

Greater Cincinnati BMW Club, Inc.

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July 2010 Newsletter

Microcar Museum By Steve Thoerner

Bruce Weiner Microcar Museum

It seems a fair amount of BMW motorcycle owners like some of the more obscure brands of bikes (like Guzzi's, Enfield's or Urals). If you fall into that group you'd probably enjoy the museum we visited.

Bruce Weiner has a privately owned microcar museum down in Madison Georgia about 40 miles east of Atlanta. It's supposed to be the largest collection of microcars in the world (which I would have to believe after walking through their building).



We arrived about 9:45AM and waited for the museum to open at 10:00. The location is a mile or so out of town with nothing much around. Two other people showed up and 10:00AM came and the door was still locked - then we hear what sounds like a few Harleys coming - there are two Harleys being closely followed by a vintage microcar that looks like it might flip over as it

whips into the parking lot. The Harley escort says see ya to the driver and a lady unfolds out of the microcar and unlocks the door. Welcome to bizarro world!

The collection is a couple hundred cars. Some are restored but many look fairly original. Most range from the 1940's through the early 1970's with engines ranging from 50cc's to 600cc or so. There are at least 6 BMW Isettas with engines from 300 to 600cc's. Another well represented group is the Messerschmitt bubble top cars - These were a premium German built microcar - or as premium as a microcar can be.



Stuntriding BWW

Chris Pfeiffer and his BMW F800R won the German Stuntriding Open, held in June at the Hockenheimring, where the Bavarian rider successfully defended his 2009 title.



[Watch video](#) of Chris Pfeiffer entertaining the folks in Sri Lanka

I had a buddy, when I was a teenager, whose father had a King Midget. They were made in Athens Ohio so most survivors probably were in Ohio & KY. They had a couple King Midgets in the collection. First ones I've seen since the old days. Of course, they had a Crosely in the collection.

The cars were all quite cool but there was also an amazing collection of memorabilia that covered signs, posters, toy cars, and all types of old vending machines (ever see a vending machine that sells apples?).

Madison Georgia has a nice older downtown area with some antebellum type houses so it's a fairly neat location to look around also.

It takes a couple hours to look around the museum. Every two years they have a microcar rally at the sight that brings enthusiast from all over the world. The next one is in 2011. That would be a great time to visit and actually see all these crazy cars in the natural environment - on the road!



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Whiskey Creek Dual Sport Ride

By John Fischer

Bill picked me up at 6AM Friday, June 4 to depart for Piqua, OH where we met Dick and Tom. Shortly we were on our way to Baldwin Michigan to ride in the Great Lakes Dual Sporters AMA National Dual Sport Ride. I had not been dirt biking in Michigan since 1994 and was looking forward to the opposite from my previous dual sport experience of very wet conditions. We arrived late afternoon and picked up our route sheets.

The event base was at the Whiskey Creek Campground which is about 20 miles west of Baldwin, MI. Apparently that business has seen better days. It had a fairly large central building and at one time apparently had little out buildings that probably served as guard shelters. There were a number of cabins for rent and Bill had reserved one for us. Mixed in among the cabins for rent were privately owned trailers and bigger cabins. Although the service was good and the people very friendly, it was apparent that the facility was declining from a once much better time.

Saturday's route was 128 miles and only 11 % of that was paved and 36 % was dirt road. The rest was either two track or single track sandy trails. And by sandy I mean really sandy. Like sink in 4-6 inches deep in some places if you couldn't keep enough speed. I tried to keep the front wheel light by sitting way back and applying throttle but I sure couldn't keep up with the pace of Dick and Tom. Dick was a AA Class enduro rider for years and he and Tom still ride competitive enduroes. Of course they always waited at every turn or point of decision for Bill and me to catch up so we all got to ride at our own pace.



Bill and I didn't see it ,but Dick and Tom saw a very large black bear cross the road not too far in front of them. It's a good thing Allen Leach wasn't along as he might have sped up to run it down. Just ask him sometime.

