



**“Carpe Viam” - - - “Seize the Road”**

**GCBMWC e-letter — [neiljones@aol.com](mailto:neiljones@aol.com)**

October 1, 2008

**October!**  
**Prettiest month**  
**of the year!**  
**Let's go leaf peep!**



GCBMWC  
on the Web  
[www.GCBMWC.org](http://www.GCBMWC.org)

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***Eleventh Issue by New Editor!***

October and motorcycling. You just can't get a much better match than that. I'm packing (at least mentally) for the Blue Ridge Rendezvous, the Iron Horse Gathering, the GCBMWC Oct.3-5 event this weekend at Stecoah, NC. I've been to this lodge/campground for a Horizons Unlimited meeting 2 summers ago. This place is so scenic, the roads are so curvy that whenever I'm there I always look at places for sale. I've had my bike on gravel and dirt here, tried to keep up with Merrill on Rt. 28 (as good as the Gap), and I expect lots of fun as good friends gather.

Neil the Editor



## Greater Cincinnati BMW Club 2008 Officers

President .....	Bob Ulrich	rulrich@ameritech.net
Vice President .....	John Fischer	JBFischer@fuse.net
Treasurer .....	Tom Ritter	tritter5@cinci.rr.com
Secretary .....	Neil Jones	NeilJones@aol.com
Web Master ...	Mike LaBar	LaBrew@gmail.com

**New Members are always welcome!**

Bring cash or check to a meeting or mail a check to  
Tom Ritter, 9881 Voyager Way, Cincinnati, OH 45252  
Single member \$15. Couple \$18.

### Club Breakfast & Ride Sunday, Oct. 5

**John Fischer, VP of Rides sez:** *Next Sunday's breakfast ride for me will be from the Iron Horse Motorcycle Campground to the house. For those not going to this year's "alternative rally" or fall unwind event in North Carolina, I think it would be nice if someone would announce a breakfast ride for the Cincinnati area. Any volunteers? I hope to see most of you at the Iron Horse. John F. (513) 385-1497*

# Next Club Meeting Saturday October 11!

At the home of Tom & Joni Raybuck!

7703 Shady Lane

West Chester, Ohio 45069



Meeting host Tom Raybuck

October 11, @ 7PM

Bring a dish of veggies, a dessert, or just show up empty-handed and mooch. All of the above are acceptable behaviors at the Raybuck home.

For a map, Google the address above. For voice directions call Tom & Joni @ (513) 759-0889



# Rallies & Events

## October, 2008

- **October 3-5**
- **GCBMWC Blue Ridge Rendezvous**
- near Robbinsville, NC
- [www.gcbmwc.com](http://www.gcbmwc.com)
  
- **October 3-5**
- **Return to Shiloh Rally**
- Picwick Dam, TN
- [www.bmwrams.com](http://www.bmwrams.com)
  
- **October 10-12**
- **Falling Leaf Rally**
- Potosi, MO
- [www.gatewayriders.com](http://www.gatewayriders.com)
- 
- **October 15-19**
- **International BMW M/C Rally**
- Guadalajara, MEX
- [www.bmwmotorradgdl.com.mx](http://www.bmwmotorradgdl.com.mx)

NC October 3 - 5

**Blue Ridge Rendezvous** also known by other names, is the GCBMWC annual alternative to raking leaves at home. Iron Horse M/C Lodge at Stecoah, NC is 10 miles from Robbinsville at the end of Deal's Gap. Camp out or try your luck getting a lodge room. Iron Horse M/C Lodge is our host. This is a beautiful corner of America. Great roads! Great company!

TN October 3 - 5, 2008

### **34th Return To Shiloh Rally**

"Best Rally by a Dam Site", located at the TVA campground on the East bank of the Tennessee River at Pickwick Dam. BMW awards, door prizes, firewood, hot showers, vendors and restaurants nearby. Historic Shiloh Military Park is nearby. BBQ dinner and band Friday night.  
[www.bmwrams.com](http://www.bmwrams.com) .

MO October 10 - 12, 2008

**33rd Falling Leaf Rally** The premier Fall rally in the Midwest. Potosi, Missouri, door prizes, rally pin, guided gravel rd ride, observation run, Fri. hot dog roast, Sat. pancake breakfast, lunch sandwiches, & BBQ dinner [www.gatewayriders.com](http://www.gatewayriders.com).

