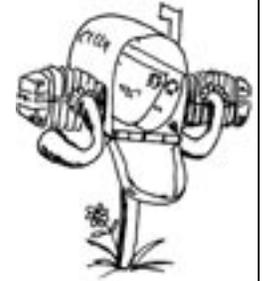


# The Mail Boxer

April 2006

BMW MOA #7



## *The Pres Says*

*By Todd Herbst*

Betty reserved a couple seats for us to watch Helge Pedersen, the world renowned Norwegian author/adventure-tourer, patch and change his own tires. Yumpin Yiminey, it was a lot of fun.

Milwaukee BMW brought Helge in for 2 seminars, one on Adventure touring and his travels around the world on Fri. 3/24 and, one on Tire changing on Sat. 3/25. The seminars were free to anyone who called and reserved a seat. Sandwiches, chips, sodas, and cookies, were included all for no charge. We were informed by Helge that this was a great service to us as the dealer in Seattle charges 15 bucks a head. Thanks to BMW Milwaukee for sponsoring these.

The first hour of the seminar was actually on tool kits, packing, and cool little gadgets that company's send him for free to try cuz he's Helge Pedersen. He's a very funny speaker and encourages participation from the crowd.

The second hour was on plugging and patching a tire... all by yourself... on the side of the road. He used 3 things to get the tire off the rim: the side stand of the motorcycle to break the bead of the tire, two tire irons, and one tiny can of WD40. That's all, nothing else... oh yeah. 4 things, his brain.

He showed us how to use dental floss and a needle to sew a large cut closed on an inner tube before patching it. The patch alone won't hold a large tear, sewing it holds the cut together while the patch seals in the air. He also demonstrated how to use the BMW tire plug kit that comes with our bike and many other useful bits of knowledge that 95% of the crowd will probably never use, but we do know how to, just in case.

If you're at a national rally and Helge is giving seminars. Go. if it's 15 bucks, pay it! It's way worth the money.

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## Membership News

*by Derek Engelen*

### **New Member:**

James Harms  
3191 County P  
Mt. Horeb, WI 53572

Phone: 608/798-3645  
Scooter: Jim Low's BMW R1100RT

### Upcoming Events

**Sunday, April 2, 2006 -**  
Madison BMW Club 9:30 am meeting & 10 am breakfast at The Dry Bean Saloon. Note: Daylight Savings Time begins.

**Sunday, April 23, 2006 - 22nd Wild Goose Run**  
@ noon the Wisconsin area clubs will meet at Bayside Supper Club, W9231, Beaver Dam, WI (920) 887-0505 for brunch & festivities. South of Beaver Dam take Hwy 151 Exit 129 (which is Business 151) for 0.7 miles turn left at Kwik Trip. \$10.00/person includes gourmet meal, trophies & door prizes. For map & more info: [www.portbmwclub.com](http://www.portbmwclub.com) Make reservations with your local Wisconsin area club before 4/16

**Sunday, April 30, 2006 - BMW Flea Market, Winnebago County Fairgrounds, Pecatonica Illinois**

**Sunday, May 7, 2006 -**  
Madison BMW Club 9:30 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.

**May 19-21, 2006 -** Sea of Shining CLC's. Sponsored by Chromeheads Motorcycle Club #274. A gathering of the now discontinued BMW cruisers. Held at the Clifty Falls State Park, Madison, Indiana. An Inn, Cabins and Camping are available at the park, or a hotel can be secured in the local

# Secretary's Report

by Mary Klopp

area. Go to [www.R1200clc.com](http://www.R1200clc.com) for registration info. Or contact Robert Davis, 302-345-0807.

**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

Minutes: Madison BMW Club meeting 3/5/2006

Respectfully submitted by Mary Klopp, Secretary

The March meeting was held at the Dry Bean Saloon on Madison's west side. The meeting was called to order at 9:45 by Prez Todd Herbst. Art Mischler won both the 50/50 and the free breakfast.

New Bikes: New member Jim Harms bought Jim Low's RT

MSF Course – Dave Jenneke reported on the MSF course. The current price is \$87.50. This will increase to \$125 on July 1. Another increase will occur in 2007. There is NOT a shortage of classes. In fact, some Madison classes were cancelled due to low enrollment.

Tech Day – Bert Hefty will likely host a Tech Day in his garage on 3/19. The goal is to install a new clutch on Dick Olson's bike. Bert also has materials for oil changes. There's a chance that Bert will undergo knee surgery in the near future. If this occurs before (or on) 3/19, Tech Day will be postponed.

Rally Report – Roland is soliciting door prizes or money for door prizes for the GR3. He's also asking people to post rally posters in appropriate places.