After about 65 miles of blasting through the sand we arrived at Peacocks Ltd. of Baldwin for our lunch stop. Lunch is typically provided by the dual sport promoter and this was no exception. The volunteers were very nice and friendly, but the hot dogs they provided didn't seem to agree with any of us four. By comparison the lunch provided at the Renfro Valley Dual Sport was much better.

On the trail about 2 hours after lunch I was feeling a little weak and puny so I stopped to take in some fine cuisine - a candy bar. I looked at my brake pads and the rear pads were shot. Tom just happened to have a new spare set and he proceeded to replace them for me right on the spot. It's nice to ride with people who know what they're doing. Not too much later I was at a pretty good pace trying to keep up with Dick and Tom when I had a slight case of operator error and flopped over trying to slow for a left turn. It's weird how the soft sand seems to pull you down if you close the throttle at the wrong time. We arrive back at the base camp and cabin to attack the beer which Bill had bought.

After a real good dinner and desert we sat waiting to see who won door prizes. There were quite a few prizes to be given away. I'd say that the Great Lakes Dual Sporters Club did a great job of soliciting the prizes and in announcing the winners. It was a great time and Tom, Bill, and myself were winners. I chose a BMW tee shirt which was compliments of Milwaukee BMW. We had discussed whether or not we would ride Sunday's 104 mile event or not because rain storms were forecast for Saturday night and Sunday morning.

When Sunday dawned looking very threatening we decided to pack up and head home. It was clearing up

and looking good as we neared the Michigan/Ohio border and the traffic at one interchange was really backed up. The commotion was caused by very significant tornado damage to quite a few buildings. Otherwise, the ride home was uneventful. This was my second dual sport ride this year on the KTM. The events couldn't have been more different from one another but I enjoyed them both.

Memorial Ride

By Mike LaBar

When Bill Berry sends out a Sunday ride announcement on a Friday afternoon, riders should take notice. I did. You can count on 3 things with a BB ride. First, you know you will be taking a great route. Second, you won't go hungry. Third, you will discover roads that you have not ridden.

<Bill's email excerpt>

**Are ya feeling down 'cause you couldn't make it to a rally this weekend?
Need a break from family get-togethers?
Need a break from the Honey-do-List?
Make up your own excuse.**

I qualified for this ride and met Bill, Derek Pierce, his wife, and friend for breakfast. I thoroughly enjoyed riding the ridges on 62 in KY. Great road surface, great vistas, nicely banked curves, and no traffic, make for a memorable ride. We took 62 to Cynthiana, stopped for rehydration, then 36 to 330, and 22 to 43 to get to Shelbyville. We ate good que at the Ken-Tex Bar-B-Q. Notice Bill retrieving his rain cover. Of course it poured while we ate. Just down the road a bit we had our dessert at the Homemade Ice Cream and Pie Kitchen.—Yum. We proceeded north on 53 to 42 to our next stop, Larry Lovejoy's in Warsaw. We found Larry and Gail on their pontoon boat at the dock heading out. We stayed a short while, rehydrating before we head on. What a great day of riding. Thanks Bill



Let's Go Topless!

by Tom Raybuck

The weather is getting better every day and it was time to get the convertible out. Thinking it might be a neat idea to get the other club members with convertibles together for a ride, I sent out a feeler email for a "Let's go topless ride". I thought there were 6 or 7 convertibles in the group, so I waited for replies. First was Jim Smith; he sold his Mazda awhile back. One down. Then, George Nyktas replied, that it was a good idea, but he was in Chicago. Two down. Next was Bill Wright, with an "I'm ready, where are we going"? No one else replied, so it was Bill, Sheila, Joni, and me.

Since Joni had never been to Rabbit Hash, we picked that as our destination. I knew of a little diner in Florence, KY, but could not think of its name. A help request was sent to the club, but no one knew the name. I received some good suggestions of other spots (future ride breakfasts?) but none were the one I was thinking of. A 411.com search landed me with Mary's Place on Dixie Hwy. I thought the place was a woman's name and on the map it looked to be in the right area so the spot was set. Bill and I decided to meet for lunch and run down to the Rabbit Hash General Store.

