Cleveland Club News

The Official Publication of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland Summer, 1994

...from the President's Desk

Here we are again, in the middle of riding and rally season. From the looks of things, our club is being well represented at a number of events all around the area. I've talked to members who have made it to some of the closer rallies and events and some of the not so close. The best part is, that everyone seems to be enjoying themselves and we've been blessed with no incidents of consequence so far. As for our own little get-together, I was pleasantly surprised at the variety of machines and members that attended. Afterwards, a couple of people told me that every time they looked around it seemed that everyone was smiling. This is a really good sign that everyone was having fun.

As for club business, we're growing at a very respectable rate with new members signing up almost weekly. Our treasury, although not huge, is taking care of the bills for the foreseeable future, and Dave, the Road Captain, is scheduling a couple more club rides to some interesting places. One of the more interesting things that happened at the last club meeting, is that Bob, our V.P., suggested that I open the floor to ask the membership what they would like to see the club do. After I gave Bob the floor, I listened to what you had to say. As it turned out, it seems that the board is on the right track as far as your expectations of the club. Rest assured that the suggestions that were made will be looked at and implemented, if at all possible, for the greater enjoyment of all. Remember, that the board always has time for a good idea and that if you don't speak up no one will know what you're thinking. So, come to the meetings, drop a dime and make that call, or just grab hold of someone at that rally bonfire and let us know what we can do to make this organization more fun for you and your friends.

To wrap things up, I'd like to take the time to thank the Micro-Rally committee for all the hard work and dedication that they showed in making our own event one of the highlights in our existence as a club. Also not to be forgotten, are the shops and individuals that donated door prizes so that a good number of our members went home with something extra to remind them of a great time at Camp Wahoo.

Ride Safe,

Ralph ☠

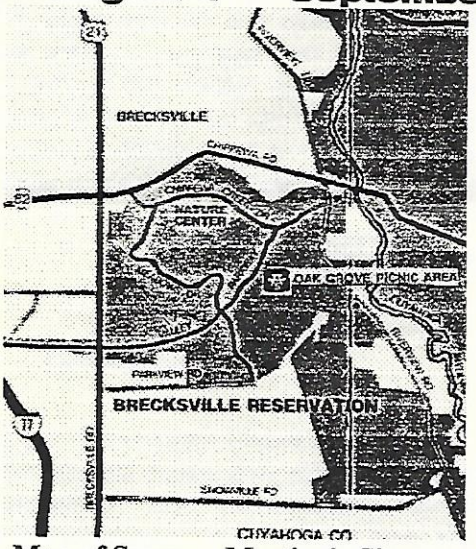
P.S. That's minus three points Bob.

AMA 1-800-AMA-JOIN

...Summer Meetings' Schedule...

Summer Meetings- We have adopted the **Oak Grove Picnic Area** in the Brecksville Reservation, (affectionately known as Raccoon Hollar) as our summer meeting site, mainly due to it's central location. *Held on the first Thursday of each month*, (mark your calendar **NOW!**) all meetings will begin at **7:30 p.m.** and will include a fire for preparing your favorite carnivore grilling. Unless you receive a post card announcing a different location this will be our regular meeting location for this summer.

July 7 • August 4 • September 1



Map of Summer Meeting's Site
(first Thursday of each month)

Club Officers and Officials ☎

Ralph Crider, President	671-1847
Bob Wood, Vice-President	252-7933
Barbara Cowan, Secretary/Treasurer	656-2440
Dave Kean, Road Captain	1-667-2496
Paul Shaver, Director	1-657-2502
Craig Webb, Director	949-5071

"CHUNX" ... Vol.III, No.2

by Eric Graydon

Now as we all know, the motorcycling season is well upon us and the Chunx 'are a spewing'. It has been sometime since I have had the honor of bestowing somebody with the Chunx Plaque, but now we have a winner that seems to have gotten this privilege as a result of a hand me down. It seems that the Chunx Award goes with the office of vice-president. Congratulations Bob Wood!

