web site at  
<http://barbervintagefestival.org>

The Barber Vintage Festival will also host a variety of events for spectators to enjoy including a swap meet, flea market, and vintage demos.

Visitors will also have a rare chance to see and hear the exotic motorcycles from the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum which is home to one of the largest vintage and modern motorcycle collections in the world.

There is a Benefit Dinner featuring Sir John Surtees (\$125 Tickets) with live Auction.

—Brian Sawyer

## 36th Return to Shiloh Rally October 1-3

We'd like to invite Bluegrass Beemers to celebrate the 36th Return to Shiloh Rally, sponsored by the BMW Riders Association of the Mid-South (BMW RAMS), October 1-3, at Pickwick Dam, TN.

Registration is \$25/each and includes three nights free camping "under the pines" at the TVA Campground primitive area, Friday night BBQ dinner until gone, rally pins for the first 350 guests.

This year, "Rally Central" and the "Vendor Areas" have been relocated to a small commercial campground adjacent to the TVA Campground primitive area. This area is directly across the road from the old Pavilion, our traditional gathering area. Look for the giant 30 x 60 tent!!

### For more information:

- RAMS website: <http://www.bmwrams.com>
- Email: [rally@bmwrams.com](mailto:rally@bmwrams.com)
- TVA Pickwick Dam Tailwater Campground:  
<http://www.tva.gov/river/recreation/camping.htm>

We hope you'll join us at "the best rally by a Dam site"!

Regards,

Rose-Anne Cunningham  
2010 RTS Door Prize Co-Chair  
RAMS Websmistress [webmaster@bmwrams.com](mailto:webmaster@bmwrams.com)

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Departments**

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- registration is from 10:30 – 12:00
- kickstands up at noon
- bring a toy to kick-off the Community Christmas Toy Drive
- optional \$5 per hand to participate in the poker run
- ride about 85 miles and visit 5 area fire stations
- the ride will end at *The KICKSTAND*
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**for more information,  
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