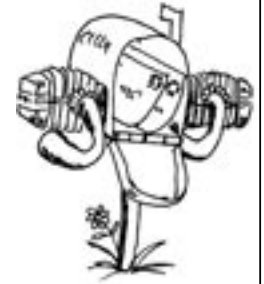


The Mail Boxer

March 2006

BMW MOA #7



The Pres Says

By Todd Herbst

A Global View,

It's still more than a Month away (when I wrote this), but I've been thinking a lot about the St. Patty day ride on Saturday March 18. Last year was the first year I had to cancel, due to a large sheet of ice on our Driveway. For those of you who haven't been on my SPD ride, you don't know what your missing.

The ride itself is run at a fairly reserved pace. For most of us It's the first ride of the year and we need to shake those cob webs loose from the "riding half" of our brains, which has been sitting idle all winter.

The real treat is the destination, an unassuming old farm southwest of Spring Green. in a barn from the late 1800s is a store of sorts called Global View. Owner Marion Nelson has been traveling the world once a year to collect folk art, mainly from India, Indonesia, and other areas of South Asia. She specializes in ceremonial textiles, but also gathers furniture, carpets, pots, masks, and carvings. All these are for sale at quite reasonable prices compared to specialty stores. And if they're not sold out you'll get to hear the dream like Tibetan Singing Bowls.

After leaving Global View we usually find a place to eat and if the weather is nice a little more riding.

So, get those bikes out of storage early and let's start the year off right on March 18th.

Membership News

by Derek Engelen

The club membership directory will be published in March and mailed to all active members. If you want to receive the newsletter by email, please send a brief request to membership@madisonbmwclub.org

New Member:

Jeff Sale
8225 Coyle Lane
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Phone: 608/798-4449
Scooter: 1987 BMW R80RT

Upcoming Events

2/25: Annual Slip Slide Ride -
10 am contact Rob Himmelman for more information or driving directions.

Sunday, March 5, 2006 -
Madison BMW Club 9 am meeting & 10 am breakfast at The Dry Bean Saloon.

Saturday, March 18 - 2006
St. Patty's Day Ride led by Todd Herbst. Meet at 9:45, departure at 10am from Citgo in departure Cross Plains. Contact Todd at 831-4439 for additional information/weather cancellations.

Sunday, April 2, 2006 -
Madison BMW Club 9 am meeting & 10 am breakfast at The Dry Bean Saloon. Note: Daylight Savings Time begins.

Sunday, May 7, 2006 -
Madison BMW Club 9 am meeting & 10 am breakfast at The Dry Bean Saloon..

Friday, May 19 - Sunday, May 21, 2006 - Madison BMW Club's 32th Great River Road Rally in Solder's Grove, WI.

Sunday, July 2, 2006 -
Madison BMW Club breakfast & meeting.

Sunday, Aug. 6, 2006- Madison Ride for Kids' Middleton Fireman's. Park Reg. Closes 9:15 come early for coffee & donuts. Ride to Devils Lake. For the program more info cont. John Schroeder 608-325-4621



Not As Far Away As You Think; Alaska On My Mind Day One *by Ed Burington*

In June 1997 I took my first ride to Alaska. I had purchased my ride, a 1977 BMW R100/7 in 1994 with 34,000 mile on the odometer. It was something of a barn loft rescue. The previous owner had put about thousand dollars into the bike just to get it to a saleable condition. Over the next few years I continued to tinker with the bike's mechanics and my thoughts of Alaska began to grow. By spring 1997 the bike had 56,000 miles on the odometer and it was in good reliable mechanical condition. Cosmetically it was still challenged. I thought, this is as good a time as any to take the paint chipping challenge of the ALCAN Highway. Just because I am who I am, I sweetened the challenge by buying Jen, my 19-year-old daughter, airfare to arrive in Anchorage 8 days after my starting date. So let me see, 3,600 miles divided by 8 days, late spring in the Pacific northwest, mostly on highways I had never traveled, camping to save

money along the way. This would take some planning. It was obvious I would need to front load some miles on this trip.

A couple of long days crossing the plains should do the trick.