The plaque of "Chunx" will ceremoniously be bestowed and bequeathed to Bob at the next club meeting, so...be there. As a former recipient of this award, I know and understand the full meaning of this award and I hope Bob hangs it proudly over his toilet. So much for that subject.

I also was in Akron on the weekend of June 10, 11, and 12, but not for a motorcycle rally as were many of the club members. I was there for a new reason. Yet 59 years old since its conception, it is the anniversary of "Founder's Day" which is when two men came together and founded A.A. Those men were Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith. Together they found relief from the tortures of alcoholism and their foresight has grown to a worldwide network of help for people afflicted by alcoholism. It was a wonderful weekend.

Once again, Congrats Bob!

* * * *

Bits & Pieces

Experienced Rider's Course is now a reality. The Club's own private session with master instructor Al Butterfield has been set for October 22, 1994. All members who plan to attend must prepay a non refundable $25 fee. Call Dave Kean (216/667-2496) before Labor Day Weekend to secure your spot if you're on the sign-up sheet. If you haven't signed up yet and are interested in taking the course at a later date, have Dave put you on the list for the next course. This one filled up so fast we will probably offer another one in Spring.

Club ***Ride to the Races*** on June 25 & 26 was our typical #196 event - ridin' in rainsuits. Fortunately, all was dry and starry in Lima, Ohio for the evening racing. Bike Haven, the motorcycle campground near Wapakoneta, made for comfortable accommodations with plenty of trees, green grass, good prices, and a hot tub! Definitely worth a repeat visit; perhaps an annual club activity.

Motosapien Moments, this issue, reflects back to the Spring tune-up clinic, with Craig's talented light-sided-humor. Craig also was the publisher of the excellent self-guided tour maps which were available at the Micro-Rally.

Micro Rally a Success

by Dave Kean

Well, Mother Nature smiled down on us and gave us perfect weather for the 3rd Annual Micro-Rally. It was warm and sunny from Friday evening through Sunday with nary a cloud in sight. We had a good turnout and met some of our new members. Plenty of good food, lots o' beer, tire-kick'in good stories and general camaraderie.

Lots of thanks go to Pam, Craig, Donna, and 'Chef Squeak' for all their planning and hard work to pull this event off. Also, many thanks to all the good folks that were very generous in donating door prizes.

In the next couple of months we will be asking for volunteers for the '95' Micro-Rally. So if anyone is interested, or has any ideas, let us know. Thanks again for everyone's cooperation and attendance.

Join the Fastest Growing M/C Club
in Ohio, BMW MOC
Annual Membership $10.00
Contact Bob Wood
216/252-7933

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Also this issue, another installment from Ralph Maarsen at the Snow Belt Ranch. He has sent along some R-bike tips.

Sunday Breakfast Rides are still a hot topic at our monthly meetings. At the Micro-Rally Business Meeting those present decided to change the ride departure time to **12:00 NOON**, on **Sundays**, to encourage greater participation by those who had to leave very early to make the previous 9:00 a.m. time. It has been reported the attendance recently has been poor due to the high number of rallies this time of the year.

From the rumor mill; Stephanie and Paul are reportedly tying the knot in October. We all wish them the best of luck. Hope it's a motorcycle marriage.

Anyone interested in traveling plans for <u>either</u> national should show up for breakfast the Sunday prior to the rally weekend at the Independence Family Restaurant. Several members have expressed an interest for an informal meeti just before departing. It might be just a helmet count, but it would still be nice to know who is going where, and when.

Ohio Calendar of Events

July 1 Reg Pridmore's CLASS comes to Mid-Ohio Race Course in Lexington, OH. 1-800/MID-OHIO.

July 1-4 Firecracker Rally, Brewster. Sponsored by the Canton MC. Fee $12. Info-1-216/767-3965 Walt

July 1-4 Bummikuh Rally, Bavarian Manor in Cairo/Purling NY in Catskills. Three nights camping & live music/awards, door prizes, field events, German beer garden. $45 at the gate. Call 1-518/765-3201 Barb. Kipp

July 14-17 RA in the Land O'Lakes. 1994 BMW RA Intl. Rally , Dakota County Fairgrounds in Farmington MN. $25 at gate. Call 1-407/984-7800 Juli.

