



die Zeitung

Newsletter of the BMW Motorcycle Club
of Hampton Roads, VA

www.bmwchr.org

DATE: Sept 06

Editor's Ramblings:

by Gary Shanafelt

We start off this month with seeing how two riders keeping their cool prevented an adventure from being a tragedy (pg 2).

You really need to get to know Club member **Leo Osburn**. Check out his ride on pg 2. (This article will also appear in the Dec 06 edition of *BMW ON*.)

"I'm talking to you, boy!" Stern lecture time about being a burden to the Club on pg 4. Speaking of which, **Carol Beals** has an opportunity for all of us to excel. Check out the Rally update on pg 4 with accompanying sign-up sheets.

Go to Barnes & Noble for a signed copy of my latest book: *"Bleeding The Brakes When The Caliper Is On The Left Side, The Brake Peddle Is On The Right Side, and You Are By Yourself ...For Dummies!"*

President's Corner

by Larry Martin

For a group of riders who gather around breakfast once a month, we as a Club have done many things. When it's broken down, individuals do things in the Club's name. The Club just takes credit for it. In trying to put together a review of what our Club did this year, a few names kept coming up. I hope to have this review compiled soon, but first, let me recognize a few who's contributions are unassuming and on-going. Our editor, who faithfully publishes our monthly newsletter, somehow has a finger on the pulse of the Club. Our secretary, who publishes the minutes as if there were nothing to it, is also a valuable resource for her in-depth knowledge and background in our Club, other clubs, rallies and other such motorcycle endeavors. I will not attempt to mention all the individuals who make this Club move, but what would our Rally be without Carol. Where would we meet without Mike who doesn't even have an "official" title. The website is always current with Pat's attention to detail.

With elections around the corner, I wish all who are so expertly filling elected positions would remain in place. I realize, however, that some are ready to stand down so that others can serve.

(Cont Pg 4)

Upcoming Events:

10 Sep: Monthly Club Meeting (Yep, a week later than usual because of Memorial Day)

1 Oct: Monthly Club Meeting back to the first Sunday.

13-15 Oct: Colonial Rally @ Jamestown campground. Stand by for tasking.

14 Oct: Morton's BMW Oktoberfest. No, you can't go. You're working the Rally, remember?

There I was....!

by Gary Shanafelt

(Thanks to Biker Chick-Lorey Hill for the story)

Roy and Heidi were riding toward home in Colorado doing about 60 MPH when something really bad went wrong with their Valkyrie. Trying to figure out what happened, Roy started to use the clutch but to his surprise the clutch lever was gone, so he hit the “KILL” switch and wrestled the bike to a stop. Neither one of them could figure out what happened until they looked down and saw that they had unknowingly hit a deer and drug it along the highway. A man driving behind them said in fact, they hit two deer; one in front and one hit the back wheel that bounced off. Both Roy and Heide were awake, alert, and looking for wild animals but the incident happened so fast that they could not have reacted. The deer had completely destroyed the front end of their bike. Hitting an animal when you least expect it is not something you can train for but this incident has a couple good lessons. Roy never stopped controlling the bike! He had the presence of mind to hit the kill switch and struggle the bike over to the side of the road. As the passenger, Heidi probably had some anxious moments but she did not panic. They were both lucky but their instinctive actions contributed to their good luck. Had it been me, the people that stopped to help would have found my bike still revving to about 4000 RPM, me under it, and they would have asked, “What’s that awful smell?”

Meet Leo

by Gary Shanafelt



Most people in their 80s are...well, not much fun to be around but let me tell you that 85 year old Leo Osburn is a HOOT! You really have to pay attention to what Leo says as each remark he makes is a classic packed full of humor and entertainment.

In early '38, Leo traded an old Plymouth for a fairly new '37 Harley. He even remembers the serial number: 37UL4211. Leo tells about the time he missed a turn on his Harley, fell off, and ended up with a sore back. To get some relief from the pain, he asked his wife to rub some Absorbing Jr on his lower back. She poured an ample amount of the warming liquid on Leo but gravity predictably sent most of it South through a natural ravine just below his waist. Leo was no longer in mild discomfort but had been instantly elevated an uncomfortable level of pain. He said he felt like a turpented cat; which in effect, he was.

Four years later his wife was about to have a baby and without insurance, Leo needed some cash so he sold his Harley for \$200. He doesn't regret doing it because he received a beautiful baby girl in return, fully paid for.



