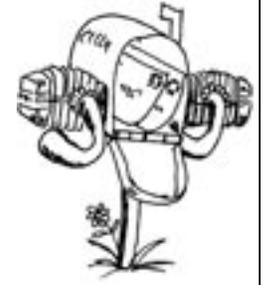


The Mail Boxer

March 2007

BMW MOA #7



2006 A Look Back

by Edwin Burlington

My 7,700 riding miles in 2006 was a significant drop for me. I think I would have to go back about 15 years to find the a year where I rode less than ten thousand miles. I never really planned to hit a certain number of miles. The miles just seemed to accumulate by the end of the season. So I was a bit surprised when I realized I had missed ten thousand miles by so much.

May

I started the riding season by putting my 1980 R100RT up for sale. The RT was the pride of my fleet but for a number of reasons I wanted to step into a sport-touring bike. After doing a bit of off-season research I set my mind on a 1994 or 1995 BMW K75. After several attempts to sell the RT locally I placed an ad on IBMWR.org. I shortly had my sale to a gentleman who lived near Knoxville, TN. He was willing to fly up and ride the bike home but I countered indicating if I could get a friend to ride with me I would meet him somewhere about halfway and make a long weekend trip out of the sale. Karen was willing to ride the bike and take a day of vacation. We set the date and place for the exchange and headed off for a rendezvous in Louisville, KY. So began the summer touring season. I rode my 1977 R100/7 and Karen rode the RT to Louisville. Louisville turned out to be as much fun as I had guessed it would be. I chose the downtown Holiday Inn. It was easy to get to and had free surface lot parking. From our hotel we were able to walk downtown Friday night. We found Fourth Street blocked off about 9 PM by people checking IDs. Wristbands were being issued to all of legal drinking age. Several blocks of Fourth Street were turned into an adult playground of trendy restaurants and cocktail bars. After a quick look around we chose the Makers Mark restaurant and set about celebrating the RT sale with very tasty dining and cocktails. After dinner we chose a club featuring dueling pianos. The club was full and loud. We had a good time and finally headed back to the hotel about 2 AM. The street stays open until 4 AM and people were still coming in as we left. I heard about a club on Main Street named after one of my favorite rockers, Stevie Ray Vaughn. Next trip I've got to check out Main Street. Saturday morning we loaded up the /7 and headed southwest to the Mammoth Caves Park. The ride is beautiful and the Caves Park is a great visit. After the park visit we headed back north and made Indianapolis for the evening. Louisville at about 500 miles from Madison is an easy ride to some great fun. Next time I'm thinking Main Street and a couple of bourbon distillery tours.

July

It's a hot July 3d night on the lakefront in Milwaukee. The R100/7 and I are a small dot in a long line of vehicles trying to leave the Summerfest grounds. We are near the Interstate now and I start the bike for the 4th time as I see the line of cars starting to move. This time however, there is a valve clanging sound on the left side. The bike is running and I make a guess that the rocker arm bearings are going. I decide to continue for home and once past idle the bike seems to be running with normal power. I make it home fine but a few days later Bill called me from Motorcycle Performance with the bad news that my valve seats had both popped loose on the left side. The repair estimate ran much higher than a bearing pack replacement. So the /7 is down, the RT is sold and even my Honda is being used by my daughter so for the first time in many, many years I find

Upcoming Events

March 2 – 11–Daytona Bike Week

Sunday March 4–Madison BMW Club Breakfast, J.T. Whitney's 9:00 a.m.

March 17–St Patrick's Day Ride led by Todd Herbst. Meet at the Citgo on Hwy 14 in Cross Plains at 9:45am, depart at 10am. Ride length will be determined by weather.

I usually try to make it to Global View SW of spring Green. It is a Barn full off arts and crafts for sale from all over Asia and Africa. I'll go by car if the weather is too foul to ride. If there is any interest.

Sunday April 1–Madison BMW Club Breakfast, J.T. Whitney's 9:00 a.m.

April 22–Wild Goose Run. Meet Sunday at noon at the Bayside Supper Club in Beaver Dam sponsored by the Port Club

April 22–BMW Flea Market. Pecatonica, IL. sponsored by the Black Hawk Club

May 4-6 –Original Mini Rally Sturgis MI Battle Creek MI

Sunday May 6–Madison BMW Club Breakfast, J.T. Whitney's 9:00 a.m.