MEX October 15-19

### **International Rally of BMW Motorcycles**

Two nights in the historic city of Guadalajara followed with two days in the world-class beach resort town of Puerto Vallarta.  
([www.bmwmotorradgdl.com.mx](http://www.bmwmotorradgdl.com.mx))



**Minutes from the September 6, 2008  
Meeting of the GCBMWC  
at the Cincinnati home of  
Barbara & John Fischer**

*(Prior to the meeting, attendees were treated to some nice sandwiches, chips & dips, cheeses, a huge bowl of fresh fruit, beverages and a variety of cookies, brownies, & cakes.)*

*President Bob Ulrich called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.*

**Officers present:** *Pres. Bob Ulrich, Vice Pres. John Fischer, Treasurer Tom Ritter, Secretary Neil Jones.*

**Members present:** *John & Barbara Fischer, Debbie & Allen Smith, Bill Hanna, Steve & Karen Thoerner, Bob Ulrich, Tom Raybuck, Mary & Henry Pierce, Jeff Lemkuhl, Tom & Cheryl Ritter, Jim & Deana Smith, Neil Jones.*

*Neil Jones read the minutes from the prior meeting. Minutes were accepted as presented.*

**Treasurer Tom Ritter** *reported that the previous balance in the club account was \$2,090 and that the club had income of \$18 and no expenditures making the September 6 balance \$2,108. The club has 40 paid members for 2008. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.*

**Old Business**

*Several club members are riding to Indianapolis for MOTO GP. Steve Thoerner has one friend, who happens to live there and offers camping space and a creek. John Fischer plans to also stay for the flat track races while in Indy.*

*Tom Raybuck spoke about 17 members of the Battle Creek BMW club coming to his home on Sept. 20. Events include a 150 mile ride starting Saturday at 9 and special entertainment at 6 PM, followed by dinner.*

*The October 3-4 club event at Iron Horse M/C Campground finally has a name. It will henceforth be referred to as the Blue Ridge Rendezvous & Alternative Rally.*

*Members were encouraged to bring friends to the December 13 Holiday Party to be held at the Hall and Biergarten at Germania Park.*

*Members discussed using the new club logo on business cards and T-shirts. Tom Raybuck will check with a T-shirt screen printer he knows in Fairborn.*

## **New Business**

Tom Raybuck asked if the October meeting could be rescheduled for October 18. A motion to that effect was presented and passed by majority vote.

Bob Ulrich announced an Ohio-RA event Sept. 19 & 20 in Salem, Ohio.

Allan Smith offered to host the November meeting at their home in Ross. There being no objections, that location will be added to the meeting schedule.

Bob Ulrich reminded members that Club Officer election process starts with nominations at the October meeting.

## **Announcements**

Jim & Deana Smith visited the Beemers in the Bluegrass earlier that day and said attendance appeared to be less than average.

Discussion was held on of a variety of motorcycle topics, including past rallies, camping and riding in the rain, cleaning and waterproofing fabric riding wear.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:27 PM. Motion carried.

[After adjournment the 50-50 drawing was held wherein Barbara Fischer drew a ticket held by Jimmy Smith, who claimed the \$23 prize.]

Next meeting, October 18 at the home of Tom & Joni Raybuck in West Chester.

Minutes prepared by Neil Jones, Club Secretary.



# 2008 GCBMW Membership List

Jack & Arlene Basham  
George Becker  
Woody & Tena Benson  
Joe & Chris Berry  
Bill & Nancy Berry  
Mike & Barbara Crum  
Greg & Kathy Cullers  
Alan Disher  
John & Barb Fischer  
Ken Francois  
Gary & Sue Franklin  
Merrill & Diane Glos  
Bill Hanna  
Neil Jones  
J. Chris Katzer  
Mike & Kim LaBar  
Allen Leach  
Jeffrey E. Lemkuhl  
Chris & Anne Long  
Larry Lovejoy & Gail Deatherage

Curt Nichols  
Ken & Helen Norris  
George Nyktas & Mary Tholking  
Karl Perry  
Henry & Mary Pierce  
Tom & Joni Raybuck  
Tom & Cheryl Ritter  
John Sires  
Jim & Deana Smith  
Allan & Debbie Smith  
Steve & Karen Thoerner  
Ralph & Terri Todd  
Bob & Gail Ulrich  
Robert Utz  
John Wharton  
Pete Wilton  
  
Bill & Shelia Wright  
Kregg Wright



**Thank you to each person who has joined the club in 2008.**

**If your name is missing from this list, contact club Treasurer Tom Ritter at:  
[Tritter5@cinci.rr.com](mailto:Tritter5@cinci.rr.com)**

**Memberships dues are \$15 single, \$18 couple.**

## Schedule of 2008-9 Club Meetings

Date	Location/Hosted By
January 2009	
February 2009	
March 2009	
October 11, 2008	Tom & Joni Raybuck
November 8, 2008	Allan & Debbie Smith
December 13, 2008	Christmas Holiday Event





Identify this high style V-twin bike and win a free beer at the Raybuck home on October 11. (This is no Yamaha)



On a recent visit to Versailles, Ohio, **Bill Wright** ran into his look-alike. On Tuesdays they go to the same barber. On Thursdays they both wear green.