Meet Leo (Cont)

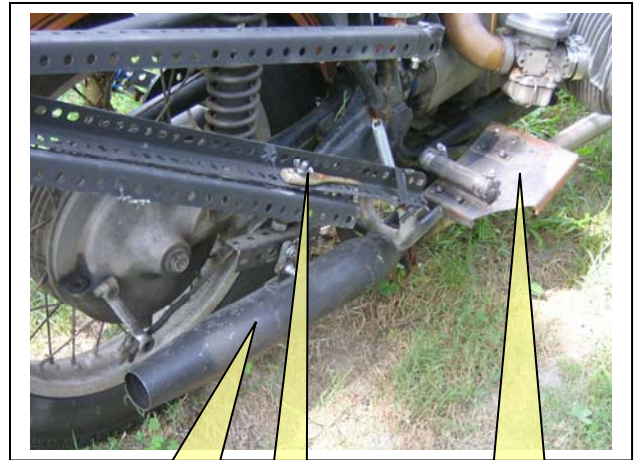
Leo and his wife eventually had four kids and spent his working years as a machinist in tiny Shinglehouse, PA. Even though he went without a motorcycle for many years, the love and excitement of riding never left him and in 1983 he procured a '72 BMW R75/5. Leo said he saw a cut-away of a BMW engine and was intrigued.



Leo continues to build memories and often rides his R75 to the BMWCHR monthly meetings. Earlier this spring I asked Leo if he planned any long motorcycle trips this summer. Without missing a beat, Leo joked that he didn't have enough time left for a long trip but might work in a couple short ones. Two weeks ago he rode just over 50 miles and last Sunday he logged another 30 miles. (Which is approximately 80 miles more than I rode.)

Don't get the wrong impression when you see the training wheels on Leo's bike. He rides just fine but was having trouble maneuvering the bike in his backyard so he designed and fabricated the swing-out wheels to help maneuver the bike when dismounted. They work great but the span of the wheels turned out to be about 2" too wide to go through his garage door.

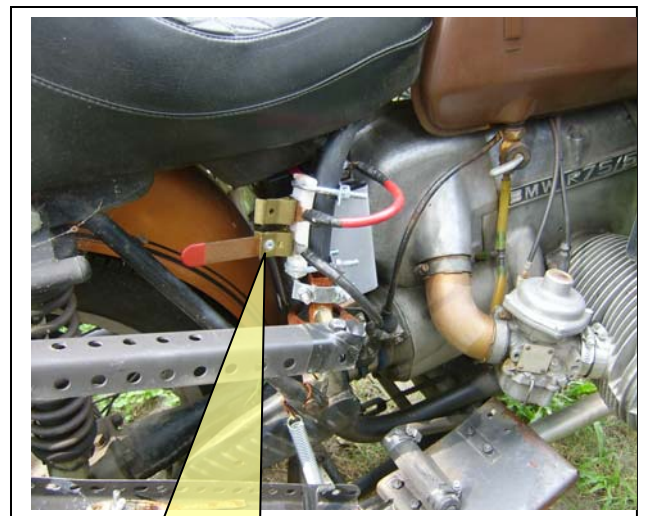
Leo shows no signs of slowing down. When I visited his house last week he was out back working on a little three-wheeled car he built from a Honda motorcycle. When I'm 85 years old, I just hope I can find my own zipper!



Harley Muffler

Serious
Brake Peddle

Tool Storage



Battery leaking charge?
No Problem. Just install a
switch!

Don't be a Burden

by Gary Shanafelt

Through the years I've known a lot of riders with a wide range of personality traits. One American brand of motorcycle seems to attract the extreme ends of the personality continuum but the BMW community brings together a narrow, upper-middle band of great people. I can honestly say, I have never met a BMW rider that wasn't a stand-up person and a pleasure to be around.

A few years ago when I staggered to the Southside and joined this notable group, I wasn't sure how deep my commitment to the Club was going to be and certainly did not want to make commitments I could not fulfill. So, like a lot of new members, I sat in the back and tried to keep my mouth shut until I could get to know more of the people and they could get used to seeing me hanging around helping a little here and there. One thing was firm in my mind, I did not want to be a burden to the club; I was either going to participate or move on. When the time was right for me, I saw an opportunity to **temporarily** write the newsletter.

We have several relatively new members that have been around long enough to absorb the personality of the members and recognize where you can help carry the Club. At one time or another I have spoken to almost everyone on our roster and each and every one has the talent to organize an event or at least serve as the main backup for the coordinator. Your reward will be getting to know some fellow BMW riders much better and we will get to find out more about you. At the end of the day we can both have a long-neck and say, "We been there-done that...together!"

Heck, I know one job that's available. All you need access to "spell check" and it could be yours!

President's Corner (Cont)

If you missed it, you missed a fairly dry weekend at Buena Vista, VA. Marvin led a 200 mile ride Friday where we saw some nice towns and roads which folded back (it seems) on itself. Saturday saw rides go off in several directions including a Memorial Ride to scatter ashes for family and friends of Steve Coburn, a long time friend of BMW and the founder of "Oil Head Magazine" and Club.

