



Following up with last month's news, the BMW entry in the **Daytona 200** was quite successful: **Richard Cooper** and **Brian Parriott** came in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, respectively, on



their HP2 Sports. They crossed the finish line 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, but the winning Erion Racing Honda, ridden by Josh Hayes was disqualified following the post-race inspection. The other two HP2 Sports of **Rico Penzkofer** and **Nathan Kern** did not finish, however. So far, no BMW is to be found on the pre-entry list of the next race at Barber Motorsports Park on April 19. Too bad.

Everybody is on the bandwagon to save fuel, so **Suzuki** and British firm **Intelligent Energy** have announced an extension of their agreement to develop hydrogen fuel-cell motorcycles with the intention of creating a production-ready hydrogen-powered bike in the near future.

The "**Wheels Through Time**" museum will leave Maggie Valley in 2009 and move to a location not yet announced. The theme will also change to "**Wheels Around The World**".

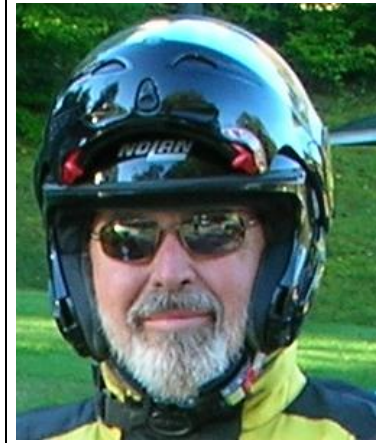
**Death rates** from motorcycle crashes have risen steadily in states that began weakening helmet laws about a decade ago, according to a Gannett News Service analysis of federal accident reports. In 1996, 5.6 motorcyclists were killed for every 10,000 registered motorcycles, according to Department of Transportation (DOT) statistics. By 2006, the most recent data available, the rate had risen to 7.3, the analysis shows.

**April 18-20.** Vintage BMW Motorcycle Rally, BMW Veteran Motorcycle Club of America hosted by Bench Mark Works, Mississippi

**May 18.** Akron BMW Motorcycle Club Spring Poker Run. Mogadore Moose Lodge. Sign up to volunteer.

**June 2-7** 2008 Americade Rally, Lake George, NY  
  
Akron BMW Motorcycle Club, BMW MOA Charter No 21 est. 1972

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*A Presidential Address:*

At our March Club Meeting we made a meal of an assortment of appetizers! What a variety and all of them delicious, thanks to all who attended.

Several discussions took place with the main topic being our poker run. Don't forget to be there May 18th and any time before then at the next club meeting or during Sunday breakfast.

We need volunteers early to secure door prizes.

Please spread the word and let us know if you are available to participate in the preparation.

Membership cards for the Club are currently being prepared and should be available soon.

This brings me to membership: Please join me to welcome our newest member

**Jim Pontius**

to the club! Jim joined the club recently and has been with us at Sunday morning breakfast already. We hope you will enjoy the club and the camaraderie, Jim!

Now everybody starts getting these bikes ready to ride. Great weather will be here before you know it.

**Fred**

*Editor's Corner*

What a fine month of March that was! Let's all hope that after that pre-Easter snow disaster, we finally had enough of the white stuff. The funny thing is, last year Easter was later and we still had snow that weekend. Well, now we can only hope for some rain to wash all the grime and salt off the roads so we can get these bikes out and lose the winter blues.

It seems like my personal calendar clashes once again with the club plans and Cindy and I will not be able to make our Poker Run on May 18. Too bad. We both really like that event and we did indeed participate in it long before we were club members. Hopefully, we don't have to wait until we come back from our trip to start the riding season.....

Actually, on May 4 is a Walneck's Swap Meet & Bike Show in Monroe, MI. That could make for a nice Sunday ride. We are still contemplating the purchase of a new (to us) R1200RT. So, if you have one for sale, drop me a line. "ESA" is a must. A 2006 is preferred. A special discount for the newsletter editor will be most welcome!

*Ride Safe      Mike*