Cleveland Club News

BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS OF CLEVELAND

The Official Publication of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland, Inc. Fall, 1996

...BABBLINGS FROM BARZELLA...

Another wonderful riding/camping season is quickly coming to a close. There are a few diehards that will ride into November, December, etc., but for the most of us, another 8 weeks or so will do it. Don't forget to look for the "Mileage Contest" return form in the Sept. issue of BMW ON. It would really be great to see Ohio in second, (alone) in the statistics. These were the standings last year:

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS		VS.	TOTAL MILEAGE	
1st	83	Wisconsin	1st	919,429
2nd	45	Illinois	5th	414,424
3rd	43	California	2nd	530,199
4th	41	Ohio	6th	381,147

As you can see, I am sure we will have more participants than last year because we signed up at least 10 people at the meeting in May. We were only 149,052 miles less than 2nd place for mileage! OK! Maybe it will be good just to be in 2nd place for participants. We can work on mileage next year. At least it is something we can do as a club, and you don't even need to come to a meeting to participate so all of the out of state/towners can be a part of it too!!!

Speaking of participants, we now have 125 members to my knowledge. We still have the Fall Foliage Campout and the Christmas Party to look forward too. Details will be announced. It would be really great to have all 125 people come to the Fall Foliage or Christmas Party wouldn't it? Now there is a goal!

Her highness, Queen Barzella.

There were about 16 members who attended the Four Winds 30th Anniversary rally near Evans City, Pa. The camping was pretty good if you had someone there early to save you a spot in the wooded area. Thanks Amy and Joe! The food was pretty good but not the feast of previous years. The weather was good if you left and/or arrived between the

...Fall Meetings' Schedule...

October 12 * November 7 * December 8

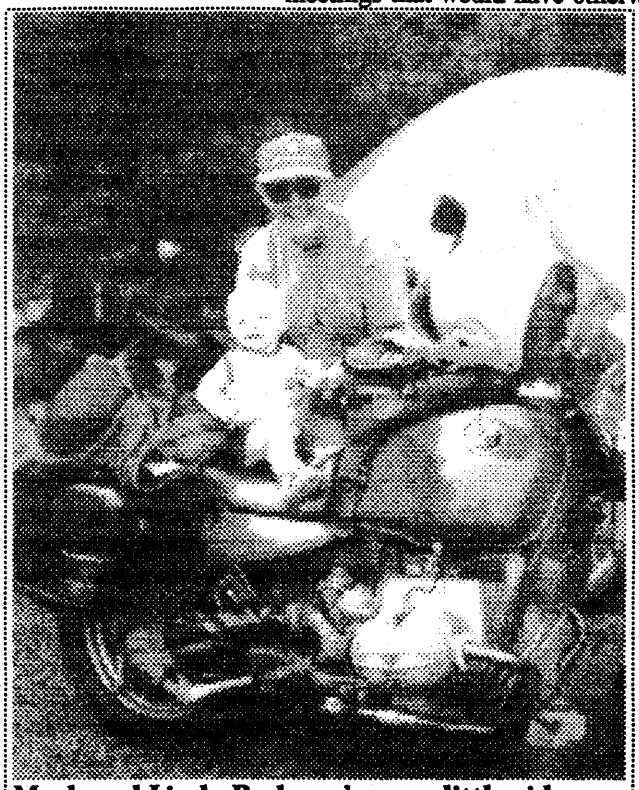
October 12th Fall Foliage Folly Campout/Meeting, **Saturday, October 12, 4:00 PM** at Whispering Hills Campground near Shereve, OH. Come down for the autumn colors and stay for the camping. Meeting in the small pavilion followed by a steak roast. **This is a new location from what was previously reported to the membership for this meeting.** Barzella (our esteemed president) will open the nomination window for the '97 Election. Join in and nominate your favorite candidates for the club. Details of the Fall Foliage Folly and a pre-registration form are in the back of this newsletter. *(Ed. I predict no rain.)*

November 7th Dinner/Meeting, **Thursday, November 7, 7:30 PM.**, at the Country Kitchen Restaurant, 17090 Royalton Road, at I-71 and SR 82, the Strongsville exit. Come early and enjoy dining with your club before the business meeting and 50/50 raffle. We have a private meeting room, with a fireplace, and the restaurant is open 24 hours. Dinner is on your own. Restaurant phone (216) 238-0940. As always, an open invitation stands for all BMW riders and their guests.

December 8th Holiday Bash/Meeting, **Sunday, December 8, from 2:00 to 7:00 PM.** Meeting will start at 3:00 PM. Buffet dinning at 4:00 PM. Mark your calendar now for the biggest Cleveland Club event yet. $10 members and their guests. This is a pre-register only event. Santa and his helper will have a gift for each good little girl and boy. Holiday spirits will be on your own. More details in Ohio Calendar on page 10.

For up-to-the-minute news call the BMW HOT Line at (216) 556-0196.

raindrops. There was a really nice gentle rain that started about 12:00 AM, the kind that lulls you to sleep versus the kind that you have to hang onto the tent poles. Other than that, Sat. and Sun. were beautiful. The Ray and Fran Grodek family cleaned up in the children's events and were eager to help with the drawing. There were about 125 door prizes for 250 people so many of our club members won prizes. **KARL HOFFMAN PITCHED A TENT!** Susan Schoenberger and I rode "THE MAZE" which was a 40 mile trip through the twisty back roads with a leader. Our leader was a really nice lady named Kay. We had a novice rider with us who set the pace which was OK because *we* have *all* been there. Remember? Well, there was a hot dog guy who was riding Kay's butt which left a distance between them and the rest of the 4 bikes because she kept trying to get an assured clear distance ahead of him. NOT! So, they had to wait awhile at stop signs for the rest of us to catch up because we were behind the novice and it was OK. The hot dog finally left and the rest of the ride was great. Beautiful Country!! They were very strict with noise to a point of being overbearing. I can understand their point due to the fact they have had problems at many previous camps, but it was a little much. All in all, it was fun. I must say though that I have a problem with being charged full price, ($30.00) for coming on Saturday afternoon. The Finger Lakes Rally does the same thing. I think that practice discourages some people from coming at all who have to work Friday, and can't get there until Saturday because they have a long ride. It seems to me that there could be different arm bands, record keeping, etc., that would allow people to get what they pay for rather than paying for what they aren't getting. Every camp we have negotiated with has allowed for per head per night or per tent per night rates. Perhaps people should write to those groups to express their opinions. What do you think?