Day one:

Friday, June 13th 1997, the first day of my journey had arrived. The morning was cool as I pulled the bike out of the garage and loaded my trip gear on to the bike. I had just finished loading as my friend Dave pulled into the drive. Dave wanted to see me off and had taken time off work so he could ride the first 100 miles with me that day. The bike felt heavy as I pushed it off the center stand. I lowered the side stand and kicked my right leg through the opening between my tank bag and camping gear bag. I pushed the choke on and hit the start button. The bike fired off right away and was idling smoothly in no time. Dave and I pulled out of the driveway and headed our bikes northwest. Once out of the city and on to the highway the sensation of added weight disappeared and I took each curve with greater confidence. I mentally congratulated myself for balancing the load well and keeping everything heavy over the wheels. We crossed the Wisconsin River still early in the morning and stopped for a coffee break after reaching Interstate 94. We took the coffee in to-go cups and walked back to the parking lot. We talked about the coming days while I busied myself checking the load. We soon were back on the Interstate traveling at higher speed. Dave and I leapfrogged each other a couple of times so Dave could get a look at how the load and the bike were riding at Interstate speed. A reassuring thumbs up and we settled into a comfortable run down the highway. About an hour later, Dave honked, waved and disappeared down a southbound exit. I was on my own for the rest of the ride to Anchorage.

The Red River was flooding in 1997 so after crossing the Mississippi River I followed Highway 94 to Jamestown, ND before catching HWY 52 north to Minot. Approaching Minot after dark on a two-lane highway I was nearly run off the road by a car that pulled out to pass an approaching car. Fortunately, there was a paved shoulder I could use to get out of the way but dodging on-coming traffic in the dark is a truly unsettling experience. A few miles down the road I found a campground. I pulled the bike in, selected an unused site and positioned the BMW at the opening. I have this fear of my tent being crushed by an RV operator that didn't see me there. I set up the tent by flashlight and happily crawled in with my sleeping bag. Gravity does a number on my muscles after sitting on a motorcycle for extended periods of time. That first horizontal stretch is so painfully wonderful it is hard to describe. End of the first day and I've covered 750 miles. It has been a good start. If I make Calgary tomorrow, everything else in my trip plan should fit comfortably.

Madison BMW Club
P.O. Box 152
McFarland, WI 53558

President: Todd Herbst
(608)831-4439
president@madisonbmwclub.org

Vice President: Todd Erickson
(608)756-3822

Secretary: Mary Klopp
(608)877-0209

Treasurer: John Ong
(608) 222-6489

Newsletter Editor: Betty Herbst
editor@madisonbmwclub.org

Rally Chair: Roland Thompson
(608) 222-3758

Activities Directors: Bert Hefty
(608) 862-3671

To be continued

Join BMW of Milwaukee for two very special events at our dealership

Friday, March 24th

10 Years On 2 Wheels Multi Media Presentation

Helge Pedersen has spent years traveling the world by ship, plane, train, and motorcycle, documenting his journeys along the way in pictures and words. In the course of his adventures, he has visited over 100 countries on 6 continents. His passion is photography of people in their own environments, but his critical eye has also been focused on architecture, wildlife, scenic vistas, and the cultural objects and practices that celebrate the diversity of "life on earth".

Join us for this very special evening!

Please arrive between 6:30 – 7:00pm
Presentation starts at 7:00 to 9:00pm

**R.S.V.P.
Required!**

Saturday, March 25th

Helge Pederson Tire Changing Seminar:

Change & Fix Your Tire ANYWHERE

Learn how to change and fix the tire off your rim just about anywhere from a man who HAS changed his tires everywhere. Both tube tires and non tube tires will be demonstrated.

Please arrive between 3:30 – 4:00pm.
Seminar starts at 4:00 to 6:00pm

**R.S.V.P.
Required!**

Food & beverages will be provided both days.

Location for both events take place at:

**BMW of Milwaukee
7016 North 76th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233**



As a photographer and photo-journalist, Helge's clients include companies and ad agencies around the world: Pepsi, Canon, Berghaus, BMW AG, BMW Motorrad USA, Merkley Newman Harty, U5 GmbH, Whil. Whilhelmsen, Aerostich, Ernst G. Mortensen, Touratech, TBWA Hunt Lascaris, National Geographic Society, Speed Channel, Discovery Channel, NRK, and the British Broadcasting Corporation.

