



BEEMER BUZZ

WISCONSIN BMW MOTORRAD CLUB

BMW Motorcycle Club
Wisconsin



December 2015
Volume 48, Issue 12

Dedicated to the Unity, Sociability, and the
Good Fellowship of BMW Motorcycle Owners!

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Visit our website:

www.wiscbmwclub.com

Cover photo by Christine Ledezma

BMW Motorcycle Club Wisconsin



Wisconsin Club Membership

Many long and lasting friendships have been made through the Wisconsin Club since its inception in 1967. You are welcome to come join us, and meet the friendly and knowledgeable people who share a mutual respect for riding BMW motorcycles.

Our membership includes men and women; families, couples and singles. Our monthly meeting is held at the New Berlin VFW Hall, and is open to all BMW riders. During the riding season we sponsor many activities, including group rides, tech days, social get-togethers, and in September host the annual Wisconsin Dells Rally.

Visitors are welcome. If you are interested in membership, you will be asked to attend two club rides and two monthly club meetings within 12 months prior to being voted in by the general membership. You must be the age of majority, carry liability insurance, and above all, own and operate a BMW motorcycle.

Helmets & proof of insurance are required
by all participants on club rides.

Wisconsin BMW Motorrad Club Newsletter

The Beemer Buzz • December 2015

Volume 48, Issue 12

Please submit articles to:

Newsletter Editor

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The editor reserves the right to omit, correct, change,
and otherwise edit all submissions.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and survived black Friday shopping for gifts for the club president. November turned out to be a good month to sneak in several late season rides. The Snowflake Ride was more of an Indian Summer ride but I don't think any of the 22 riders joining me were complaining. Check out my ride report later in the newsletter. December is election month. I am expecting there will be a large turnout for the meeting, elections and discussions about next year's rally.

Friday January 8th is the installation dinner at Meyer's. Make sure you mark your calendars and let Jim Guthrie know if you plan to attend.

I don't know about you but I am already looking forward to next year's riding season. I will need to make good use of the new garage attending to my bikes that were neglected last year during construction. Think Spring.

I hope to see you at the meeting. Until then, stay warm, stay safe. - Doug Twing

Secretary's Report * Highlights from the October Club Meeting held November 6, 2015

Meeting called to order at 8:00pm.

GUEST: Chris Johnson, Eric Schindler, Tom Van Horn

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report

SECRETARY: No report

TREASURER'S REPORT: Amount in checking given.

MOA REPORT: Give Sue mileage forms tonight. She will sign and send them in and will also scan them to the VP for the club mileage contest. MOA office moved to Greer, SC. Office is in the same buildings as the Car Club of America but will remain independent of that group.

RA REPORT: Thanks for coming to the rally and thanks to the WI Club for all of the volunteer time. Attendance was in the neighborhood of 1,000 riders.

TOUR DIRECTOR: 10/17 Eddy led a ride to Lake Geneva. Lunch was at Popeye's. Three riders then headed for Brian's party. 10/24 was the fall colors ride. Destination was Whitewater for Mexican food. 10/31 was the Halloween ride. It was 37* and rain. Glenn Christensen showed up one minute before departure time. Destination was Mike Cohen's birthday party. 10/24 Karen led the

cheese ride and wound up in Mazomanie for lunch. Closing (Snowflake) ride is November 7th, meet at 10:00 at Amalia's in Oconomowoc for 11:00 departure.

EDITOR: No report

WEBMASTER: No report

CONSTITUTION: No report

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: No report

NEW BUSINESS: Mark Doggett has a groovy tank bag for sale.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS / NOMINATIONS FOR 2016 OFFICERS:

Rally Chair – Brian Manke/Sharon Ernest co-chairs

President – Bob Lannin

VP – Becky Policht

Secretary – Karen Jacobs

Treasurer – Mike Cohen

Trustee (2 year) – Jim Fuhrmann, Jimmy G

Board Member at Large – Jim Guthrie, Eddy Boskamp

Editor – Sharon Ernest

Webmaster – Tim Koester

Constitution Committee – Dave Kurth, Harv Read, Gina Twing

Submitted by Becky Policht

FEBRUARY 19-21, 2016



**RIDE REPORT: Saturday, November 7th
SNOWFLAKE RIDE – led by Doug Twing**

I knew that with the temperatures being 20+ degrees warmer than last year that there would be a great turnout for the 2015 closing ride. As I pulled into Amalia's just before 10am I could see several bikes already in the back parking lot. This BMW bunch sure is attracted to food. Inside I got in line with a few other riders waiting for a table as the great weather and great food seems to have drawn a crowd to Amalia's. I would estimate 16 riders were there for breakfast with a few more showing for the ride at 11am. Mickie Stresing joined us for breakfast and Karen Jacobs stopped by to say hello before breakfast. The ride was primarily in the area between highways 83 & 67 zig-zagging our way south to East Troy where we stopped at the BP station after a little more than 90 minutes of hills and curves. With the weather being so nice, I think I left everyone wondering why the ride was over so soon. The 22 riders joining me were: Tim Koester, Pat Stauss, Miro Sapozhnikov, Ron Feurer, Mike Cohen, Shad Volbrecht, Glen DiNicola, Ed Boskamp, Tom Stresing, Jimmy G, Bob Reitberger, Christine Ledezma, Jim Guthrie, Harvey Read, Dick Burton, Rick Hemenway, David Henderson, Brian Manke, Kevin Pepin and guests Jim Wiskerchen, Eric Schindler and Andrew Lempenger.

I think this was the largest club ride I have been on and I didn't lose anyone! Thank you to all who showed up and made this a great ride.



THANK YOU

Forty-six years of rallies in the Dells is quite a run. I want to let you know how much it means to us. And that we look forward to many more Wisconsin Club rallies, wherever they may be.

In 2002, my brother convinced me to take a weekend vacation and join him at the Dells Rally. I didn't own a motorcycle, didn't even ride a motorcycle, and I couldn't figure out what I'd do with my daughter Mariah while I was gone for a weekend.

My brother's response: "Bring her with! It's a BMW rally! Family friendly. Lots of folks come in vehicles to bring their kids/grandkids. Many spouses don't ride and come in cars with the camping gear. They even have a kiddie carnival for pete's sake. Plus there is a waterpark!"

With that, we attended our first BMW rally and were hooked. No one said 'boo' about an 11 year-old with Downs running around. Heck, she was more accepted at that BMW rally than some events I've taken her to that were specifically for people with different abilities. And the waterpark was a big bonus. ... sigh.

By the next year, I had my license and a motorcycle with a sidecar for M. We've attended every Dells Rally since. It is the one thing both Mariah and I look forward to every year. Even when money was tight and we simply couldn't afford a vacation, we had our plan of attending the Dells Rally and it would suffice. It might only be a weekend get-away, but it was OUR WEEKEND GET-AWAY.

Many memories and friends have been made through the Dells Rally. Memories of cherished ones now riding the skyways in heaven. Laughter and tears. Lessons in sleeping with ear plugs to ignore the early risers. Seminars on how to pack, what type of gear to get, emergency repairs, safe riding, etc. I've met friends on both coasts—lost touch with one, but remain good friends with the other. And god only knows how many friendships I've made between the coasts! My family has grown exponentially!

In 2002, you started me on a journey of clearing the cobwebs and riding the roads. I may not put on many miles, but every one I do is a joy.

So Thank You, from the bottom of our hearts, to all those that volunteer and make your club rally happen. It may be simply the love of the BMW motorcycle and the purr of its engine that brought us together, but I believe the friendships forged at such events would have been inevitable throughout the course of our lives. BMW people become family. You've enriched ours. Thank you!

- Heidi and Mariah Goehring, Madison BMW Club members



CHICAGO MOTORCYCLE SHOW

DONALD E. STEPHENS CONVENTION CENTER
Rosemont, IL | Thursday-Sunday Show Office Phone: Show Office: 847-653-2907
02/12/2016 - 02/14/2016

SHOW HOURS

Friday 1:00pm - 8:00pm	Saturday 9:00am - 8:00pm	Sunday 10:00am - 5:00pm
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Down the Edges, Through the Passes, Up the Mountains Steep
The Less-Than-Direct Route to the Billings MOA Rally - by Tom Stresing

Beemer Buzz
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July 21. We retraced our path back to Canyon for breakfast, but walked into the grill one minute (really, ONE) too late to get it. So we had lunch for breakfast. We spent the rest of the day exploring the side roads, traffic jams, and parking lots of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. Saw some bighorn sheep through my binoculars, and an osprey nest with two young ones being attended to by loving adults.