This would be the VW Rabbit's first time out in awhile, so I was up early to get the oil changed and fill the tank. I was welcomed by a light rain and nasty black clouds. Not at all what the weatherman had predicted! My Rabbit is a 1984 with the original vinyl top, so I try to put it up and down only once a year to save the wear and tear on it. I had made the appointment at Goodyear already so I put the top back up and was on my way. As they were servicing the car, I watched as the dark clouds slowly started to change to blue skies off to the west. "This may end up clearing out after all", I thought. After the oil change and a tire rotation, I was off to Kroger to fill up the tank. I took a short ride to pump a little fuel through the car and headed home. Bill had left a message that he had a small antifreeze leak and was not going to be at Mary's by 11:00, as planned. Turned out to be a good thing, as the weather was getting better all the time. I hosed the road film off the car and put the top back down. New plan, lunch at 12:00 worked for both of us.

Car cleaned, top down, sun shining, and we were off. By the time we headed to Florence, the sun was getting warmer and the roads were almost dry. We get down to the Mt. Zion exit and head over to Dixie to the diner. When we turn the corner, I realize that the diner there isn't Mary's. A quick call to Bill and Sheila and it turns out they are already at Mary's, about a block away. We drive a little further and park next to the Wright's TT. They've already gotten the lowdown on the lunch specials -- pork loin and Salisbury steak. A nice "light" lunch for us! We chat for a while and hit the road. As soon as we get on Mt. Zion, the traffic clears and we have an uninterrupted ride out through the country. Driving through the woods, I swear the temperature dropped by 20 degrees. I look in my mirror and can see Bill's hair blowing in the wind! No, wait, that would be Sheila! As we are cruising along, I try to tell Joni what to expect at Rabbit Hash. We roll down the Rabbit Hash hill and the parking lot was blocked off with yellow caution tape, which kind of took the climax of our arrival away. We



have to park across the street by the gift shops, but not a problem. We'd made it!

After stretching a little, we walk over to the General Store where a couple of old men were sitting. We asked why the lot was blocked and they said a Chevelle Car Club was coming and the area was saved for them to line up the cars. Cool, a bunch of hot rods coming. Joni goes in the store and from the look on her face, I know I'm in trouble. As she started looking around, Bill and I bought some birch beer and headed outside for a bit. Joni picked out a

handful of trinkets and trash and seemed to be having a good time. We sit under a tree and enjoy our sodas and just talk a bit. Bill is excited to find an old country sign in one of the stores with his all-time favorite meal -- a "Blue Plate Special" of meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, and green beans. (If you ever need Bill to do something for you, this meal just might be the perfect bribe.) Just as we're leaving the shop, we hear the sounds of big block Chevy power coming down the hill. We stand at the side of the road as 7 or 8 very nice old cars roll down the hill and back into a line in front of the store. We look around the cars a bit, check out the few bikes that had shown up, play with a few dogs that were running around, then decide to head over to Jane's Saddlebag and see what was going on over there.

We head over along the river and the smell from the fresh rain was just about perfect. This was an added bonus to the trip, and after all, who can resist the temptation of pie? We walked in to a full house and ordered two Ice Age (ice cream) pies and a strawberry shortcake. Yummy! Sure hit the spot on a 90 degree day. We walked around the grounds a bit, looked at more old signs in the gift shop and bunkhouse, and decided we had to get there one day to watch a show in the amphitheater. We got back on the road and took 75 North. What a change from the quiet wooded roads in Rabbit Hash and Big Bone Lick State Park! Waved goodbye to Bill and Sheila and we continued on to West Chester. Good friends, good food, good weather, and good roads. Good day.