Mark and Linda Rodman's new little rider tries out Barb's horsy ride. Seen at the Four-Winds' Mark is on the mend from a bike collision, while mom and baby are doing fine. It might be sidecar time.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Susan Schoenberger has a new bike!! She bought a '95 R100RT with 5,000 miles on it from Sills. It came with bags, trunk, LT custom seat, engine guards, heated grips, highway pegs, Multivario tank bag, an extra bag mount, battery charger, and two windshields. It is that dark pearl gray/black and spotless. Is *shee* happy! And, she let's Roger ride it too. Zircon and I went to Sills to watch her pick it up. I'm sure she had bugs in her teeth from the gigantic smile on her face as she rode off into the sunset with Roger. It was FUN!

Lots of exciting things coming up for 1997. See you at the next meeting or at the Fall Foliage Campout. Be there!! It will be FUN!

Presidential Comment-

In this year of elections, it is my observation that the office is unimportant if you have the willing support of th membership. I just wanted to take a moment to thank some of the people that have made this club work for all of the members, especially those that have provided a place for the meetings that would have otherwise been held at a park with less amenities, Jerry Bruce, Russ and Sue Davis, and Reid Inghram, Troy and Michele Stone, Bob Shelton on his birthday. Craig Webb offered his home for October but it was decided that to encourage a good attendance for the Fall Foliage Campout, the October meeting will be held at Jim Cable's Campground. People can come and camp for a night or two, or come for the meeting and dinner on Saturday. Thanks for offering Craig. We will definitely catch you next year. There are many others who have helped, Pam and David Kean, Roger Warren, Bob and Rose Wood, Paul Shaver, Donna Schettine, Karl Hoffman (Ambassador - you can't go anywhere that someone doesn't say, "Do you know Karl?"), Don and Patty Walker, Phil Danzey with the tune-up clinic, and all of the others too numerous to mention that have lent support, help, parts, time and labor to other club members at rallies, or on other occasions. I am very proud of this club and its membership. Please take a minute to thank these people because without them there would be no club. Every member is important and there is a resource person available to help with any problem and lots of fun to be had by all. The nominations for 1997 will be starting in October. It is time to think about this now. What can you give to the club that provides so many things for you? Can you give something back? Will you run for office? Will you volunteer for a committee? Thanks for your support for Amy Nichols and her breast cancer ride. Thanks for your support for the Kirt Zautner Memorial Fund that will benefit all riders. Our club is as good as its members and they are all good!!! We have one of the best clubs in the country and I hope it continues. I will with your support.

Bits & Pieces

Corbin Seats should be easier than ever to get service and information on since owner, Mike Corbin, is now on CompuServe (CS) and has an Internet accessible web site under development. It can't get any better than straight to the horses' mouth, or should I say from the saddlemakers' keyboard. His CS address is Mike Corbin, 10561,2537 or from the net 105161.2537@COMPUSERVE.COM will get routed. His plan is to network his company personnel onto a Corbin WEB page. Mike is using an internal computer guru (who can be contacted at GREG@CORBIN.COM) who is developing the system. His scheme is on a grander scale but follows those like Andy Goldfine of AeroStitch who have been on-line several years.

"1,006 miles in under 24 hours," he said, "who would have figured it, there was the motel." The Cleveland to Colorado trip is one more milestone for Harry Wagner and his K75 Hannigan tourer.

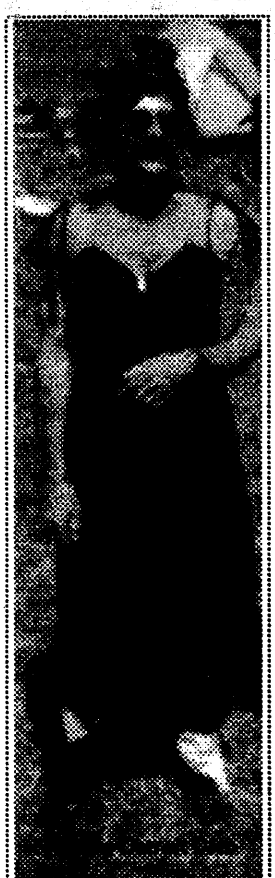
10,083 miles in 14 days to do the four corners by member Mike May on his K1100RS this August. It was quite an adventure and another notch on his belt.

This club rides!!!

Buckeye Rally needs volunteers to help with the state event. Our illustrious leader sat in on the annual rally review and pre-planning meeting on Saturday toward the end of the event. She felt strongly that if the rally committee had more hands the job would be much easier on all. The Cleveland Club may possibly be invited to participate in the '97 rally. The condition is, that we (as a club) elect (appoint) a rally chairperson to direct and represent our club in the state rally matters. (seems like a lot of politics) The tone of the meeting was unsettling due to *burnout* of the current committee. Involving the Cleveland Club could have a significant impact on the flavor of this long running Ohio rally. Picture a PIGS Tournament, bonfire, or a you-cook steak roast.

Try something different; give up a couple of hours next year and ~~harass~~, I mean work with fellow members at the state rally. Pick up the phone and dial the BMW Hot line (556-0196) press 3 and leave the board a message. Whether the club decides to participate or not remains to be seen.