July 14-17 Honda Super Cycle Weekend. Racing action all weekend/weekend pass $25. Call 1-800/MID-OHIO

July 22-24 AMA's Vintage Motorcycle Days at the Motorcycle Heritage Museum near Columbus OH. Swap meet, motorcycle shows, motorcycle auctions, demo rides from BMW, H-D, and Kawasaki. Call 1-614/891-2425.

July 28-31 22nd Annual BMW MOA Intl. Rally, "Moodus Moments". Sunrise Resort in Moodus Connecticut. $25 at the gate. Call 1-303/778-8617 Deb Lower.

Aug 11-14 17th Annual Daniel Boone Rally at KOA Campground in Boone, NC. Vendors, door prizes, pancake breakfasts, Friday night hot dogs. Sat. evening meal, awards, rally pin, parkway tours. $25 at gate. Call 1-704/552-6898 Bill/Teresa Harris.

Aug 12-14 Cherry Country Rendezvous at Cyclemoore Campground in Interlocken, MI. Tour along Lake MI and Dunes National Lake Shore. Sat. AMA sanctioned poker run. Call 1-810/853-0908 Glenn Brechner.

Aug 19-21 14th Hard to be Humble Rally at Livingston County 4-H Park, in Pontiac Illinois. Two nights camping, rally pin, awards, door prizes, field events, Fri. hot dogs & entertainment. Sat. meal and band. Theme is "Dinky Dozen Western Round-up" $19 at the gate. Call 1-309/452-4251 J.D. Aldridge.

Aug. 26-28 28th Annual Four Winds Rally at Living Waters Campground at Schellsburg PA. Sat. dinner, door prizes, rally pin, 2 nights entertainment, field events tour rides, vendors welcome. $28 at the gate. Call 1-412/922-7909 Gary Smith.

Sept. 2-5 20th Finger Lakes Labor Day Weekend Rally at the Hidden Valley Group Camp in Watkins Glen State Park, Watkins Glen, NY. Three nights camping, 2 evening meals, 2 bands, rally pin, winery tours, tech sessions. $45 at the gate. Call 1-315/589-8594 Dick/Nancy Fry.

Sept 3-5 Springfield Mile BMW Campout at Mr. Lincoln's Campground. Sat. night bonfire & wiener roast, 2 nights camping, Sun./Mon. free donuts a.m., self-guided tours, campout pin. Race tickets available. $15 registration. Call 1-217/546-3732 Rick Womack

Sept 9-11 Buckeye State Rally at Lake Snowden Campgrounds in Athens, OH. Great roads, $1000 in door prizes, 2 nights camping, pin Fri./Sat. chili pot, awards field events. BMW display truck and deal demo rides. $22 at gate. Call 1-216/951-0740 Chris Richards.

Sept 9-11 24th Rally at the Dells at the Eagle Flats Campground in Wisconsin Dells, WI. Mugs and pins Fri. Beemer Broth, Sat. gourmet dinner, awards trophies door prizes. $29 at the gate. Call 1-414/354-3577 Mike Cohen.

Sept 16-18 DCR Endless Summer at Ski Roundtop in Lewisberry, PA. Beach party, call 1-707/292-5407 R.J.

October 16 BMW MOA Mileage Contest ends. Fill out your form.

Note: RA Rally listings can be downloaded from **Library 14, Motorcycling Topics** located in Compuserve's **Motor Sports Forum**.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS - Robert Belovich, Phil Danzey, Bill Ely, John Gerow, Vince Grippe, Chris Holt, Tom Kean, Mike May, Paul Neumann, Tom Sawyer, Bob Shelton, Larry Seredy, Michele Stone, and Marty Zazik. Again, we broke a new membership record this quarter with 14 new riders. On behalf of all the membership I welcome you to your local BMW club and hope you enjoy this year's activities.

