THE MAIL BOXER

MADISON BMW CLUB ~ FEBRUARY 2025

BMW MOA #7 BMW RA #5

⇒ **NEXT MEETING FEB 2nd**

⇒ **CLUB SHIRTS (page 6)**

⇒ **RALLY NEWS (page 5)**

GR/3 rally site, then and now.
(Pic: Wandering Wisconsin FB, via Jimmy G.)

Madison BMW Club, Ltd P.O. Box 5601 ~ Madison, WI 53705 http://www.madisonbmwclub.org

FaceBook: **Madison BMW (Motorcycle) Club**

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2025

CLUB MEETING Feb 2nd
Tullys II 8:45AM
Monona Dr.

MAMA TRIED SHOW Feb 22-23
Milwaukee

https://mamatriedshow.com/

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2025

NO CLUB MEETING IN MARCH
(See Presidents column)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

COMING ATTRACTIONS:
Blackhawk Swap Meet April 26th
Leaf River, IL

Wild Goose Run April 27th
Beaver Dam, WI

2024 Club Officers and Officials

President
* Chad Garcia tazmanianbiker69@gmail.com

Vice President
* Rhonnie Garcia rhonnielyn@gmail.com

Secretary
* Linda Low lrlow2@gmail.com

Treasurer
* Sue Rihn sue@beemerhill.com

Membership Director
* Jim Low lowjim09@gmail.com

Editor
* Tom Van Horn tvh@beemerhill.com

Web Master
* Jim Harms webmaster@madisonbmwclub.org

Activities Director
* Bert Hefty bhefty1954@gmail.com

Great River Road Rally Chair
* Chris Brown christopherrb@sbcglobal.net

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

We just finished our January meeting and I wanted to advise that Rhonnie and I will not be able to attend February nor March meetings as we will be out of state (enjoying the SUN).
None of the elected executive board will be able to make the March meeting (Chad, Rhonnie, Sue, Linda), so we will be unable to conduct any business. With that said **the March meeting will be canceled**, but you all are free to meet up for breakfast is anyone wants to set that up. Sue & Linda will run the February meeting. In case you were not aware we now have committee for the GR3 and with this year being our 50th they are working hard to make it our best rally yet! Chris Brown is the committee chair, so if you have ideas please let him or a committee member know. The one thing Chris has asked from all of us is to please volunteer as the more people that pitch in the better the event and the more we all can enjoy it as well. I hope everyone is doing well during the off-season and I look forward to seeing you all.

-Chad

Happy February! Our next Club meeting is Sunday, February 2 at 9am at Tully's II, please come early to order breakfast.

We are in the midst of Winter, which means trip planning for Chad and I. In 2024, we completed our goal of motorcycling in all 50 states. We now have a goal of motorcycling in different countries. Stay tuned to future newsletters for trip details.

Looking back at 2024, I started adding the Member Spotlight page to the newsletter. It started off strong just like anything new, but took a nosedive toward the end of the year. I am going to try again this year with a digital form with hopes to get a better response. Please fill out the Spotlight Questionnaire using this link :
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/652ZCFL
Thank you for your responses in advance.

If you are headed to Lebanon, TN in June for the BMW MOA Rally and are looking for a way to meet new people, look no further. Chad and I are the RV Chairs, so we are in need of volunteers to help check in our guests and give them rally information. You can sign up to volunteer online or just message us and we can help get you plugged in. It is a fun group of RV rally goers that love to tell stories and meet new people. No need to have an RV to volunteer.

Chad and I will be traveling for the next 2 meetings, so I will see you at the April meeting.

Rhonnie
Vice President

SECRETARYS REPORT—- Linda Low
JANUARY 5 CLUB MEETING MINUTES

Pres Chad-introduced member Steve Eliasen. Will be giving 30% off on Gryphon riding gear:
steve.gryphonmoto@gmail.com www.gryphonmoto.com

Also working part-time at Big Snow Resort promoting motorcycle gatherings. Can help plan club camping up there if interested.

Sue-Treasurer. Dues are due!

Tom- Newsletter. Looking for material...

Chris- GR3. Committee jobs: Dawn food, Sue and Tom artwork and bike Jim K.

New Biz:
Anniversary club shirts. Top Promotions. Long sleeve $30, short sleeve $25, royal blue.
Order forms can be picked up From Sue R.

GR3 led rides are on. Working on routes.
Country Gardens still has rooms available.

Port Washington Club is slowly fading. Charging $10 for lifetime membership. Only 5-10 people at meetings.
April 27 will be Wild Goose in Beaver Dam
April 26 is swap meet in Leaf River.

Welfare: Jim Bronson is no longer riding. He has dementia. Group is going to visit him at Beehive Home.

-Submitted by Linda Low

Long-time member Jim Bronson is having some issues—folks took him to breakfast. (Pic: Jim L.)

50TH GREAT RIVER ROAD RALLY UPDATE (submitted by Rally Chair Chris Brown)

The countdown is on! The **50th Anniversary Great River Road Rally** is roaring to life, and we couldn't be more excited. This milestone event promises to bring back the nostalgia while reviving some of the classic traditions we all love.
As always, this rally wouldn't be possible without our wonderfully consistent and ever-reliable volunteer base—yes, that means YOU. We'll need your help with:

- **Cooking out:** Because nothing says "rally" like food on the grill, shared tips on perfecting the art of grilling, and everyone pitching in to make it great
- **Set-up and sign-up:** Think of it as team-building, but with more zip ties, duct tape, and a healthy dose of "where does this go?"