Z-MAN proved he can not only get single speed awards but he (like Dr. Kavorkian) can kill your lucky streak and help you with the dreaded dual performance award. And from the air. Is this the old look up joke. I don't think so. Seems a streak of bad luck started with some innocent cross-dressing. Ah...perhaps a bad ~~Queen~~ dream?



Can you say Queen?

HOT grind from the "Rumor Mill" has our local franchised dealer threatening to hold customers' bikes (in for warranty service) if claims are not paid by BMW in a more timely manner. A ludicrous thought considering BMW riders would stop at nothing to retrieve their steeds. Something like this could get ugly very fast.

Cleveland Club News is still asking you to share your stories, tech tips, best road, and photos from the past season. Also, we need some writers and/or reporters to cover not only our, but other events as well.

RA Ohio Director, Pete Barnes resigned his position in August and named Ralph Rogers, who preceded him, back to the post. We will miss Pete's familiar wit from the word processor. Pete kept a good thing afloat during his quick three years and we wish him well with his new career prospects.

Ed. note- The Ohio BMW Riders Association hold three annual camp outs and monthly brunch/meetings at different Ohio areas during the non-optimal riding season. Although there are over 250 Ohio members there are about 50 who regularly attend most events. The BMW Motorcycle Owners' of Cleveland is a chartered BMW RA club.

Also news from the BMWRA Ohio Newsletter, says there is a new club based out of Parkersburg, WV, called the Mountaineer BMW Riders. *(see New faces at Maggie below)*

T-shirt orders are now being taken and are expected to be ready at or before the Holiday Bash/Meeting in December. This year ladies tank tops and cloth club calendars will be added to the selection. See the separate order included with this issue.

"the SECRET is out"-

New faces at Maggie this year included John Gerow, Ray Grodek, Roger and Susan Schoenberger, and Queen Barzella. Also his first year, Karl with a K, on a K, learned a valuable motorcycling lesson about braking during cornering. It's a NO, NO. *(Ed. note- Always scrub off speed before a turn, not in it.)* Having more fun than a rider should be allowed to have, Karl found himself over cooking a corner. New friends from Parkersburg, WV got Karl and his K75T home safely.

Rosie's K kissed the asphalt while parked at a gas station in Cherokee, NC, as a car backed into her bike nearly causing a chain reaction with my baby. Sheew!!

Good weather, fine friends, delicious mountain food, hot tubs, Bluegrass music and the best roads in the country made this a very good Maggie year.

Kirt Zautner Memorial Fund

by Barbara Cowan

As advertised on the tickets, the drawing would be held when all of the tickets were sold, or at the October meeting. WELL - Thanks to all of the people who helped sell tickets and to all of the people who BOUGHT the tickets, the drawing was held at the Sept. 5th meeting. The winner of the Grand Prize of $500.00 was club member, Bob McIntyre. You will recognize the name since he wrote a tech article for the summer newsletter. CONGRATULATIONS BOB!!!!

The winner of the second prize donated by Roger and Sandra Warren, "Gateway: Blueprint of the Future", was Mike Leonetti. Mike is a union tradesmen that Zircon has worked with on a job. CONGRATULATIONS MIKE!!!! This book will surely become a collector's item.

I mailed Bob McIntyre the check and that leaves $665.00 in the fund. I called the AMA to request the paperwork to complete the project of getting the "Brick in the Wall" in Kirt's honor. The balance will be sent to Gerry Zautner. Again, thanks to all the people who helped make this project a SUCCESS. Thanks to all those people who bought a chance! After all, its chance that makes this life so interesting. Don't you agree?

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Ohio Calendar of Events Fall '96

Sept. 26 **BMW MOC BOARD MEETING.** Pam & Dave's house, 7963 Spencer Lake Rd., call 330-667-2498.

Sept. 27-29 RA Logan Campout at Hocking Hills KOA, on SR 664, 7 miles south of Logan. $6 per person per night.

Sept. 27-29 Y-BMW Campout at Li'L Beaver Park on Trinity Church Rd. off SR 30 near Lisbon, Ohio.

Sept. 27-29 Maumee Vintage Campout Vieloma's Campgrounds, SR 65 between Grand Rapids and Perrysburg, OH. $17 for 2-nights. Swap meet Saturday.

Sept. 29 Akron BMW Poker Run. Mogador Moose (1/4 mile east of intersection) Mogador, OH. $5 fee, first bike out at 11 am, last bike out at 1 PM.

Oct. 3 **BMW MOC MEMBERSHIP MEETING** rescheduled to 4:00 PM, October 12 at Whispering Hills Campground near Shereve, OH. (see below)

Oct. 4-6 6th Blue Ridge Madness at High Country Cycle Camp. $25 pre-reg./ $30 gate. Call Turkey Tom at 910-973-7522.

Oct. 11-13 FALL FOLIAGE FOLLY '96 at Whispering Hills Campground near Shereve, OH. CLUB 196 MEETING to be held Saturday the 12th, at 4 PM, in the small pavilion followed by a steak roast. Coffee and donuts AM. **This is a new location from what was previously reported to the membership for this event.** It was the site of the Buckeye State Rally until '93. $15 dinner & 2-nights camping, $11 dinner, & 1-night camping, $8 meeting & dinner. $2 camping for kids under 10. Juniors' hot dog supper $2.

Oct. 29 **BMW MOC BOARD MEETING** at John Gerow's, 8181 Munson Road, Mentor. 216-255-7016. **(This is a Tuesday night)**

Nov. 1-3 RA Post-Halloween Cadiz Campout at Harrison County Reclamation Area (4 miles north of Cadiz on SR 9)

Nov. 3 Hare scrambles at Millfield, OH. Call 614-797-2413 for time and more info.