St Patty's Day ride – Todd Herbst is still planning on leading a St Patrick's Day ride on 3/18, weather permitting. Meet at the Citgo in Cross Plains at 9:45.

Officer's Meeting – scheduled for later in March

Wild Goose Run – is being held on April 23 at the Bayside Supper Club on Hwy G on the south side of Beaver Dam

Slip-Slide Run – hosted on February 25th by Rob Himmelman was a good time – lots of good slippin' and slidin' and eatin'.

Meeting adjourned around 10:30.

**Madison BMW Club**

**P.O. Box 152**

**McFarland, WI 53558**

**President: Todd Herbst**

**(608)831-4439**

**[president@madisonbmwclub.org](mailto: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](mailto:editor@madisonbmwclub.org)**

**Rally Chair: Roland Thompson**

**(608) 222-3758**

**Activities Directors: Bert Hefty**

**(608) 862-3671**

## Rally Bits

by Roland Thompson

The 32nd annual GR3 will be here before we know it, and the arrangements are in place and ready. I've had a lot of help in getting this far, for which I'm grateful, but now the real ground work starts, and time to think about what you would like to do for your club's GR3. Here are activities where you can help make a difference in the success of your rally.

**Door Prizes:** I've solicited Madison Motorsports and Mischlers BMW and they've promised donations for us. If you visit other dealers or vendors, introduce yourself with a flyer and make note of who made the prize donation (name & phone # on some masking tape), as we want to acknowledge each with a tag on the prize and a thank-you letter after the rally.

If you would like to donate a prize to the cause, whether you're attending the rally or not, purchase one and get it to me or one of the other club officers and we'll get it there. It needn't be a new helmet. A bungee cord set, a can of chain

lube, spray polish or a doggie tug toy would be excellent. Use your imagination.

# Not As Far Away As You Think (part 2)

by Ed Burington

**Rally Help:** We need help in these general areas:

1. Registration tent- Signing people in, collecting rally fees, dispensing rally info sheets, mugs, pins, etc. Think about time frames you'd like to help in.
2. Grounds- Erecting reg. tent Thursday PM, helping Lions Club load fire wood (nearby) Thursday and Saturday, and distributing wood to designated fire sites, keeping shower and toilet facilities at the park and Old Oak Inn clean throughout rally. I'll volunteer for this one right off. This also includes post rally cleanup, but you needn't commit to everything. We have a \$100 damage deposit and reputation at stake here.
3. 50/50 and Drawing tickets, Door prize distribution- Selling 50/50 and drawing tickets, drawing and posting winning #s for door prizes, distributing them to claimants.
4. Security- We'll be in a public park, and especially at night, it would be good to have someone walking the grounds to keep an eye out to discourage nefarious activity that would blight future rallies.
5. Saturday evening meal- About the only thing we need to do is collect wrist bands or tickets. The Lions will take care of serving up the meal. If they need help, I'll add this to the list.
6. Organized rides. Leaders of the touring and GS rides are in place. If you have a favorite ride in the area, make up a map or "ride sheet" for people to follow if they want to go on a nice ride on their own.
7. We still have some posters and flyers to give out. Going to IA, IL or Milwaukee? You could drop some off at dealers you may be going by. We've got Mpls, Mischlers (thanks, Art) Madison Motorsports, Nick's BMW covered.

I'll have signup sheets at the April and May meetings. You don't have to decide by then, but if a lot of people help a little, we'll have a good time and a great rally! Thanks again to all those who have stepped forward and helped so far in so many ways!

## Day two - Saturday June 14th 1997

### Minot, North Dakota to Airdrie, Alberta

I woke to the sound of the wind blowing strong. I stumbled to the showers sucking down too little caffeine from a bottle of tea. An hour later I am loaded and back on the highway. The topography of Northern Dakota is not what I expected. The landscape is dotted with earthen mounds. It appears as if someone has poured out large building sized sand buckets. The wind continues to blow steadily from the south at over 20 miles per hour. It forces me to lean the bike into the wind. It is fortunate the wind isn't gusting or I would have tired rapidly from constantly adjusting the bike. After passing customs at the border I see heavy equipment in the distance engaged in surface mining. As I get closer to the heavy equipment that is busily ripping great hunks out of the earth, I pass a sign on the side of the road that makes me laugh, "Canadian Utility - Call before you dig". I ride the Saskatchewan prairie northwest near Regina and catch Highway 1 heading west at Moose Jaw. The wind has died down but now the thunder clouds roll out of the Rockies and over the plains dropping brief showers as they go. At the town of Medicine Hat I make a sharp right onto a frontage road to reach a gas station. As I make the turn the engine dies. That brief, I'm a thousand miles from home panic to the core of my body hits me. I try the starter and get no response. Still holding the clutch in, I roll to the side of the road feeling a little desperate. Once stopped it doesn't take long to realize my new tank bag has bumped the kill switch on the right handlebar. I position the switch back to the run position and with a great deal of relief the bike starts right away.