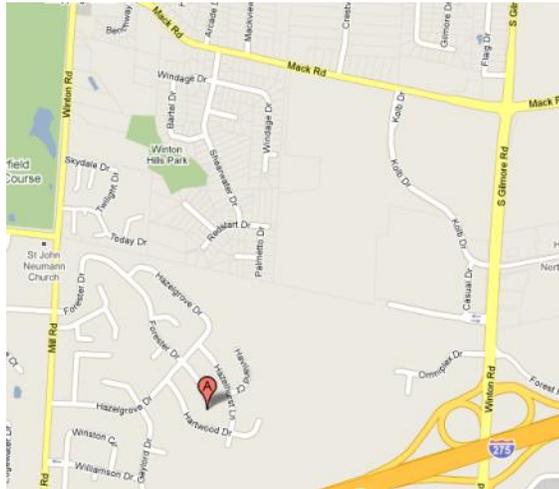
Visit our friends in Columbus
www.motohio.com

MOTOHIO
european motorbikes



Chris and Joe Berry are hosting our July meeting. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm, but you will want to come early for the Triple B (Berry Brothers BBQ) barbecue cook off. Bill on Brisket, Joe on pork Butt. That leaves us to the ribs.

1341 Forester Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45240

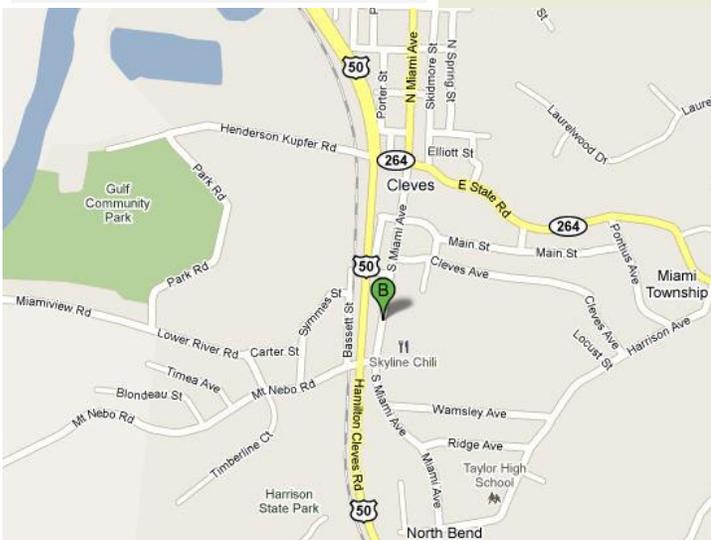


Meeting Schedule for 2010

January.....	Joe & Chris Berry
February.....	Tom & Joni Raybuck
March.....	Barb & John Fischer
April 10th.....	Steve & Karen Thoerner
May 8th.....	Mike & Kim LaBar
June 12th.....	Eric Ratterman & Jessie BauBlitz @ Autobahn Craftwerks
July 10th.....	Joe & Chris Berry (triple B cook-off)
August 7th.....	Larry Lovejoy & Gail Deatherage
September 11th.....	Joe & Linda DeLuca
October 2nd.....	Tom & Cheryl Ritter
November 13th.....	Tom & Joni Raybuck
December.....	Holiday Party

Breakfast Ride July 4th

9:00 am Nick's American Cafe
248 south Miami Ave
Clevs, OH



GCBMWC Dues

\$15.00 for a single membership or \$18.00 for both single & associate

Send your dues to:

Debbie Smith
3646 Longhorn Dr.
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Greg Feeler, BMW MOA President, and Pieter de Waal, Vice President, BMW Motorrad USA, presented our S1000RR Superbike Superstakes Grand Prize winner, Campbell Tellman, with a surrogate S1000RR (he'll get his bike through his local dealer). Campbell is a long time BMW rider from North Carolina who attended the World Superbike races as a part of his prize package, and he is very excited about winning the S1000RR and intends to ride it on a regular basis.



A good traveler has no fixed plans, and is not intent on arriving.

Lao Tzu

June 2010 Minutes

The club held their May meeting at Autobahn Craftwers The meeting started at 7:45 pm on 6//12/10.