Nov. 7 BMW MOC DINNER/MEETING, 7:30 PM at the Country Kitchen Restaurant at I-71 and SR 82 in Strongsville, OH. 216-238-0940

Nov. 10 RA Utica Eating Meeting at 10:30 am Pioneer Restaurant SR 13 and US 62.

Nov. 10 Wil Stoner Swap Meet at Richland County Fairgrounds in Mansfield, OH. 9 am - 4 PM. US 30 to Trimble Rd. exit. $5 admission and $1 parking. Call 216-543-5034.

Nov. 26 **BMW MOC BOARD MEETING** at Donna Schettine's house, 13906 West Avenue. Call 216-671-1847. **(This is also a Tuesday night)**

Dec. 8 **BMW MOC HOLIDAY PARTY/MEETING** 2:00-7:00 PM, at the Centerior Energy Building cafeteria, 6200 Oak Tree Blvd., in Independence, OH. (Near Rockside and I-77.) Short business meeting to close the nomination window followed by a buffet style dinner. Cafeteria phone 216-524-7830 Dinner will be $10 for members and their guests, $5 children under 10, and 5 and under free. A flyer will be sent to each member in November.

letters...

WARNING: Extremely Unfriendly People!!!!

This is all I hear from the day I declared my intentions to travel the east coast and end up into Quebec, Canada for the RA in Bonjour. Boy, was I petrified that these people would hate me. My first major trip on my motorcycle. Nine days on the road miles and miles from home. Had I picked the wrong place to spend my first real vacation with my husband and no in-laws to foot the bill???

After hours of vacillation I said heck with it lets go, if they're rude I'll deal with the possibility. Well, guess what all you doom and gloomers, and spreaders of evil tales, the people we ran into on our 2300+ miles were absolutely the friendliest people I had yet to meet. The curiosity and the respect for what I was doing was overwhelming. From Syracuse, New York all the way to Quebec City (Yes! Quebec!!) the people were great.

Those of us who attended Lake St. Agapit had a great time. Sure it rained, and sure we had to sleep in a stable (except Bob and Rose who had their own private island) regardless it was great!!! So, next time you say, "Quebec?", think again. Maybe it was safety in numbers, maybe it was our general demeanor, or maybe the Winter Olympics in 1998 are making these people nicer, whatever the reason, all of you who stayed home because you were afraid of a little conflict along the way missed one great time.

Michele M. Stone

Thanks Are In Order

I would like to thank all those in the Cleveland Club who were so supportive of me at one of the lowest points of my life. I also want to thank the Mountaineer Riders' of Parkersburg, WV, for all their help in seeing my K-bike and me back to Cleveland. I am most obliged.

Karl with a K, on a K

quote...

"Load horns save lives"- Jaime Cruz, Jr.

Slow Dance On Uneven Ground

by Craig A. Webb

I spent the first weekend of May at the 9th Annual Vintage Trials at Cable's Campground in Toronto Ohio. This was my second trip to Cable's, (last year's Fall Foliage Folly was held there), and both could be described as SOGGY to say the least. I'll give it one more try. If it pours again I'm writing the place off as a swamp!

I got in too late Saturday to experience anything more than the remnants of a wet swap meet. No BMW stuff at all - but since this event is sponsored by the Ohio Valley BSA Club I guess that was to be expected. I did get a look at an old Vincent, sniffed around a bevy of BSA thumpers, eyeballed several Royal Enfields and coveted a nifty Greeves before the darkness and dampness forced everyone to bed.

Sunday was much better as the rain and fog let up and an unfamiliar yellow object appeared in the sky. I finally got to wander around the adjacent woods and hills and was impressed at how this former strip mine had returned to a place of sylvan beauty. Purists might find fault with the numerous motorcycle trails criss-crossing the property but I felt they had very little impact on the surrounding habitat. They probably would disappear completely into the undergrowth if unused for any length of time.

Before the day's events began, I chatted with various riders and spectators to learn more about what I was about to see. I'll summarize my findings for those as clueless as I was about this sport.

#1. A "Trials" meet consists of individual riders traversing prearranged courses of difficult natural terrain, such as hills, rocks, stream beds, fallen logs and swampy areas while maintaining balance and forward motion on their motorcycles.

#2. A rider scores a "zero" if he completes a whole course without touching a foot on the ground. He scores a "one", "two", or "three" depending on how many times he touches down or a worst possible score of "five" if he cannot complete a course without stopping, dismounting or rolling backwards.

#3. There were 18 separate short courses laid out for this event and each rider must ride each course four times during

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the two days of the competition. The rider with the lowest overall score wins. Riders were divided into numerous "classes" based on age, experience, course difficulty and type of motorcycle.

From the net - this thumper can stand by itself.

Riders usually dismounted and walked each course to determine the best "line" to follow before attempting their runs.

#4. A "trials" bike is generally a light, one cylinder, small displacement machine with soft suspension, high ground clearance, and an engine and transmission tuned for maximum low end torque instead of horsepower and speed. The foot pegs are set back to place at least 60% of the total weight of rider and machine on the back tire. Handlebars and front end rake are set up for tight difficult turns and seat comfort is minimal because the rider spends as much time as possible standing on the pegs to achieve maximum balance and control.

Armed with this minimum knowledge I set forth to witness my first "trials". However, I first had to turn down an offer to be a "judge". I felt it would be somewhat presumptuous to officiate an event I've never seen before - I didn't feel like being punched out that day.

I was immediately impressed by two aspects of this sport. The first was the lack of speed and aggression as a factor. Slower was generally better in negotiating these courses and riders went through each section alone thereby virtually eliminating the possibility of bike to bike collisions. Secondly, the general absurdity of the idea of carefully riding over terrain which could and should be much easier and faster traversed on foot.

Being a natural born coward and fool I was immediately drawn to this sport. The fantasy of deliberately beating the piss out of some old Japanese thumper was equally compelling.