Motosapien Moments

by Craig A. Webb

In an effort to provide Bob with some frivolous filler for the newsletter, I present this column dedicated to our motorized mounts and the time we spend upon them.

Anointed With Oil

As most of you know by now, I am a self confessed non-mechanic. This defect is not genetic as I come from a proud lineage of auto mechanic/engineers and railroad men.

I've tried to blame it on environmental factors. A liberal arts education, a father who waxed frighteningly verbally ballistic during auto repairs, the handicap of being primarily right-brained. Still, what it comes down to is that I am just not mechanical. I am instead . . . well. . . .artistic.

It's a heavy cross to bear admittedly, but I aspire to mechanicalism with all my heart. I own shop manuals for the family cars. Clymer and Haynes publications litter my bookshelves and I'm contemplating the purchase of tune-up videos, (but I imagine the plots are pretty predictable and the character development weak). Yet those static black and white photos of oil stained parts that I can't quite identify and cryptic text references to dwell settings and foot pounds make my eyes glaze over. And what about those apocalyptic EXPLODED views? Scary stuff indeed.

I've given up on cars. Once they included an onboard computer I was history. Motorcycles are my only hope. Electronic fuel injection and ABS brakes may be beyond human comprehension, but if I could just grasp the simplicity of my 1964 R60/2 I might be saved!

Which is why our wonderful Spring Tune-up Clinic offered such hope. Hands-on remedial tech therapy for the mechanically impaired. Under the watchful eyes of that mechanical comedy team of Vince Grippe and Bill Ely, we boldly forged where I was scared shitless to go. Best of all, the exposed timing entrails and tampered carbs belonged to someone else's machine.

Of course, the intense envy felt over Bob Shelton's R bike getting such royal treatment evaporated on the way home as it developed a menacing intermittent miss on one cylinder. (The non-mechanic's worst nightmare is to tamper with adequately working machinery and thereby render it inoperative forever.) Luckily a loose set screw and a clogged fuel jet were "probably" the culprits and the patient recovered fully. ☞

Pam & Donna's Excellent Adventure- to NWVABMW Dual Sport in PA

by Pam YeKean and Donna Schettine

While everyone else was Rubber City Rally'in or cutting their grass, we went to visit our neighbors at the 2nd Mountain State BMW Camp-out. After recruiting a baby-sitter for Devon, we left Cleveland just for the ride (and the $5 a night price) taking our time past the Ohio River. Of course, it started raining half and hour and one country road from the rally site. When leaving West Alexander we stopped to make sure that this was the road to Ryerston Station. This road, a paved winding BMW riders dream, was our nightmare. Twists and turns around the beautiful grassy knolls and hollers on the sides of the mountains led us on a 36 mile short cut that took us 4 miles west of where we started from.