There were approximately 30 members in attendance.

The minutes of the prior meeting were read by Mike LaBar.

The treasury report was read by Debbie Smith.

Beginning balance: \$1,440.07

Dues of \$18 & 50/50 of \$25 collected for a total of \$43.

Ending balance \$1,483.07

There are 41 paid membership with 70 members



OLD BUSINESS

Tom Ritter lead 5 riders on the June Breakfast ride from Pearls Diner to the Brookville area.

Christmas Party – Jimmy Smith is checking on a facility. More focus on this event in the next few months.

Logo—Work is currently going on. Samples to come in the next few months

Guests Jim Wilson and J.R. Landen were in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

George reported on the World Superbike races in Utah.

Joe Berry announced the Triple B (Berry Brothers BBQ) contest for the July 10th meeting.

Members are participating in the Triple D contest.

Mandy Langston of the MOA contacted Bill Wright to ask if he would do a write-up on our club.

Deal's Gap section closed until mid July

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm

Eric Ratterman who the 50/50

From Jimmy Smith regarding our Holiday Party:

The Mariners Inn, in the Lakota Plaza, on Cincinnati Dayton Rd., about one mile from the I-75 exit, still has Dec. 11 and 18 open at the moment. Their price per person is \$19.95, but there are more expensive options. There is a 17% service charge and gratuity charge, plus tax, added on to that. This includes a choice of 4 different meats, 3 side dishes, and includes salad, rolls and dressing. They serve bottled beer, of the usual domestic varieties, but other, more expensive beer can be had.

They also have a large variety of "a la carte" items., for an additional charge, priced per 50 pieces. Such as apple crescents for \$24.95, deviled eggs, cheese platters, finger sandwich platters, etc., all for different prices.

This place is owned by Cincinnati Catering, the manager is Tom Stine, and his phone is 513-755-8600.

July 2010

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
				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

August 2010

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
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				

September 2010

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
			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		

October 2010

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	S
					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						

Rallies & Events

June 30—July 3
Honda Wing Ding
 Des Moines, IA

July 9-11
AMA Vintage Days
 Lexington, OH

July 15-18,
MOA International Rally
<http://www.bmwmoa.org/rally10>
 Redmond, Oregon
 Sunny and 70

July 29 – Aug 1
RA National Rally at Green Mountain Energy Park in Pownal, Vermont.
<http://www.bmwra.org/rally/>

Aug 9-15
Sturgis Rally
 Sturgis, SD

Sept 24-26
GCBMW C Gathering at Iron Horse Campground
 Cherochala Skyway, TN

2010 AMA Superbike Racing - Championship Schedule

July 16-18 Mid Ohio Lexington, OH
August 13-15 Virginia Int'l Raceway/Alton, VA
September 3-5 New Jersey Motorsports Park Millville, NJ
September 24-26 Barber Motorsports Park Birmingham, Alabama
<http://www.amapracing.com/>

MotoGP 2010 Provisional Schedule: [Nicky & Casey Team Ducati 2010 video](#)

July 4: Catalunya - Catalunya
 July 18: Germany - Sachsenring
July 25 *: United States - Laguna Seca**
 August 15: Czech Rep. - Brno
August 29: Indianapolis - Indianapolis
 September 12: San Marino & Riviera di Rimini - Misano
 September 19: Hungary - Balatonring
 October 10: Malaysia - Sepang
 October 17: Australia - Phillip Island
 October 31: Portugal - Estoril
 November 7: Valencia-Ricardo Tormo – Valencia



President Ritter and John Fischer rode their bicycles to the Auto Show in Glendale.

RIDE SAFE.

Website of the Month

[WWW. Kayak.com/explore](http://WWW.Kayak.com/explore)

If you have to travel by air this site shows the cheapest airfares in the last 48 hours.

Thanks too everyone who have added great content to the newsletter. You too can contribute to the newsletter . Your content is appreciated and will make for a better publication.

Plus you can win a motorcycle. Send content to:

labrew@gmail.com