There was also a certain intellectual component as riders pondered and debated various ways of negotiating the courses. Preceding contestants were closely scrutinized for "clues" to arcane matters like attack angle and soil stability. All this turned into absolute "bumkiss" once you got on the bike, but it was seductive to imagine that you could think your way through a situation that was essentially a struggle between agility, torque and gravity.

On first glance I found it almost impossible to follow the course markings. The riders seemed to understand them however, so after the first few attempts I caught on to what was supposed to be happening. I say "supposed to" because it is common for riders to stray from the course or not make it through at all. Just when it appeared that a certain section was impassable somebody would miraculously make it through with a perfect score of zero. This would bring a rousing cheer from the spectators and groans of angst from other riders.

The logic of making numerous runs through the sam course became evident as "the best" routes were discovered and riders fared better on second or third trips through. Conversely, the general dampness produced numerous mud holes after continued use and several course sections became almost "automatic five's" for all but the most skillful.

Because of the ever deepening mud the hill climb section became the spectacle of choice. Here speed became as important as agility since areas of meaningful traction were few and far between. Simply making it to the top of the hill drew roars of appreciation from the crowd no matter what the score. Spectacular wipe outs were also applauded wildly.

Overall the vintage British bikes did not fair that well even if they were emotional favorites. Older Suzuki's and Yamaha's were more successful along with the occasional Ossa, Bultaco or Husquavarna.

I left long before the winners were decided having generally enjoyed the spectacle more than the competition. This looks like one motosport I might like to try. I'll have to pick Dave Kean's brain a bit on how to get started, but I know just the motorcycle bone yard to start scouring for a mount. ◔

What Other Dealers Do...Part II

by Bob Wood

My original intent was not to make my Spring article a series but I feel you need to know the facts.

One Wednesday morning, shortly after our summer Canadian tour, I needed to purchase some maintenance items, parts, and accessories for our K-bikes. It hit me. All the surveys and dealer specials from the club newsletter could be put to the test to find out which dealer is working with us and where my money would be best spent.

My list consisted of a wide variety of items from coolant to crush washers, oil filters and case guards. The retail value of the order was over $700. I double checked my part numbers and composed a short note atop of the FAX explaining that I was requesting availability and pricing on the following items. I also stated that I was a member of the BMW Motorcycle Owners' of Cleveland and to please include any discounts which may apply. The note requested they FAX me back with their reply. "Who wants my money?", I wondered. Who will take the time to reply and does this club membership mean anything? I sent the same FAX to each dealer in Cleveland, Fremont, Springfield, Wooster, and Youngstown. Then off it went, chirping and screaming on the phone line.

My machine, for some reason, would not communicat with the Youngstown dealer. They seemed to sing a few tones, then have a mild argument and hang-up on each other. I set the sequence to reoccur five times but aborted the process

after four attempts. The Cleveland dealer did not have their machine on in the morning but did that afternoon and I successfully faxed them later that day. So much for my machine talking to your machine.

The Wooster dealership is closed on Wednesdays so I faxed them Friday instead. I've heard too many stories about how machines jam after hours or get unplugged over night. I got a clean OK on my send status early during their normal business hours. Once again I unsuccessfully tried to connect with Youngstown in three additional attempts.

Who faxed me back and when? Well, faxing is no longer considered a high tech way to correspond. Anyone can stuff a piece of paper into a FAX machine or stroke a few keys on their home PC these days. I really didn't expect that only 2 of the 5 dealers would reply to my request. I'm still *waiting.*

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FOR THE WORLD AHEAD

Directions: Take the Ohio Turnpike to Exit 6 (Fremont). Take SR 53 south. Take route 20 west. Just past the traffic light at Wal-Mart and Loew's on your right. Get off the very next exit (Stone St./Oak Harbor Rd.), at the K-Mart sign. Go left at the traffic light, take a right at the next light and another quick right past the car wash. We are on your right, just past the car wash.

Springfield replied first within one and a-half hours. They, of course, have a BMW specific sales rep who is eager to help you. Bryan faxed me back their normal 8% discounted prices and further teased my imagination stating that he would give an extra discount and possibly free shipping. I still don't know what the bottom line would have been or what was or wasn't in stock. My machine must not have liked the connect which came up with an error status. I got a total of four separate faxes from 2:30 Wednesday afternoon until Bryan called me at my voice phone number on Thursday mid-morning. I was about to call him.

Fremont replied about seven hours after my request. Todd sent a detailed print out of the part numbers, prices, and circled the items they had in stock as I had requested. He also calculated a 20% discount for being a Cleveland Club member. Let's see now. My $10 annual dues in the BMW MOC qualified me for a $144 discount on the full order. The membership seems like a good investment to me. Oh, and as a bonus, their sales taxes are several points below what I normally pay in this county.

Who got my business? Who is truly willing to build a relationship with our club? Well, it didn't take long for me to decide where to FAX my firm order with credit card number attached. What do other dealers do? ◔

Tech Tips-

Zircon, pre-metamorphosis.

Well, here we are getting ready for the Fall Foliage weekend. Where have all the miles gone? We have been very lucky this year so far, no real problems yet. We ate up a few tires, replaced 2 batteries, a couple cases of oil, and lots of gas. And, oh yeah, an alternator on my '91 R100RT. That's the first problem I've had with that bike in 60,000 miles. But, I was lucky. I had one in my tank bag. I took the rotor off Barb's R90/6 to help Susan Schoenberger get her R100/7 on the road for their trip to Alabama. As it turned out, Susan needed a stator instead. It was the first day of our vacation, so I put the rotor in my tank bag. As we were climbing the 6 mile road up Petite Jean Mountain in Arkansas, I noticed my volt meter was dropping. This was on Friday of Memorial Day Weekend. In the morning I checked it out and the rotor was fried! Not good planning, just luck. But, I think I will be carrying one now on long trips as Barb needed one on our trip to Colorado and points west last year. I'm told by Rick Jones of Motorad Elektrik , rotors can go anytime after 50K. We have purchased 3 rotors from him. The R75/5 had about 70K and the R90/6 about 41K. The R90/6 was unusual except that the riding conditions were very hot and the bike is a 1975 which could have been a deterioration/age thing. Consult your BMW ON for address and order information. You need to send the old rotor and he