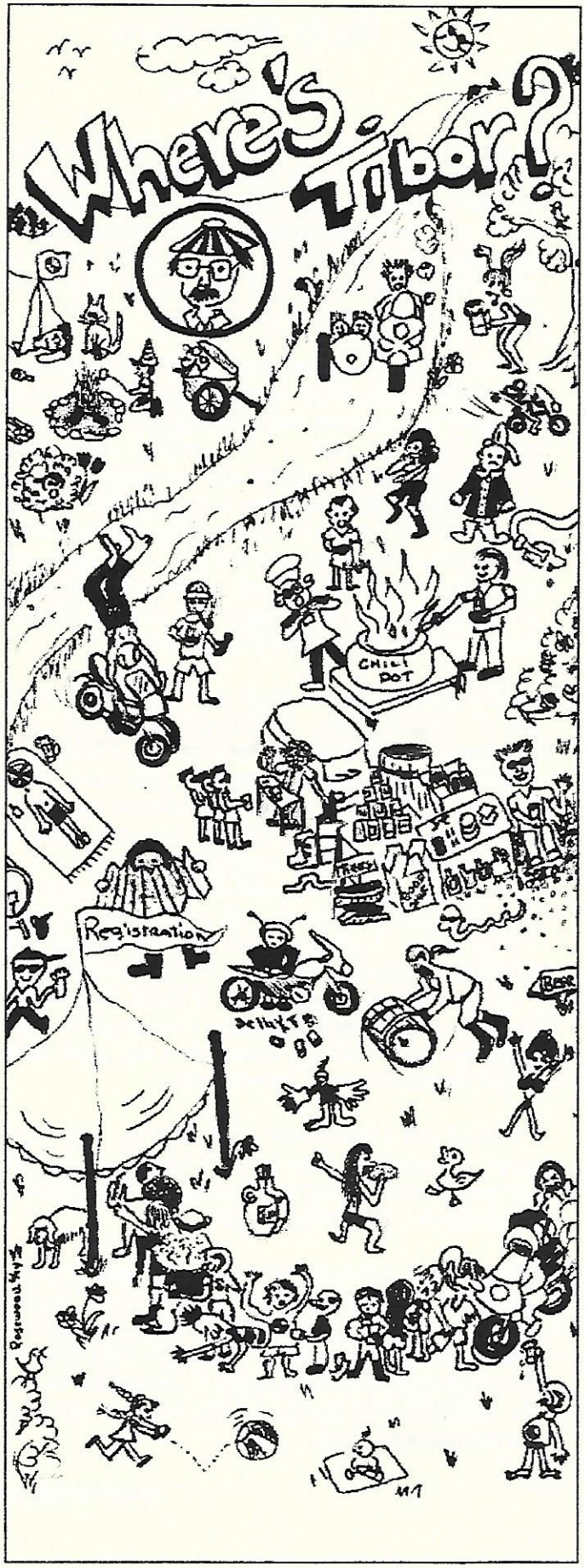
So.....asking for directions once again, we were instructed to go back to West Alexander and take the same winding road, then turn left in the great town of Beham, West Virginia. Doing this and feeling confident, we proceeded to dual sport. Gravel, dirt and sink holes were plentiful, making our bikes a FXSTGS and a R75/6GS. Stopping at the third fork in the road, we spotted Bob Tail Trail. We hoped for a clue in which one to take. We were lucky enough that Robby Walker and family recognized the lost look on our faces and rescued us to their home. After refreshments and conversation, Robby mounted his 750 Suzuki Katana to lead us from West Virginia's oblivion to the safety of civilization and a gas station..

-(continued on page 5)

Your ad here would reach over 150 BMW M/C owners this issue.
Call Bob at 216/252-7933 for details.

☞ Late in the day, after Vince and Bill's performance and a satisfying cook out, I felt the fever well up inside me. I simply had to unscrew something! An oil change was the easiest fix - with a Biker Buddy filter wrench kit thrown in for dessert.

As I lay - back to gravel - feeling the familiar sacrifice of torn knuckles on hot exhaust pipes - I knew this is what it's all about. One tense tug on the Allen wrench - (is it clockwise or counterclockwise in Germany?) - and then the hot satisfying black flow of holy petroleum on my fingers. My drain pan runneth over - surely goodness and mercy shall follow me down all the highways of life - and I shall park at the house of the FORD (BMW-*Ed.*) forever. VA-ROOM! ◔



Ralph at the Snowbelt Ranch

by Ralph Maarsen

Here's a repair tip for all you kids on 1970's R bikes that need to do clutch assembly replacements. The splines on my clutch plate stripped last summer and I did the job in my shop. Where I live in Western N.Y. the nearest BMW dealer and repair shop is in Buffalo ...80 miles to my north. Too far to schlep my "75" R60/6, and I was pleasantly surprised that clutch replacement is a fairly straight forward and simple job to do if you've the time. Once you've removed your gearbox unit and have exposed your clutch, go *easy* when you unscrew the bolts holding it in place... loosen them evenly in small increments so the entire clutch comes out under *even pressure*. No sweat!