The "Laid Back Affair" is a good opportunity to refresh your camping skills. There are those who motel-it and eat out, others camp and eat out or various degrees of both. So think about it for next year, nice ride up and lots of local "bike" roads.

'Hope to see you at the September meeting,

Larry

Rally Update

By Carol Beals

The rally plans are coming along. The Menu for Saturday will consist of pulled BBQ pork, BBQ ribs, BBQ chicken, hush puppies, potato salad, Cole slaw, beans, ice tea and lemonade. There should be an update list of people who we have receive door prizes from on the Website. The phone calls are starting to come in with questions on the rally. We are all hoping for beautiful weather that weekend. However we do need all of your help to make this rally a success. In this issue is a rally task list, please sign up for something and let me know what you would like to do. Continue to have a safe riding season and look forward to seeing all of you at the rally.

Carol

carol.beals@capitalone.com

Tasks

Date

Time

Collect information for Rally packet			Carol Beals	
Prepare rally information insert and schedule			Carol Beals	
Prepare and assemble tickets			Carol Beals	
Number rally packet envelops			Beals Family	
Assemble rally packet				
Distribute flyer and letters to local dealers			Beals Family	completed
Send flyers to BMW dealers			Carol Beals	completed
Send door prizes letters to out of door dealer,etc			Carol Beals	Completed
Follow-up and pick up door prizes from local dealers				
Write thank you letters			Jo Smithdeal	
Generate letters and labels				
Stuff thank you letters and labels				
Registration	Friday	Noon – 4 Pm		
Registration	Friday	4 Pm – 8 PM		
Registration	Friday	8 PM – 11:30 PM		
Registration	Saturday	8 Am – noon		
Registration	Saturday	Noon – 3 PM		
Registration	Saturday	3 PM – 6 PM		
Set up	Friday	9:30 Am - ?		
Set up	Friday	9:30 AM?		
Set up	Friday	9:30 AM		
Set up	Friday	9:30 AM		
Set up	Friday	9:30 AM		
Set up	Friday	9:30 Am		
Pack up supplies for rally	By Thursday			
Prepare Friday night's dinner	Friday	4 PM – 9:30	Mike Bodner	
Prepare Friday night's dinner	Friday	4 Pm – 9:30		
Prepare Saturday charity ride lunch	Saturday	11 Am – 1:30 PM	Jim Richardson	
Determine Saturday night's dinner and order			Carol Beals	completed
Set up and serve Saturday night's dinner	Saturday	5 PM – 6:30 PM		
Set up and serve Saturday night's dinner	Saturday	5 PM – 6:30 PM		
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Set up and serve Saturday night's dinner	Saturday	5 PM – 6:30 PM		
Arrange and take care of dessert for Saturday night's dinner			Jo Smithdeal	
Make Coffee	Friday			
Make Coffee	Saturday			
Make Coffee	Sunday			
Make tea	Friday			
Make tea	Saturday			
Arrange for and pick up donuts	Sunday			
Set up prize table	Friday		Bob Chapman	
Hand out pot luck prizes	Saturday			
Make Announcements	Saturday			
Charity ride mapping			Tim and Amber Beals	
Charity Ride Registration and stops 1 and 5	Saturday	8:30 Am- 1:30		
Charity Ride stop manning	Saturday	9 AM – 1 PM	Mike Bodner	
Charity Ride stop manning	Saturday	9 Am – 1 Pm		
Charity ride stop manning	Saturday	9 Am – 1 Pm		

Create award plaque				
Determine field events			Wendy Tyer	
Set up and organize and run field events	Saturday	2 Pm – 5 PM		
Set up and organize and run field events	Saturday	2 Pm – 5 PM		
Set up and organize and run field events	Saturday	2 Pm – 5 PM		
Set up and organize and run field events	Saturday	2 Pm – 5 PM		
Design rally patch			Carol And Anne	
Man club Store	Friday	2 PM – 5 PM		
Man club store	Friday	5PM – 8 PM		
Man club store	Saturday	8 AM – 11 AM		
Man club store	Saturday	11 AM – 2 PM		
Man club store	Saturday	2 Pm – 5:30 PM		
Prepare posters			Anne Ricker	
Finish coasters			Beals family	
Inventory supplies			Beals Family	
Shop for rally supplies				
Order peanuts	Wednesday		Carol	
Pick up peanuts	Thursday		Beals Family	
Clean up after rally	Sunday			
Clean up after rally	Sunday			
Clean up after rally	Sunday			
Clean up after rally	Sunday			
Clean up after rally	Sunday			
Clean up after rally	Sunday			