will send you a new one. No credit cards. About $90.00. This brings up the question as to how many extra parts do I have to carry? Some states don't even have a dealer! Do I go nuts and pull a trailer for spare parts? I don't think so!! But, a few parts will fit like bulbs, fuses, tape, plugs, caps, multi-tester, and a few reference notes. Oh yeah, and the tire patch kit. I'm probably the luckiest pilgrim to keep my hair on the planet (knock on wood). I've never had a flat tire. The last time I said something like that; you know, I NEVER HAD A, I got a time distance award (speeding ticket). (Insert by the typist - in Canada on the way to the Rolling Broccoli Rally) So, I know I have cause to be cautious with that phrase. Well, last week a good friend (Karl with a K that rides a K) called in distress. He had a flat tire on I-480 about 6 miles from our house. He couldn't find the hole so I rode over to help him. We tried to pump up the tire with a small compressor I brought, but there was no obvious nail and the leak persisted to the point the air compressor could not keep up with it. We took one of the CO_2 cartridges from the tire plug kit from under the seat and shot it up. There it was, a hole difficult to see but big enough to hear the air escape. As I said, I never used my tire kit so it was a learning experience for both of us. The directions were very easy to follow and it worked. I would suggest that all of you who have tubeless tires check out your kit and become familiar with it. It could happen to you on a dark night in the rain. This is one area that familiarity does not breed contempt unless you fail to take the proper course and educate yourselves. Then again, there is always the trusted Mag Light!! Have you checked your batteries lately? We also have learned that there is a plug available for tubeless tires that goes in from the inside and patches at the same time. It looks like a large headed rubber thumb tack. It is suppose to be safe too. Roman's has them. If you still have good tread on you tire, it could save you some bucks. The tire plug kit in the bike says you shouldn't go over 65 km/hr. That is about 45 mph. So, read the directions, know it, be ready!!!

ZIRCON

Welcome New Members...

Add on six new riders since the last newsletter. Greg Antolik and Ron Jech both have K-bikes with Pichler farings. Also Sandy LaCorte mounts a K 75 ABS. Terry Phillips has a K and a couple of R-bikes in his stable, and Sammy Kay and Adelbert Weber can be seen on their R's. We welcome one and all to your BMW club.

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feature...

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.

The Great Wet North

"That which does not kill us - makes us stronger."

The sadistic S.O.B. who first uttered this immortal cliché may actually have a point. Four hundred plus miles in the driving wind and rain to and from Quebec City is no picnic but you do learn a thing or two...

#1 You won't melt.

Dad used to tell us this whenever we'd get caught in a deluge while fishing - but Mom would still make us haul anchor and head in.

#2 The bike will keep running.

For those of us with a vaguely medieval understanding of electricity and water, this remains a profound mystery. All the more so with the engine, battery, and wiring all "hanging out" as it does on a motorcycle. Apparently it also rains in Germany where Fritz and Hans worked this one out.

#3 Rain suits only work if you wear them.

This seems obvious, but the allure of terminal wishful thinking causes many a benighted soul to ignore those dark skies and light sprinkles that proceed every torrential monsoon. Known clinically as the "it can't happen to me" syndrome, this maladaptive behavior is also associated with the use of seat belts, life preservers, and birth control.

The corollary to lesson #3 is :Rain suits also don't work after you are soaking wet. They simply allow you to stew in your own juices.

Therefore, I suggest putting on the Technicolor plastic suit, bulbous rubber gloves, and floppy booties at the slightest hint of airborne moisture. This will immediately accomplish two things. One, you will feel like a doofus and look like a Mighty Morphin Power Ranger. And two, you may put the juju on the weather which will now turn clear and dry - until you take off the suit.

Actually, my Aqua-Tour of Bonjour taught me a lot about staying alive and upright in bad weather. Besides controlling my speed and lean angles, I learned the entertaining sports of submarine braking and foggy face shield clairvoyance.

I also experienced the "rain multiplier" effect of car tires on wet pavement. After many a "rotary shower" from passing 18 wheelers, I took the high ground of two lane blacktop. There I enjoyed my wind and water torture direct from Mother Nature without the added thrill of surfing the big rigs.

However, all of this could have been avoided if I had just heeded the "omens."

A. Every BMW I saw on my inbound trip was going in the opposite direction. Were they lost? Were they on a local tour? No, No, Mon Ami - they were getting the hell out of Dodge!

B. None of these riders waved a merry greeting - but simply stared back at me as if I was crazy to be heading East. I later learned they were right.

C. The Doppler 3 weather map ended abruptly at the US/Canada border. Did that mean there was no weather north of the 38th parallel? I think not!

RA Aqua-Tour in Bonjour- Lake Saint-Agapit.

Of course, I had a choice. I weighed the evidence - considered my options. North Carolina in the heat of the summer as a major Hurricane comes ashore - or balmy Canada, hundreds of miles inland? Voila, the MOA stays dry as toast while Quebec takes a record 200 year bath. Obviously logic is not the answer.

Sure I'm riding a Beemer, I'm going to a BMW event - I should be prepared to bite the barometer, right? Isn't there an alternative to building an Ark for all major events? Let's cash in on our routinely rotten luck: Rent our events out to the drought stricken. How about the International RA Rally in the Sinai, or the Soggy Butt Tour of Death Valley. Need your crops irrigated? Call the MOA!

What if the whole thing is a giant conspiracy against BMW secretly controlled by mad Japanese weather scientists formerly employed making Godzilla movies but now bankrolled by Honda!?