Installing the new clutch assembly is a hassle unless you have a way to compress the entire assembly onto the pressure plate. Various parts distributors sell fancy clutch removal/compressing bolts in sets of three (for twins 1970-1980) they are unnecessary and overpriced.

DO purchase or borrow a clutch centering arbor BMW #21-2-650 (roughly $14 or so). It's necessary to line up the clutch components. Instead of buying the above mentioned removal/installation bolts, do what I did. Just go to your local hardware store and purchase three 1 1/2" long 10mm bolts and a washer to slip over each one. This home-made setup functions in the same manner, and saves you money. Make sure you've at least 1 3/8" length of thread on the bolts measured from the head face to the end of the bolt. That's the minimum length necessary to make contact with the threaded holes on your flywheel where the clutch assembly bolts on. If your hardware store carries only longer 10mm bolts, that's no problem, just add additional identical washers to compensate for the added length. Slip the washer on and space the three 10mm bolts evenly in a triangular pattern on the clutch assembly, and then *slowly and evenly* tighten them until the clutch assembly is fully compressed. Install and finger

-(continued on page 6)

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Excellent Adventure- continued from page 4

The turn out at the rally was a small and comfortable group of 30. Free hot dogs and door prizes for all of us. Beer was easy to obtain if you wanted to go back to West Virginia for it. Many Four Winds Committee Members were present, making sure we had their pre-registration forms.

Deciding on a more direct route home (by freeway, of course) the ride was quick and uneventful. All in all we had a great time and look forward to going back, but we think we'll stick to the main roads. (But we'll keep Robby's phone number handy--just in case!)

Snowbelt Ranch- (continued from page 5)

tighten 3 of your regular clutch bolts, remove your 3 home-made bolts and install your BMW's 3 remaining clutch bolts. Then finish tightening the reinstalled clutch bolts. Your clutch should be properly lined up and ready to rock-n-roll. Simple and effective.

BMW 'puts the screws to you' to the tune of $90 for their factory made "clutch removal/installation bolt set'...Luftmeister charges about $50 (not much better)... and CC Products wants around $12.95. I picked up the 3 10mm bolts and 3 standard washers for under 50 cents. *Only in America!*

There is something aesthetically pleasing about doing ones own repairs. You revel in the philosophical imperatives of improving not only your machine, but yourself as well in the process. Take your time, clean and lube everything that needs it, and just groove on the task at hand. Be good to your BMW and your BMW will be good to you.

* * * *

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For the Sport/Touring rider who wants a quality H rated tire at a reasonable price. Unique tread pattern offers outstanding wet weather riding by dispersing water to the sides and rear to give you a comfortable, controlled ride.

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Don't forget- Get a "BIKE FOR A BUCK"
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Rally Rear View

by Angela Wood

Between Flagstaff, Arizona and Cleveland, Ohio are 1,894 miles. I spent those 1,894 miles on the back seat of a BMW K100RS motorcycle (my dad says BMW stands for Best Motorcycle in the World) averaging 65 miles an hour, at four-hour stretches in the summer of 1990. It was a cross-country trip to an International BMW Motorcycle Rally in Arizona with my parents that lasted two weeks.

Let me let you in on something. Motorcycle passengers have little options as for travel entertainment. We can't sleep, talk to anyone but ourselves, eat, read, listen to music, play travel board games, or *move* ! It's actually pretty limited to thinking, singing to yourself, and watching. Movement is very dangerous; quick turns are not appropriate. These things can disrupt the flow of the motorcycle (which either ends up with an angry driver or a dumped bike -- that spells INJURY to me in some form). So in my confines of solitude, blocked away from the road by just speed and a black helmet in 90 degree weather, I choose to entertain myself.