Sunday May 6–Slimy Crud Run

May 18 – GR3 Rally Soldier's Grove

June 1–3–Hiawatha Rally Honey Creek MI, sponsored by the Minnesota Club

**Sunday June 3–BMW Club Breakfast,
J.T. Whitney's 9:00 a.m.**

**June 7–9–RA Rally at Biltmore
Estates Asheville, NC**

**Sunday July 1–BMW Club Breakfast,
J.T. Whitney's 9:00 a.m.**

July 12–15–MOA Rally West Bend, WI

**August 10–12–Annual Field Of
Dreams Ride. Friday, ride to New
Vienna, Iowa for a charcoal grilled
steak dinner. Then camp at the New
Wine camp ground (on-site registra-
tion). Saturday, group ride and/or
Field Of Dreams visit. Sunday, ride to
the Madison BMW picnic at Brigham
Park. ed_burington@yahoo.com or
772-1933 for details.**

**August 12–BMW Club Picnic
Brigham Park @ 10am**

**September 7–9–BMW Dells Rally
Chula Vista**

**September 9–Iron Man Competition
Madison**

**Sunday October 4–BMW Club
Breakfast, J.T. Whitney's 9:00 a.m.**

October 4–Slimy Crud Run

**October 12–14–32nd Falling Leaf
Rally Potosi, MI Sponsored by the
Gateway Riders of St Louis**



myself without a motorcycle in the garage. A few days later I am still thinking options on the /7 and the weather continues to be very hot. Because of the heat I trashed my plan to sit out on the Oklahoma prairie at the Woody Guthrie Folk Festival and decided to throw some camping gear in my Buick and head for the Lake Superior basin to cool off for a few days. On my way north I stopped for the night at Russ and Annette Champions place in Chippewa Falls. Chatting with Russ I showed him a couple of K bikes I had been looking at on the Internet. To shorten a long story, I called Bill and told him to repair the /7 (over 100,000 miles on the odometer). I came to an agreement with a seller of a K75 and a couple of days later I'm in a suburb of Detroit, Michigan. I bought a 1994 Dakar yellow K75S with about every conceivable accessory and rode it home from the Detroit area. This was my third K bike but it had been 5 or 6 years since I had last been on one. It didn't take many miles at all for me to get that happy face going. I've run between 3 and 4 thousand miles on the bike since then and I am convinced I made the right choice to swap the RT for the K75S. I'm still a big Airhead fan but now that I have both I am a very happy guy.

August

The Field Of Dreams ride included a surprise twist. Derek Engelen emailed me to ask if I knew NetFlix and Kevin Costner was going to be there the same weekend as my ride. I didn't, we rode, had another fine dinner, tried to stop to see Costner at the Field Of Dreams but were turned away. The event had reached capacity about 3:30 that afternoon and they were not allowing anyone in. I rode my /7. Bill did a great job getting it running again and it ran beautifully that weekend. Saturday we rode down to Amana Colonies and visited one of my favorite spots The Mill Stream Brewery. We stopped in Anamosa on the way back and were sad to see the High On The Hog restaurant had closed. It had been a motorcycle themed ice cream parlor about a block from the motorcycle museum. The weather was near perfect and the nicest camping weather I think I have ever experienced.

September

Bob and Linda Peart invited me along on a riding vacation to Nashville. The Peart's took their Goldwing trike and I took the K75. The K75 came with a lowered seat that didn't have much padding for the driver. I gratefully accepted Chuck Rabideaux's offer and borrowed his AirHawk for the ride. I never would have guessed an inflated seat cushion could have been so comfortable. Since returning from the ride I have bought my own AirHawk. If you are looking for long ride relief I recommend trying an AirHawk.

January 2007

I joined the Madison Club's New Year's Day ride. It was the first time in many years that I had a bike I could legally ride in January. The rest of my stable are all collector-plated bikes. It was a wonderful January day to ride. I turned on my heated grips but never bothered to turn on the heated vest. I had a lot of fun riding from the square up around Lake Mendota and stopping at Quaker Steak and Lube. It was a wonderful exuberant ride. I feel I am off to a great start for a new riding year. I'll see you out there.

Membership News

by Derek Engelen

Please welcome the following new club members:

Dennis Maly
126 Bradford Lane
Madison, WI 53714

Phone: 608/249-0117 home
Scooters: 1978 BMW R100S
2006 HD FLHXI

Doug and Andrea Hoerr
2080 Sandy Rock Road
Barneveld, WI 53507

Phones: 608.437.6462 home
608.262.9779 work
Scooters: 1996 BMW R1200GS
1995 Ducati ST3

Mike Kohls
4115 Wright Ave.
Racine, WI 53405

Phones: 262.637.5234 home
414.659.1486 work
Scooters: 2005 BMW LT1200
2001 Suzuki DR2400
- and the rest of his fleet

Bob Harvey
2420 DeCarlin Drive
Brookfield, WI 53045

Phones: 262.784.7804 home
414.378.0203 work
Scooters: 1982 BMW R65
2005 BMW R1200RT

Secretary's Report

by Linda Low

February 2007 Minutes

2007 National Rally Update

Madison BMW Club is officially the "Clean Crew" making sure everything is picked up and neat at the rally site. Earliest can get on rally site is Monday. Must be willing to work Linda Low is chairperson for the rally sewing booth where you can get your patch sewn on.

Upcoming Rides/Events

St Paddy's Day ride is March 17 weather permitting
Madison Motorcycle Club annual dinner is February 24 at Mexicali Rose. Call Bob or Steve Barr for further info.