We could test this by publicizing a mega rally in - say - Bakersfield, California, and then all ride to Bangor, Maine! If it pours in Bakersfield - we call the X-Files.

Or we could try the Trojan Horse approach. Strap superfluous fiberglass all over our bikes, carry stuffed animals, paint names like "Clyde" and "Darlene" on our helmets and rename our rallies "Wing Dings."

Personally, "appeasement" is not my style. I prefer the rugged individualist approach. Get rid of your road maps. Forget bourgeois concepts like itinerary or destination. Tear out the USA TODAY weather map and circle the regions free of cloud symbols, hash marks, or ominous words like "torrid" or "icy." Look up at those dark threatening clouds to the North. Get on your bike. Head South.

BMW MOC T-shirts Arriving & More

If you've missed previous opportunities to get your official BMW MOC Club T-shirt, fear not. The time has now arrived to order your very own for yourself and everyone on your Christmas List. As we are a club of independent and diverse taste, we have kept the selections on a wide and colorful scale. New stylish colors for this year include honey (like a manila envelope), rosewood, stone blue and stone green (the last three have a fashionable, muted washed-out look). If that's too confusing, just remember that the beautiful 3-color logo was designed for a white background and that's when it looks the best! Sizes have also expanded (excuse the pun) into the 3X, 2X and XS sizes in selected styles. For the youngest of your rally rats, we now have youth sizes from 2-12 in the short sleeved T-shirt and polo styles. Unfortunately, our great logo is too big for the smaller sizes, but they will have the '*BMW Motorcycles*' breast plate printed on the front. If you ladies are looking for a cool, summer top, we are offering NEW this year: a ladies tank top in soft, sexy colors like French lavender, oatmeal and shrimp.

Now if you feel that your drawers are bulging with excess rally shirts, we've found another way to display our Club Logo. We are offering a BRAND NEW PRODUCT. It's a 16"x27" 1997 linen calendar with our full color, full size BMW MOC logo proudly silk-screened at the top for only $10. The calendar comes complete with a doll rod and string to hang anywhere in the home or garage, and when the year ends it makes a great bike rag or dish towel.

The club T-shirt order form is included with this newsletter issue. If you need extra forms or have any questions, just call Rose Wood at 252-7933 and she'll help you with your order. Your order will be ready for pick-up December 8, at the Holiday Bash at the Centerior Electric Building. REMEMBER NOVEMBER 7, 1996, 'cause that's the last day that your order will be accepted. Don't loose out, that's only 4 weeks away.....get your order in TODAY!

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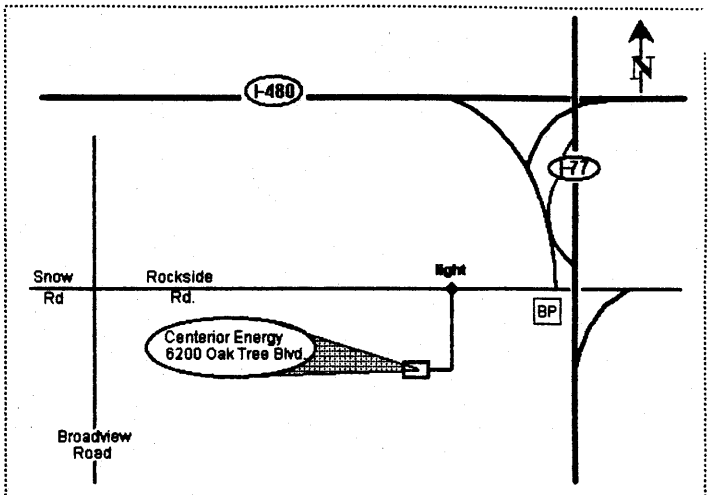
Holiday Bash '96

Mark your calendars for Sunday, **December 8,** to attend the 1996 Holiday Party/Meeting! Located at the Centerior Energy Building from **2-7 PM**, there will be acres of room for members and their guests. The $10 fee for adults will cover the cheese and veggie tray appetizers, marinated chicken breast, roast beef & gravy, potatoes au gratin, green beans with mushrooms, salad with Italian dressing, garlic stix, pop, and coffee. Children 6-10 are $5 and under 5 are free. What do you need to bring?? Bring your own beverage and a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies to share. The committee is working on other goodies, and a flyer will arrive next month with more details. As a side note.....unlike last year, we will be responsible for set-up and clean-up, so if you can lend a hand, Pam and the Christmas Party Committee would be most grateful. Call Pam any time!



Map to BMW MOC Holiday Bash/Meeting

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FOR THE WORLD AHEAD

Need a gift for a child age 3 - 9? Why not buy an autographed copy of club member Sandra Warren's story-song picture book and audio tape, Arlie the Alligator? (Book $13.95/Tape $5.95) A portion of every sale will be turned back to the Club. Call (216) 238-9397. Pick up at the club meeting, the Holiday Bash or add $3.00 for shipping.

BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS OF CLEVELAND

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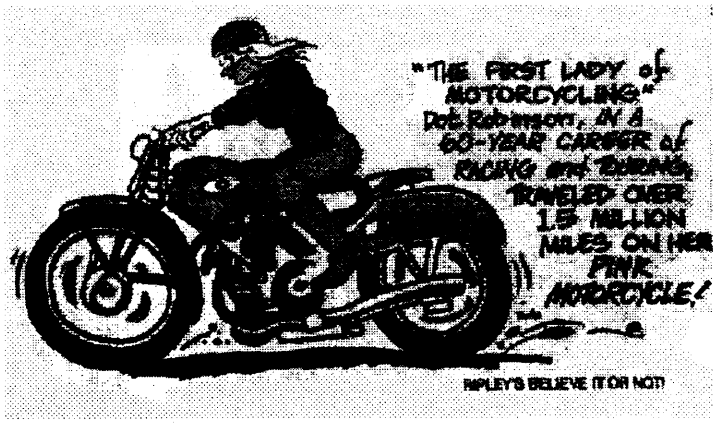
Barbara Cowan, President,	.	656-2440
John Gerow, Vice-President	(216)	255-7016
Michele Stone, Secretary	(810)	797-4400
Bob Wood, Treasurer	.	252-7933
Pam Yek-Kean, Road Captain	(330)	667-2496
Russ Davis, Director	.	543-4083
Donna Schettine, Director	.	671-1847
Don Walker, Director	(330)	273-5026
Bob Zronek, Director	.	656-2440
Bob Shelton, Quartermaster	(216)	937-6329