The weather itself was enough to make anyone in a helmet and a leather jacket, straddling 1000cc's of a leather cushioned, fevered motor for hours on end, *a bit fidgety.* But it sure did encourage the creativity and craze in me. I resorted to the basics. I sang "100 Bottles of Beer on the Wall" twice all the way through and then made up my own...ten-thousand turtles tipping to the ticking of the tides. But I only go to nine-thousand, nine-hundred, eighty four. I played the alphabet game with road signs and then with license plates. I counted miles. I contemplated traveling, technology, progress, and speed. Mostly the questions of *why* I was on the bike to begin with. I found the solitude to be both nerving and soothing going through all the emotions between anger and cheer. It was a long trip, and I went crazy simply because I couldn't share *anything.*

I realized that I wasn't sure if any of it was real without the other. I needed the other for my own reality. Just being in the presence of another didn't make it. I needed exchange and feedback. *I NEEDED OTHER.*

Clouds have a subtle dance to them. I remember a wide sky, and the clouds looking a shade gray or silvery. At sundown, the rest of the sky glowed in citrus hues; grapefruit, lemon, orange, tangerine, and lime. The bright sting from the hues didn't cause me to squint though, it cheered up the sky from the smooth blue of noontime. The yellow blush in the sky warmed me deep inside.

-(continued on page 7)

Rear View-(continued from page 6)

I once heard if you watched a cloud long enough, it would burn away into nothing. So I watched with a hot glare, singing songs to myself and sketching the image in my head to be drawn at a more convenient time. I wanted to remember it, to paint or draw the sunset and clouds later on. I never have and forgot the specific cloudiness of the shape.

The trees that fenced the highway stood tall and straight, obviously planted to reduce noise in the vicinity. They were like doll rods of a crib, holding me on the bike safely, I had to climb up to get out. For now I was safe on the leather mattress.

The clouds entertained me like a mobile, turning above my head to the music in my head while I lay safely in the comfort of the green walls. The billowy masses loosely patched the sky and gently floated across from the speed of the bike.

Cleveland Club T-Shirts

If you are interested in a club T-shirt contact Rosemary at 216/252-7933. She will put your name on the list for the Fall project. More than a dozen members have requested we make shirts but we need your firm order NOW. Pricing will be set when the final artwork is complete.

We want you back!

You know who you are. And your important to us. Only two of last years members remain to reach a 100% membership renewal for the 1994 riding season. This will put our current annual growth also at 100%. We miss you Ken and Wolfgang. Please call home E.T.

July 20 is National *Ride to Work Day*!

Cleveland Club News is published solely for the entertainment and education of it's readers. The BMW Motorcycle Owners' of Cleveland Inc., and the publisher assume no liability for the content or accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter, nor do we necessarily endorse or agree with the statements or opinions presented herein. Cleveland Club News is published quarterly by the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland, Inc. and is included with the annual membership dues. Non-member subscriptions are available for $5.00 per year. Complimentary issues are rotated on an interest list. For details on how to receive a newsletter contact: Bob Wood, publisher/editor at 216/252-7933 or write to: Cleveland Club News, 4257 West 130th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, 44135. ©CCN 1994

classified section

BMW System I, white, large size about 7-1/2. $150. 2-piece Tourmaster winter suit, black, large VGC, $60. Call Gabe at 671-4825 or 651-8040

Bieffe helmet fiberglass Snell approved red, with gold and silver trim helmet, no shield, size large. GC $50. Call Eric at 741-7647

K-Bike fuel pump, $125, includes shipping. Bob at 252-7933

OSI 2-piece rain suit blue w/black pants. Large. Never used, still in bag. Retail $40, asking $20. Call Rose 252-7933

Bell & Howell ABR-55 portable micro fiche reader with K-75 parts fiche $50. Call Bob at 252-7933

Wanted '88 or '89 R100GS, white. Call Kyle at 529-0541

Wanted BMW /2 and/or Indian motorcycles partial or complete. Also interested in any and all related parts. Call Chris 979-1721 evenings

A

Special *Thank You!*

to the following vendors and members who generously contributed door prizes to *our* June Micro-Rally. We won't forget it was a great success **thanks to you all.**

ACCU-FLO PRODUCTS
ALL-SEASONS
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