Leading rides or sweeping: A classic revival! Whether you're at the helm or the tail, you'll be part of keeping our riders safe and smiling.
A sign-up sheet will be available at breakfast and sent out to the club, so please saddle up and lend a hand wherever you can.

On to some minor kerfuffles...
The **50/50 and raffle status** are still floating around the "would be nice but not essential" categories. We leave this to the officers and board members to lead this discussion (and we wish them well!).

Exciting Updates!
We're thrilled to announce that **Jim K.** has secured the very generously donated **R90/6** from Jim Bronson and his family. Jim will be teaming up with **Randy B.** to schedule a tech day for all of you who enjoy wrenching, learning, or just hanging around motorcycles and soaking in the experience. Stay tuned for details!
Meanwhile, **Tom Lubbock and Susan North** knocked it out of the park with this year's artwork. The logo will commemorate not only the rally but also the **50th anniversary of the R90S.** Speaking of design, **Dawn and Susan** have worked tirelessly to create rally shirts that we're confident will appeal to just about everyone.
And hats off to **Dawn**, who has taken on the thankless task of meal and beer planning. While many of us focus on riding and revelry, Dawn is busy ensuring we don't go hungry or thirsty. We should have more details soon, but for now, a massive "thank you" to her for keeping everything on track.
Let's not forget **Jim Harms**, one of our unsung heroes! Jim has been instrumental in helping with online registration and working with the MOA to keep everything running smoothly. Without his behind-the-scenes efforts, many of our processes would be far bumpier—thank you, Jim, for all you do!

Financial Transparency
One final note: We're committed to keeping everyone informed on the financial side of things. After the rally, we'll provide a complete cost breakdown so the club can assess whether a fee increase is necessary for next year. Once we all see the numbers, we can have a calm and thoughtful discussion about what's best moving forward.

See You in Soldiers Grove!
That's it for now, but there's plenty more to come. Mark your calendars for this May, and let's make this rally one for the books. Fifty years is a big deal, and we're looking forward to celebrating it together in true rally fashion.

Cheers and safe riding,
Chris

New Madison Club Polo-style Shirts

The officers of the Madison BMW Club took action on the proposal brought forward by Jim Kossow about ordering some new shirts with our club artwork on them. The shirts are a Royal Blue, which has been our traditional shirt color in the past. The front left breast placket will be the Madison Club logo in color. The left sleeve will have the name of the club. These are lightweight synthetic material.

We will order these in mid-March, and bring them to the April Club meeting. You can either fill out the form below, or just email me with your selection and I will fill it out for you.

Sue Rihn, Treasurer

beemerhill@gmail.com

ORDER FORM

NAME_____

LONG-SLEEVE

MEN'S @ $30 ea _____ _____
Quantity *Size*

WOMEN'S @ $30 ea _____ _____
Quantity *Size*

SHORT-SLEEVE

MEN'S @ $25 ea _____ _____
Quantity *Size*

WOMEN'S @ $25 ea _____ _____
Quantity *Size*

DUES are Due!

Yikes! It's 2025 already! Where did the time go?

This is just a gentle reminder that Dues are due. For you new folks who recently joined the club since September 1, you are solid for 2025. (Yay! And welcome!) If you aren't sure if you paid yet, just drop me an email and I will check the list.

For 2025, the Board agrees that the dues can stay at the same bargain price of $30 per new member, and $5.00 for a spouse (associate) member. There are several ways that you can renew:
One way is to send a check to the club, using the form at the back of this newsletter. Be sure to add pertinent information including what motorcycles you have in your garage, your MOA and/or RA numbers, and address or phone number changes. The other way is online, using the link on the club webpage. And … finally, I will be at the February Club meeting and will be happy to take your dues then. If you want to do that, please have exact cash (or check) and please, please: a piece of paper with your name, etc on it.
Looking forward to seeing many of you at the next club meeting.

Sue Rihn, Club Treasurer, and All-Around Swell Girl

The picture is the award plaques for the 50th GR/3 rally. Member J. T. Wagner has been making awards for Club functions since the early '90s, IIRC. He also designed the classic Club logo with the boxer engine and capitol dome, and facilitated the making of the first Club shirts. He also perennially pitches in with anything that needs doing. Whithal that, the Club Board of Directors voted to make J.T. the newest Life Member of the Madison BMW Club. Very well deserved!

MADISON BMW CLUB, LTD
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
DUES: $30 full year. Spouse: $5

Print this form out, fill it out, & mail it with your dues to:

Madison BMW Club, LTD
PO Box 5601
Madison, WI 53705

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL:_____

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

BMW MOA # _____

BMW RA # _____

AMA # _____

MOTORCYCLES YOU OWN:

YEAR_____MAKE/MODEL _____

YEAR_____MAKE/MODEL _____

YEAR_____MAKE/MODEL _____

OTHER INTERESTS OR COMMENTS _____

Madison BMW Club. Ltd.
PO Box 5601
Madison, WI 53705