On the way back through the Hayden Valley it started to rain on us, but stopped just as we got to a bison herd close to the road. We dismounted and were taking pictures when some folks started pointing to the other side of the road.

About 400 yards off, a grizzly. At that distance, pretty cool. Still, we mounted up a little quicker than usual and headed toward the mud pots. The rain restarted; then, just for fun, added some hail, and we decided to forego the mud pots and ride out of the storm. We passed some bicyclists who were going to take a lot more time to ride out of that hail, and I realized THEY were the kind of people for whom Lewis and Clark were looking. Construction along Yellowstone Lake kept us from pulling over to take pictures. Back to cabin-sweet-cabin and the Inn for dinner--and beer.

July 22. Last day in Yellowstone. Not wishing to risk breakfast again, we went to the Inn and had a great one, then back through the lake-area construction and to the mud pots from which we had escaped the previous day, took more pictures, and stopped at the rest room which actually smelled worse than the mud pots--quite a feat.

Out the east entrance and down the road to Cody. This was my sixth time in Yellowstone, and I am still awed by it. We rode about 300 miles in the park, took every side road we could, walked all over the place (well, only about halfway down to the Lower Falls brink--too much at that altitude, and at my age), and were thrilled with every bit of the place. The tourists were interesting, too, a polyglot of languages and costumes from all over the world. Lots of Chinese people picking out where they want to live when the US defaults on its \$18 trillion debt and we have to give them Wyoming. I had reserved a room in Cody at the Irma, the hotel that Buffalo Bill built and named for his daughter. We moved in and took the short walk to the museum.

To see all of it requires at least an entire day, but we had just a couple of hours, so we looked at the gun collections and the Buffalo Bill exhibit and had to miss the rest. Good dinner and "Buffalo Bill" beer at the Irma, then an early evening promenade down Main St., checking out some of the stores. A couple hundred dollars later, back to the room and a good night's sleep, especially for Jim, in a bed instead of a sleeping bag.

July 23. The plan was to ride the Chief Joseph to Cooke City for breakfast, then Beartooth and on to Billings. When we got to the Chief Joseph, though, we gazed upon the black roiling clouds over the mountains and decided we weren't that brave. Short cut to Billings Motel 6, dropped off some stuff, then to the Rally.

Bill Meyer was eagerly awaiting my arrival so he could create a new seat for me. When I called to make the appointment for the seat, I was given the option of 1PM, 2PM, or 3PM. I deduced from this that it would take an hour before my buns would be lovingly caressed by the new creation. Wrong! It took most of the day...but (ha! get it? but!)...well worth the wait. Looks good, feels better. Happy Tom. And while we were waiting, we had a great chance to look around at a really nice rally set-up. Air-conditioned vendor building! We had intended to camp on site, but looking at the June temperatures in Billings, and realizing the lack of shade situation, I found a motel for us, and the laundry room was just two doors down, and laundry definitely needed doing. I went to the office to inquire about purchasing soap. "Don't have soap. Got some fabric softener." Failing to see the connection, I went down the street to a convenience store and got soap. Clean clothes!

July 24. Another appointment with Twisted Throttle to put extra brake lights on the bike, but done quickly and we're off to Beartooth. 89 degrees in Red Lodge, 53 at the pass. Twisty roads, majestic scenery, lots of motorcycles, good times.

Lunch in Cooke City and then a decision to be made; Chief Joseph or back over Beartooth? The Chief will have to wait for another day. The only semi-bummer in all this was that two of Jim's buddies were maybe 20 minutes behind us, and they saw big horn sheep up close. We saw a few chipmunks. Stopped in Red Lodge for a drink and a schneck and walked around a little looking in the shops and at the parade of old cars there for a rally of their own. I remembered when some of them were new; I guess that makes me an antique, too. Back to the rally for a while, then motel.