# From Cincinnati to Moto GP

(Batteries die, tents fly)

Story by Mike LaBar

I met Pete Wilton on Friday at 1:00 PM in the rain. I had donned my Frogg Toggs anticipating rain. When I got to Pete's, he had his Toggs on, bike running ready to go. It rained most the way to Indianapolis but I was dry. Dry until we hit 465 at Indy. Sitting in traffic, in the pouring rain, water began accumulating in my right boot. We arrived at our Super 8 around 3:00 and shortly after the rain stops. Now Pete's K100RS won't start. Dead battery. Fortunately, there is a dealer in town. A call to BMW of Indianapolis, and a battery is set aside and prepped for Saturday morning. It's amazing how fast a hair dryer can dry out boots, helmets, gloves.

Saturday morning I push start the K bike and we head to the dealer. The dealership had the demo fleet truck there and Beemers everywhere. Pete installs his new battery and I run into the Iron Bunny, Robert Munday, buying t-shirts and Ed Buelsing and his wife checking out the dealership. We head to the track after gassing up and watch the qualifying from the infield. Later, we went to the fairgrounds and waited in traffic for a very long time to get into the parking lot. The Harley in front of us was getting pushed. Bikes were hot and tempers were flaring. Next time, I'm buying tickets in advance.



Photo by Robert Munday, used with permission, I think.

Sunday, race day, and Ike is closing in on Indy. We arrive at the track around 11 and it still dry, but not for long. The 125 race was run somewhat dry, but the 250 race was rescheduled for 4:30 and later cancelled. The rain came and let up in time for the 3:00 start of the best riders in the world, but the wind did not let up. It sure was fun watching Nicky lead the race in the first few laps, but Valentino ended up winning after 20 laps completed after the race was red flagged for the wind. At that point Pete and I were in the Buell tent watching the race on TV, when we witness the Yamaha tent break loose and fly like a kite. After the race, we wait in the parking lot until we see some movement. We gear up and inch our way through Indy for what seems like eternity until we hit 65 south. Wind and rain on the way home. We were lucky to find an open gas station on the way home. It felt very strange riding through town with so much power out and yellow-taped off roads, but it always feels good to be home, even without electricity and a huge mess to clean.



Photo by Mike LaBar



GCBMWC WebMaster Mike LaBar at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.



Photo by Mike LaBar

## LETTERS FROM PEPA

8/15/08 Today Gail & I began our Western trip. We made it to Indy. Sunday we'll head to East Troy WI for couple of days, then off to Sturgis to meet up with a couple that will ride with us to Midway Utah for the Curve Cowboy reunion at the Zermatt Spa & Resort, Aug 26-29. After that we'll head to Las Vegas for a few days, then to San Antonio

TX for a couple of days, then Memphis and the head back to Warsaw. September 15th or so.

All my travels in the past I have used my GPS system (Get People Specifics) by using maps and stopping to ask people. Well, a friend loaned me their Magellan, which I hooked up yesterday to the trike, and used it today, pretty neat. OK, we'll take pictures for Neil.

Larry & Gail

8/23/08 Just a note on how we are doing. Gone for a week now, longest day was 571 miles across South Dakota, the winds were brutal. Only getting mid 20's on the mileage. My extra fuel tank developed a problem last Sunday, so I had to clamp the hose to keep the fuel from draining out of the main tank. Hannigan Trikes sent me a new check valve which I installed yesterday, at my friends house here in Sturgis. Did Spearfish today, and will do a lot tomorrow with our friends.

Monday we head to Utah. Weather has been great, 70's today with a low of 48 tonight. I would include pics if I knew how.

Larry & Gail

8/23/08 It was not a typo. At first the fuel flowing back into the aux. tank, was causing low readings. After clamping off the line, and getting hit with the cross winds, mid 20's was the deal. Talked to couple of riders returning from Sturgis and they were all reporting low mileage due to winds. Yesterday (still windy around here) we were getting low 30's without luggage. Without my aux tank, I was stopping for gas every 100 miles, I felt like one of those "other brand" riders.