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Fall Foliage Folly '96

Due to circumstances beyond committee control this years' FFF will be at yet another *new* location. New, that is if you have only been riding BMW's for less than three years. The site finally chosen on was previously the site used by the Buckeye (state) Rally and once a BMW MOA National Rally. Without a doubt this campground is plenty large enough for the Cleveland Club. Reserve your steak dinner today by calling Pam at 330-667-2496 or leave your name and the number of dinners on the BMW HOT Line 216-556-0196 in the Board section (press #3).

Can you say Broccoli ?

I got the jugs.

classified section

'92 K75 Hard bags, shield, tank cover, tank bag, 18,000 miles, nice. $5,800 firm - Call Glen King at 235-1264.

'87 Moto Guzzi Lario; 2,000 miles like new, Dyna ignition and coils, $3,500. Steve Dumek 216-428-6274.

K-bike hard bag, LF side with key #042. $100 and 3 amp BMW motorcycle battery charger, with gauge. Plugs into your BMW accessory outlet. $50 Call Karl at 651-9099.

Corbin Dual Canyon Sport seat, black, lowered 1/2", EC, fits '86-'91 K-bike and K75S. Call Mike May at 251-7623 days or 475-0400 after 4 PM.

Haro Elephant-Boy tank bag, good condition, univ. fit. $85

System I helmets size large, 1-white, 1-black. $75 each.

Ultratreck Cordura 1-piece riding suit. Removable Kevlar armor, size medium, Sells for $600 new, only 9 mos. old, asking $300 call Gabe at 899-6780.

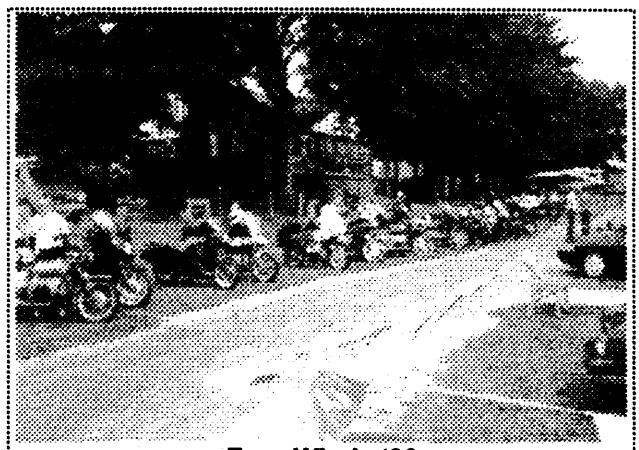
K-bike fuel pump $125. Call Bob at 252-7933.

'95 Honda Del Sol, 3k mi. $14,500. '94 Honda Civic 4dr. $9995. '93 Grand AM 4 dr. $8400. '90 GEO Tracker 4x4 LSI, auto, air. $5995. '90 T-Bird extra clean, low miles. $5995. Call Greg Antolic at 216- 235-1272 for details.

9,000-18,000 BTU, thermostat controlled, vent free natural gas space heater. New still in the box, $250. Call Amy Nichols at 330-665-5818.

Wanted: Motobecane Mopeds. Call Alex at 671-7625.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS LISTED ABOVE ARE LOCAL CLEVELAND CALLS UNLESS AN AREA CODE IS INCLUDED. CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING IS FREE TO CLEVELAND CLUB MEMBERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLACE AN AD CALL 216-556-0196 AND LEAVE YOUR INFORMATION IN THE "BULLETIN BOARD" SECTION OF THE CLUB VOICE MAIL SYSTEM, OR MAIL YOUR AD TO: CCN CLASSIFIEDS, 4257 WEST 130th STREET, CLEVELAND, OHIO, 44135-4869.



Four Winds '96

Fall Foliage Folly '96

October 11,12,13, 1996

Whispering Hills Campground

SR 514 South of Shreve, Ohio

A great time is waiting for you at this year's Fall Foliage Folly. If you have fond memories of the Whispering Hills Campground from the previous Buckeye Rallies, you can relive them this weekend. This year the new location in Amish country is not only quick and easy to access from Cleveland, but it also offers some of the most scenic Ohio touring roads in the state. As many of you may remember, the roads are winding and colorful this time of the year and most importantly the all time favorite --apple dumplings, will be on hand! There is plenty of space for camping, several pavilions, on site snack bar, hot showers, pool, walking trails, volleyball and tennis courts, and enough room for baseball or golf practice. There is free firewood for your own campfire, and a grill-your-own steak dinner planned for Saturday after the club meeting.

Don't forget the October BMW MOC Membership Meeting will be held at 4:00 PM Saturday.

Saturday Dinner Menu -

Steak, baked potato, Cole slaw, baked beans, and pop, coffee, or hot chocolate.

Folly Fees -

2 nights Camping & Dinner	$15
1 night Camping & Dinner	$11
Meeting & Dinner only	$8
Children under 10 camping	$2
Juniors' Hot Dog Supper	$2
Children 5 and under	free

Reserve your steak today by calling at Pam (330) 667-9624 or the BMW HOT Line at 556-0196, press #3 and leave your name, number of nights camping and/or the number of dinners you need.