July 25. Rode out to the Little Bighorn Battlefield, but by the time we got there it was over. Custer lost. The ranger who gave the talk did an outstanding job. Very dramatic. Very informative. Very effective. He did say "gauntlet" when he meant "gantlet," though, but lots of people make that mistake. Clint Eastwood, for example. It would have been a long uphill walk in the heat and in motorcycle accoutrements to the Last Stand Hill, so we just took the ranger's word for it that all those guys were dead, got on the bikes and toured the entire battlefield. So much better for the understanding to actually be there where it happened, imagining in our own way what it must have been like.

Continued on next page >>>

Back to the rally site to see how many prizes I'd won. And the total? Zero. Zip. Nada. Despite being BFFs with the rally chair...nothing. We went out for (unfinished) dinner with Jim's buddies. Nice guys, even if they did see lots more critters on their trip than we did on ours. I can't really hate them for that, can I? Can I? Please?

July 26. Up and headed east on I90, then 16 to a motel in Custer. Unpacked and headed for the south entrance to Custer State Park. We encountered a pronghorn just inside the park, then simply enjoyed the scenery until we got to the fee-collecting guy. I complained about seeing just one antelope so far. "Really? Heck, there's ten right over there!" He was right.

We rode the south loop of the park, saw lots of bison and "wild" burros, and a few deer.

Back to Custer for an excellent (unfinished) meal at (I think) the Bugling Elk. Checked out some of the stores, then to sleep.

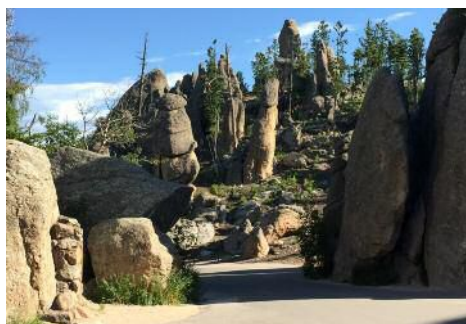
July 27. Back into Custer State Park, north loop through Needles and then the twisties, tunnels and curlique bridges on 16A. For those who've never ridden this route, all the tunnels are set up to frame Mt. Rushmore. And they're all just barely one-lane wide. No need to worry about those behemoth RVs cluttering up the road--they're not allowed.

Breakfast, then hooked up with Hwy 16 east. Coming down from that last bit of the Black Hills, pointing dead east toward Rapid City, I could see the horizon, flat, not a ripple. Nothing to do now but catch the freeway, put down our heads and cross the Great Plains. The Sturgis extravaganza was coming up, and there was an endless parade of HDs heading west all the way across South Dakota. Maybe even more folks will be there than were at the MOA. Dinky motel barely into Minnesota.

July 28. Crossed into Wisconsin at 3PM. Last meal together in Madison. Handshake and a promise to get together soon to review and swap lies about the trip. I pulled off at the Sullivan exit; Jim continued to Wauwatosa. 4800ish miles, awesome roads, incredible sights, great memories. Truly great memories. We had pretty good weather, and, all things considered, minimal construction with which to deal. When we could, we stayed in very nice motels. We ate mostly in very good restaurants, especially for dinner. We encountered friendly, interesting people--it's so refreshing to be with folks who, when they ask how you are, really want to know. We tried a lot of local craft beer and were never disappointed. Although I'll never admit it in public, Jim is a better rider than I, so I never had to worry about him keeping up, and our personalities meshed so it was always fun to be with him. And I think I won the snoring contest.

So, how does the R1200R on this trip match up to the GS on the one two years ago? Better than I suspected it would. The stock seat wasn't really bad, but I found myself squirming on the long days. The new seat is firmer than I expected, but it works wonderfully. So now comfort is equal to the GS. The R really needs a windshield bigger than the postage stamp it currently sports, so one point for the GS there. Cruise control is SO handy on freeway stretches, a point for the R. The dynamic suspension on the R is equal to the Ohlins shocks I had on the GS, so handling, while different, is excellent on both. The GS had bigger saddlebags. The R has more power and better brakes. I think I picked a winner.

I started this with Walt Whitman; let me end with him, too. "Allons! The road is before us!"