His articles, and/or photos have appeared in: Vi Menn, Norsk Ukeblad, Hjemmet, Det Nye, VG, Dagbladet, Fedrelansvennen, Vagabond, MC-Avisa, Bike, Motociclismo, Abenteurer, Moto Presse AG., Horse Ligne, Outrider, Men's Journal, Cycle World, Rider Magazine, Bike, Motorcyclist, Two wheels, Performance Bikes, BMWON, Weekblad Motor, Motorrad Unterwegs, Time Magazine, National Geographic Magazine, Rangefinder, Japan Update, The New York Times, ABC News and more.

Based on photographs and stories from his 10-year solo journey, the 208-page book "10 Years on 2 Wheels" was first published by Ernst G. Mortensen Forlag in Norway 1994. An English version was published by Elfin Cove Press in the United States in 1998. In addition, Helge is frequently being asked to give multi-media presentations about his travels and adventure touring experiences.

The continuing digital evolution has profoundly changed photography. In addition to mastering the best tools and practices, Helge is increasingly integrating digital video together with his still imagery.

In addition to organizing and leading motorcycle adventure tours, Helge is working on video/book projects, which will take him to new destinations around the world. His first stop was Iceland in August & September 2001, followed by Southern Africa in the fall of 2002, Silk Road in 2004 and IndoChina in 2006.

Helge speaks 4 languages: Norwegian, English, Spanish and German. He currently lives in Seattle, Washington.

Seating is limited – Please R.S.V.P. early by phone 414-358-2465 or by email: milwaukeebmw@aol.com

Port Washington Club Free Rally report

by Steve Lemke

The Port Washington BMW Club Free Rally at the R&R Bar (September 23rd – 25th), was advertised as no patches, no pins, no rally fees, with camping, morning coffee and 1/2 barrels of micro brew beer on Friday and Saturday nights—all free. Saturday they had a GPS run, field events, awards, and a bonfire. A poker run was held on Sunday. Madison BMW Club members were encouraged to attend to reciprocate their considerable support for our club events

With beautiful weather in the forecast, I headed out Friday afternoon for a nice back roads ride to the rally, arriving at the R&R Bar with about one hour of daylight left. Dave Maly arrived about 15 minutes later. Also, Carl Rainey was in attendance the first night. Later with tents set up, everyone enjoyed the camaraderie of BMW rider fellowship. Magilla cooked up brats for everyone and we enjoyed them with tasty Sprecher Amber.

The next day Dave Maly and a BMW rider from Melrose Park, Illinois and I enjoyed a nice breakfast in Saukville. I returned to Lake Mills for a short time, then off to Madison Motorsports to see if anyone would show up to ride back to the rally with me. Phil Wilson was there, but he was not going to attend the rally. One other BMW rider pulled in right when I was leaving, but he was not going either. After waiting a few minutes I decided to head back to the rally myself. I enjoyed a leisurely ride on beautiful back roads to the rally. Upon my return, Bert Hefty,

and Todd & Tanya Erickson were enjoying the rally. Sorry if I missed any other BMW club members. Lots of fun was had by all around the big fire Saturday night.

Sunday morning Dave and I rode back on a scenic route together.

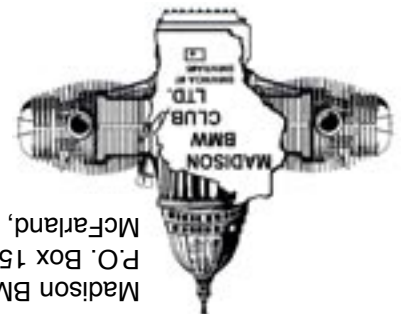
Many thanks to the Port Washington Club and the R&R Bar for their hospitality.

Classifieds

For Sale: 2004 Honda Reflex (250cc) Badger Red. 1800 miles. Includes Englehart Center Motorcycle Maintenance Package. Price \$4295. Contact Linda Low at (608)838-2690.

For Sale: 1982 Honda Sabre V45 750. Price \$1500. Contact Chris Sponem at (608)345-1476.

For Sale: 2001 Yamaha FZ1, 25,000 miles. New MEZ 6 tires. Slight cosmetic damage on fuel tank. \$4500. Contact Betty or Todd Herbst at 831-4439.



Madison BMW Club, Ltd.
P.O. Box 152
McFarland, WI 53558-0152