The practical side of traveling long miles and staying reasonably close to the speed limit requires a lot of saddle time. I'm wearing an open face 3/4 helmet and taking most of my meals and liquid from my tank bag as I'm rolling down the highway. My bike is equipped with a Luftmeister fairing and lowers. Between Medicine Hat and Calgary I run into mosquito hatches thicker than any I have ever experienced before. Out comes my snap on helmet bubble shield. I try to duck behind the windshield on the Luftmeister until it becomes so thick with splattered mosquitoes I can no longer see through it. Black thunderclouds loom in the west and I start hoping for enough rain to scatter the mosquitoes. Calgary is a beautiful city but today it is seen through a fog of mosquitoes. I pull into a gas station to fill the tank and squeegee clean my windshield, face shield and headlight. As I go in to pay for the gas I see 3 mosquitoes on the checkout person's face. I guess at some point you just learn to ignore it. I get into some open country between Calgary and Airdrie where I seem to be free of the bugs. The night is getting cool and I pull the bike over to the side of the road so I can slip on another layer. Within a few seconds of stopping I am inside a mosquito storm. Out here in open prairie I wonder what they eat when I'm not around. I make it as far as Airdrie and pull into a Best Western parking lot. I've managed another 700 mile day. I'm body weary and tired of being mosquito bait so I indulge myself with a hotel room for the night. I've covered 1,450 miles in two days. I have approximately 2,350 more miles and six days to reach Anchorage before Jenny arrives at the airport. Seems doable but I'm just too beat and grungy to think about it right now. I step into the shower and linger under the pulsing water spray. Somehow in washing my face I manage to get soap in one eye and it burns a lot even after rinsing it out. My eye still smarting, I go downstairs to the hotel bar and order a beer. The showers rejuvenating effects don't last long and I call it a night after one. Tomorrow will be another long day.

To be continued...





The BMW Motorcycle Owners' Club of Minnesota Presents the  
**30<sup>th</sup> Annual...**  
**HIAWATHA RALLY**  
 June 2 - 4, 2006

Money Creek Haven Campground, near Houston, MN  
 \$25.00 adults/\$11.00 (ages 5-15) Pre-registered & Postmarked by  
 May 19th \$30.00 at the gate \$15.00 children (ages 7-15)  
Rally pin guaranteed to the first 400 registered guests

**RALLY FEE INCLUDES:**

2 Nights Camping on Grassy, Shady Tent Sites, Friday night Soup  
 Roast your hot dogs over a big Bonfire and listen to the music of Switchback  
 Saturday Evening: Steak Dinner, Door Prizes/Awards Ceremony/music by Switchback

**GS Ride**

Self-Guided Tours on Winding MN Bluff Country Roads.

**→ DEMO RIDES - Courtesy of Leo's South ←**

Grounds include: Huge, Spring-fed Swimming Pool with patio and game room  
 Field Events with Prizes, Door Prizes, 24-Hour Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Lemonade

**ALSO AVAILABLE ON SITE:** Excellent breakfasts & food all day

Vendors will be on site, Sunday morning worship service

Rooms available in the Area: In Houston: Addies Attic (B & B) 507-896-3010, Bunkhouse  
 Lodge 507-896-2080, Zacher's Motel 507-896-3848, The Windswept Inn in Rushford 507-  
 864-2545 There are also motels available in the Winona (800) 657-4972 and LaCrescent  
 (800) 926-9480 area.

REGISTRATION OPENS AT NOON ON FRIDAY, June 2<sup>nd</sup>

- YOU MUST FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SIGN UP FOR MILEAGE AND CLUB AWARDS AT  
 REGISTRATION BEFORE 3:00 pm Saturday to win. FOR MORE INFO CALL Jack Weidenbach  
 (651) 481-9521, or Bill Jones (763)-767-9692 or visit our website: <http://www.bmwocm.com>

**REGISTRATION:** Fill out form completely and mail with check **made payable to BMW MOCM:**  
**Hiawatha Rally** c/o Don Sidler, 2901 Flag Avenue No, New Hope, MN 55427

Rider's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Passenger: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Passenger: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Year/Make of Bike: \_\_\_\_\_ Mileage to rally: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation # \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS IS A RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT: READ IT BEFORE SIGNING**

I hereby give up all my rights to sue or make any claim against the Minnesota BMWOCM Club, Board Members, Officers, and all other persons or organizations conducting or connected with the Hiawatha Rally and while upon the event premises. Relying on my own judgment and ability, I assume all such risks or loss and hereby agree to reimburse all costs to those persons or organizations connected with this event for damages incurred as a result of my negligence.