Wisconsin BMW Motorcycle Club
Installation Dinner



Meyer's Restaurant

4260 South 76th Street
Greenfield, WI

*On the corner of
Forest Home Ave. and Coldspring Rd.*

Friday, January 8th, 2016

Cocktails 5:30, Dinner 6:30

Please RSVP by Monday, January 4th, 2016

Jim Guthrie

262-512-2774

jim_guthrie@wi.rr.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Beemer Buzz • December 2015

2015/16 Wisconsin Club Events

Dec 4 • Club Meeting, 8pm

Jan 8 • Installation Dinner

December Birthdays

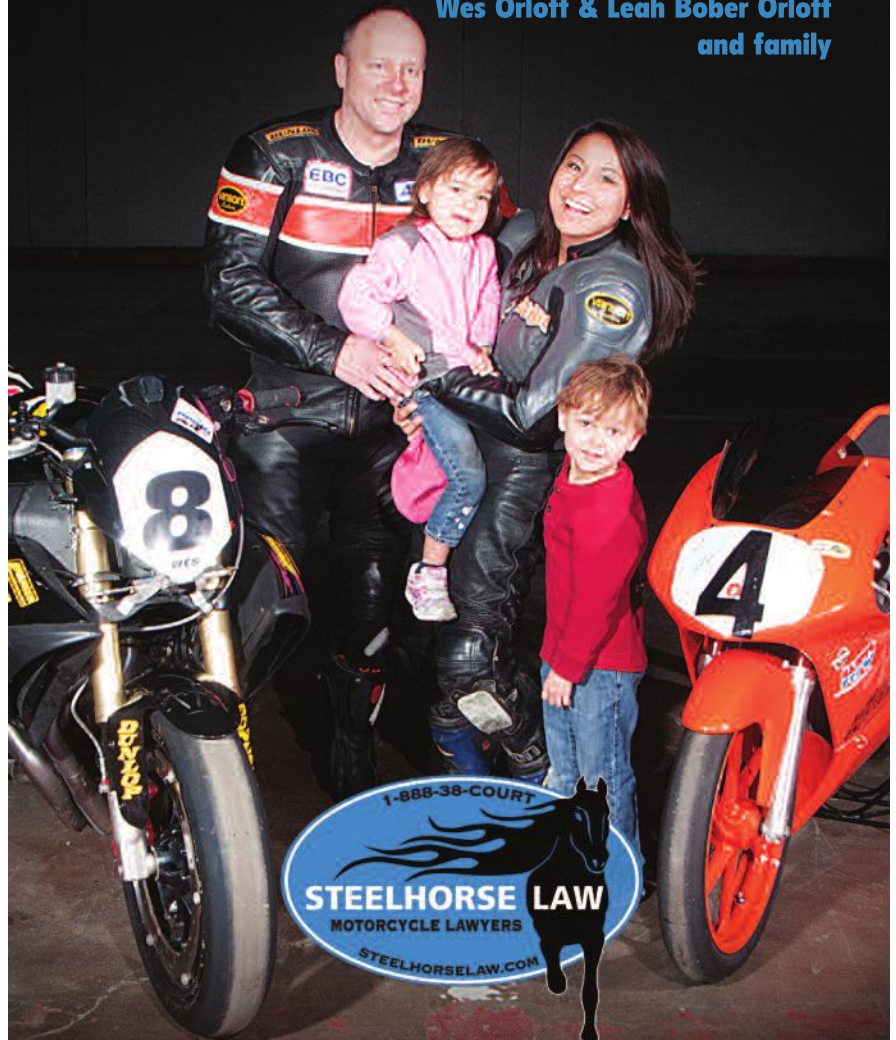
Dec 2 Becky Policht
Dec 2 Ralph Sorenson
Dec 7 Sharon Ernest
Dec 11 Stacey Hess
Dec 14 Ann Sobchak
Dec 19 Doug Twing
Dec 22 Janet Magin
Dec 30 Bobbie Elwing
Dec 31 Reenie Kavalari



Kudos to Mark Doggett on his 300,000 mile award! You rock, sir!

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Team Steel Horse Law Sponsored Racers
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and family



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WISCONSIN BMW MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Originated 1967

Meetings are the first Friday of each month at 8:00pm

[except January (Installation Dinner), May (Fish Fry) and September (Rally)]

New Berlin VFW Post, 17980 West Beloit Road, New Berlin, WI • 262-679-0800

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ALL BMW RIDERS WELCOME



AMA # 2580



MOA # 10



RA # 10