Winds are suppose to be calm today, as we plan to ride the hills today.

Larry & Gail

8/29/08 I've been a little bummed out last two days here in Utah. After arriving here on Tues, and talking to fellow LT'ers, about my mileage being in the 20's, the concensus was I had 02 sensor failure. Took the bike in to Salt Lake BMW dealer and they confirmed, and had to order the part over night for Thurs install. Wrong, BMW did not ship till yesterday, so installed and picked up this afternoon. So no riding around the area last two days, just lying around the pool and relaxing. Trip back to Zermatt I was getting 41 MPG (24MPG on the way down the other day).

On a more serious note, fellow CCR and Cincinnati guy who rode with club last Sunday ride, Dan Fazzino, had a heart attack on his trip out here and wound up with 4 stents. He arrived yesterday via car after storing his LT, which he will come out in a month to ride back home. He is doing fine and plans to join the club. Tomorrow we head down the road 40 miles for dinner with old friend of

Gail's, then Sunday we head to Vegas.

Larry & Gail

## LETTERS FROM PEPA - CONTINUED

9/1/08 Hello from Las Vegas (Gail's 1st time) We did Bryce Canyon today on our way here from Provo. Weather range today was a low of 52 in Bryce and 98 along I-15 into Vegas. Gas mileage was in upper 30's until we hit I-15 and the winds were brutal again, dropped to 34mpg. A lot better than the 21-24 I was getting before repair.

Here 3 nights then off to Flagstaff AZ. Intend to do Hoover Dam, the North Rim and ??

Larry & Gail

9/6/08 Gail & I spent today at the BMW shop in Albuquerque NM. Oil & Filter and funky cruise control was the main reason, but then found out that we blew a shock. Originally thought diff seal was blown. Local trike shop took a quick look, and said rear end was fine, just a blown shock (told Gail she packed too much).

Off to San Antonio tomorrow, hey McCain & Palen due in town tonight, bunch of troopers getting their BMW police bikes today for the escort. I'll visit dealer in Belton TX for the shock repair (Hannigan already had contacted them, before I called them, now that is good old KY service)

Speaking of KY the service writer at Sandia BMW is from Carrollton KY, 17 miles down the road from Warsaw. Knows all Gail's relatives, went to school with her cousin's husband, small world.

Larry & Gail

9/10/08 Hello from San Antonio. I think last update was from Vegas. Since then we did the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, last Weds. We then headed to Tuba City AZ where I called ahead to Albuquerque NM to BMW store for Oil/filter and check my erratic cruise control. Spoke to service writer who grew up in Carrollton KY and knows Gail's step kids.

Well upon arrival on Friday, he crawled under bike and told me I had leak, rear end he thought, which they could not work on due to trike. I rode over to a trike shop that took quick look and said I had a blow shock spewing oil everywhere. Back to BMW where they checked cruise control sensor and o/f change. Sunday we headed toward TX, as we were heading along 380 in NM temps around 80, it clouded up and next thing we were getting hit with hail and temps dropped to 52. I looked at road and realized it was covered with hail and looked like solid ice. We did 490 miles that without any cruise just straight roads. That night I got my repair cd out and started reading about cruise, found some info on adjustments, and tried them with no results. Monday we awoke to rain and headed on to San Antonio. As we made stops I continued to make adjustments and cruise began to work on and off for awhile. On Tuesday I rode up to Bellton TX to have both shocks replaced by the Hannigan dealer up there, super nice guy and all work was under warranty. I continued to make adjustments on the 321 miles day, and I think it may be working properly, at least it did for the last 104 miles.

San Antonio is really neat, Gail has been here before, I never have. We head toward Memphis tomorrow, get out of here before Hurricane Ike gets here.

Larry & Gail

## GCBMWC Bike for Sale

**2004 BMW K 1200 GT**, Sport Touring at its best. Excellent condition, garage kept with cover. Loaded with ABS, electronic cruise, heated seat and grips, electric windshield, locking hard bags. New Metzlers with only 3,000 miles on them. Absolute performance & comfort. 4-cylinder, blistering 130hp engine that is smooth as silk.

Only 12,400 mi. Givi top case and taller winter windshield available at extra cost. Must see. I HATE to sell her, but wife needs me to reduce my bike fleet. \$10,500,

**Kregg Wright**

**859 992 6996**