Driver's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-registered:** \$25.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ adults = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Postmarked by 5/19/06) \$12.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ children (7-15)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# Airhead Beemer Club

By Jeff Trapp, Wisconsin Airmarshal

The Airhead Beemer Club is an International Motorcycle Club for “unpretentious owners of air-cooled BMW’s”. It was started in 1991 as a non-profit organization to provide information on the care and feeding of airhead BMW’s. It’s also a way to make friends with like-minded folks.

For the curious or uninitiated, airheads are BMW motorcycles with type 247 engines, or their twin-cylinder predecessors. The founders of the club felt that the airhead was one of the finest all around motorcycles ever produced. Newer motorcycles lacked

newsletter called the ‘Airmail’ which features upcoming events, reviews of past events, a Classified section, ads from airhead-oriented businesses and a monthly tech column by Oak Okleshen, a well-known BMW mechanic who lives in Illinois. People have been known to join the club just for Oak’s column.

The BMW Airheads are organized by Airmarshals. Most states, Canadian provinces, England, Japan and Germany all have Airmarshals. These folks organize events such as group rides, barley therapy, campouts, etc. But, probably the most frequent Airhead event is the tech day. The tech days are usually held at a member’s home and are simply folks who know how helping others who don’t. Common activities are things like syncing carbs, adjusting valves adjusts, charging diagnostics, oil changes and changing tires. Tech days are a wonderful opportunity to learn the upkeep necessary for these old bikes, but eating lunch and just talking about motorcycles seems to share equal billing.

There is also an extensive website <http://www.airheads.org> that features photos, stories, tech articles, upcoming events, links and more. One of my favorite benefits of Airhead membership is an e-mail list. We’re lucky to have a number of very experienced and devoted Airhead gurus who are willing to answer virtually any question you might pose, usually within just a few hours.

Anyone with an Airhead and who agrees with the club canons can join.

1. Airheads ride Beemers with air-cooled heads.
2. Airheads believe that the simplest engineering solutions are best.
3. Airheads appreciate function over form, fact over fiction, and friendship over friction.
4. Airheads regard money as a tool, not a status symbol.
5. Airheads are earthy people who like to camp.
6. Airheads maintain their own motorcycles.
7. Airheads don’t take themselves, religion, or life too seriously.
8. Airheads like to share time, knowledge, parts, and camaraderie with other Airheads.

To find out about upcoming events in Wisconsin check out the website at <http://wisconsin.airheads.org>, or get in touch with me at [jefftrapp@charter.net](mailto:jefftrapp@charter.net) or 608-241-7092.



“ Tech days are a wonderful opportunity to learn the upkeep necessary for these old bikes... ”

the simplicity, light weight, and longevity of the airheads. Other clubs seemed to largely ignore this traditional base.

To foster an exchange of information and camaraderie, membership in the airheads offers a number of benefits: a monthly



## 2nd Annual “Highway to HELP” Ride

Gather your Friends and Tour Scenic  
Door County in its Fall Splendor!!

Saturday, September 30, 2006

Cost is \$15 for one person/one bike or \$25 for two people/one bike

Start time 11 am at Sawyer Park in Sturgeon Bay

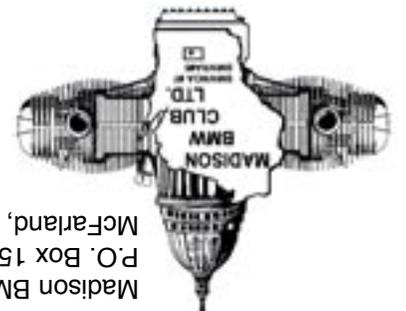
Registration begins at 9:30 am

Held Rain or Shine!

Make a loop around the county with a mix of country roads, waterfront drives and some highway traveling. Enjoy the views as you pass beaches, orchards, wineries, and state parks. The ride is guaranteed to have at least one stop for refreshments and you'll receive a souvenir commemorating your trip!

Upon the return, burgers and brats will be served while you take your chance in a raffle to win great prizes – ALL to benefit HELP of Door County, a local non-profit crisis and domestic violence agency.

Questions: Contact us at 1-800-91HELP1, 920-743-8785 or  
[amy@helpofdoorcounty.org](mailto:amy@helpofdoorcounty.org)



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