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Editor's Corner

With the auto industry – well, at least GM and Chrysler – in the dumpster, one must wonder, how long it will take until some of our motorcycle manufacturers are giving up. First signs are definitely there. Our Harley Davidson dealer, a renowned place and in business since the mid 70s, Roeder's, had to close. Even without the recession, it isn't that much of a surprise that some dealers, forced by the manufacturers to invest in new locations and fancy stores, fold under the pressure of the cost for these "boutiques". As usual, the "customer" has not been asked what they really want. Has any of you ever bought a bike anywhere, because the dealership was easily reached from the freeway or the store was sparkling and shiny?

How about service? That's what I am interested in! I want a store where the guys who work there have dirty fingernails and a passion for motorcycles. In most cases, the places you find them is in old, cramped and seemingly unorganized shops. The typical dirty motorcycle place, not the Daytona-style mega-dealer.

I truly think that this is the recipe for survival of these dire times: Provide outstanding and superior service!

Mike

The **Chicken Rally** in Huntsville, AL was attended by our members Paul Tutokey, Fred Meyer, Allyn Orlando, Jim Pierce Julie and Dana McMahan and Cindy and Mike Simon. For some, the ride there involved a trip over the "Dragon", Rte 129 between TN and NC, it added 318 famous curves in 11 miles.

Although it was a little wet occasionally, everybody had a good time. We were all hoping to land the Grand Prize giveaway, an F800, but we had to settle for a rubber chicken keyring and the grilled real ones. Nice field trips from there included the Barber Motorsport Museum, the Jack Daniel's distillery and the "Unclaimed Baggage Outlet store, a paradise for bargain hunters (or not?). Try to make it next year, it's fun!

Next up will be the **Iowa Rally June 11-14** and then, of course the **MOA International July 16-19.** Get ready and be there!

The winner of our contest **FIND IT No 1** was **Jeff Gooch**. The final results and the directions of **FIND IT No 2** are attached.

Akron BMW Motorcycle Club, BMW MOA Charter No 21 est. 1972
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Hello all!

It seems like food is a great motivator! Our combined club-meeting/BBQ on June 9 had a great turnout! Members came on both 4 and 2 wheels and the weather was excellent. Thanks again to Gary Martin and his family for hosting it and for all who chipped in to fill the table!

Speaking about food, we agreed to have a pig-roast again this fall. Donna and Bill Vair, once again have agreed to host it. We are shooting for Saturday October 3, which, by the way, is the German National Holiday, a fitting date for a BMW club to celebrate. ☺☺☺

It seems like our club may have a sizeable contingent going to the International Rally in Johnson City. Let me know if you are interested in a group ride down there and we can check itineraries.

Right after this we have AMA Vintage Days at Mid-Ohio, July 24-26..They will organize an 85-year parade ride with select bikes from 85 years. There are quite some BMWs on the request list. Check with me or Mike if you want to send in an application to participate.

I would also like to extend an earlier request from our newsletter editor again, to submit topics of interest. These could be bike wrenching tips, gear and accessories review, favorite rides or good places to eat.

See you on the road!

Dana