Club Rally Update

James Folts is going to organize non-motorized field event. The LaCrosse Air Show is going on the same weekend as the rally. The Blue angels will be there at noon on Saturday. Milwaukee BMW donated \$500

Dennis Maly won free breakfast for next meeting and Boyd Weber won the 50/50.

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Vice President: Todd Erickson
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Secretary: Linda Low
lrllow@verizon.net

Membership: Derek Engelen

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

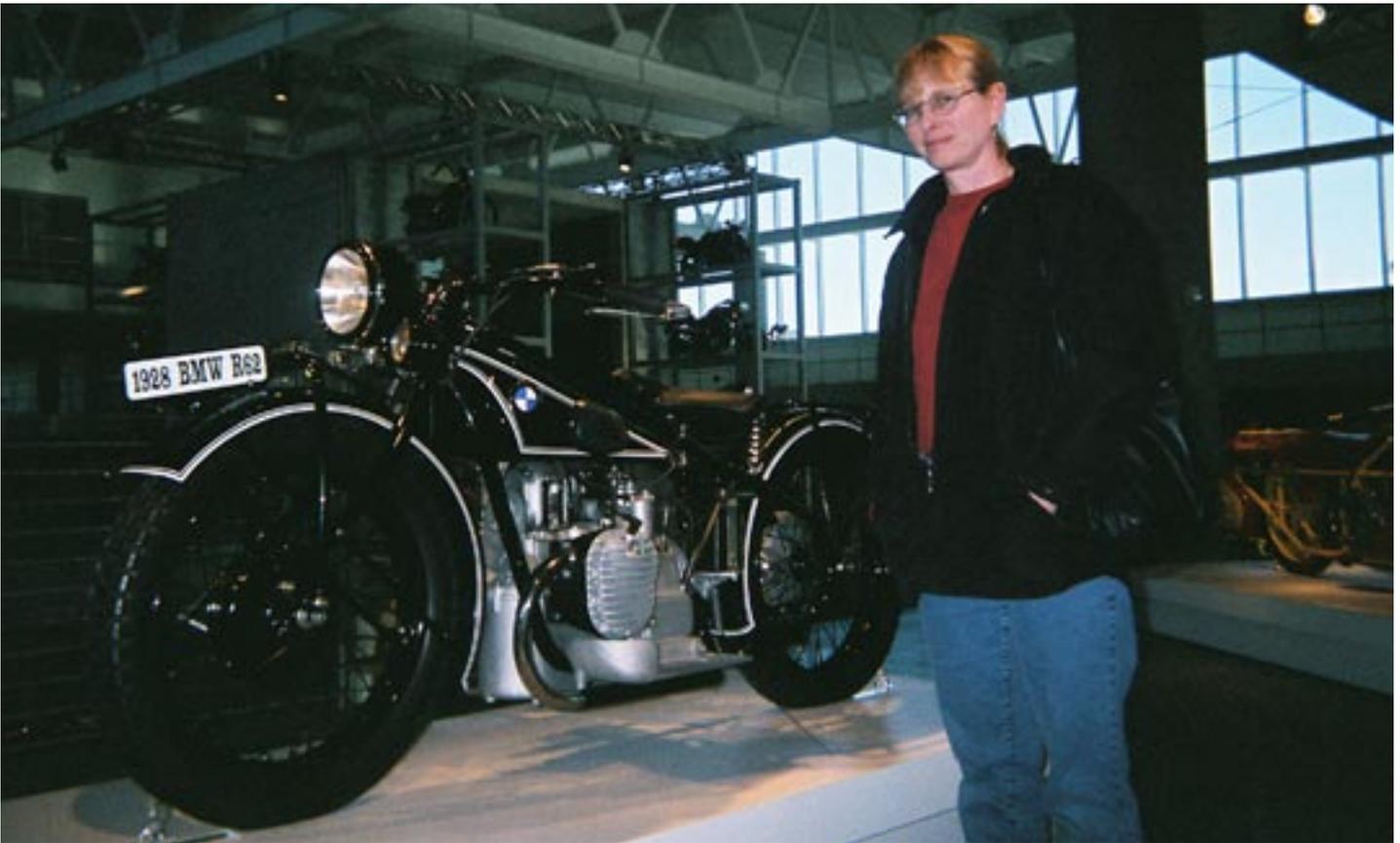
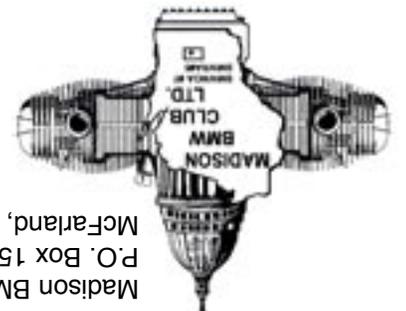


Photo and commentary provided by Tom Van Horn: Hmm. Uhhh, uh, yeah, uh, Barber Motorsports Museum!! Really something.300-plus bikes, most in *perfect* condition. Any rare exotica you can think of, they probably have one. Maybe two or three... I like this one. Oh, and the bike's nice too ;-)



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