



# Das Kummert

The Tidewater Chapter (Bey Em Vey Corporation) of the BMW Car Club of America Inc. is an independent group of BMW owners and is not associated with the manufacturer, importer, or dealers of BMW automobiles. Meetings are held as they are announced in this publication generally in the third week of the month.

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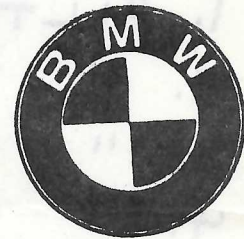
## TIDEWATER CHAPTER OFFICERS

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## ACTIVITIES

- Saturday    April 22    The fabulous BMW Club  
7th Birthday party. If  
you miss this, shame on  
you. See inside for  
Details.
- Saturday    April 29    Tech Session At Rusty's.  
102 Charles Ave in  
Portsmouth. 12 noon, \$2  
per car to cover refresh-  
ments.
- Tuesday    May 2    Dinner Meeting at the old  
favorite, the Blue Hawaii  
at Janaf shopping center. The  
food, drinks and atmosphere  
are always great.

8:00 pm



**KLN TODD**  
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ALL CAR CLUBS WELCOME

THE BMW CLUB  
IS HAVING ITS

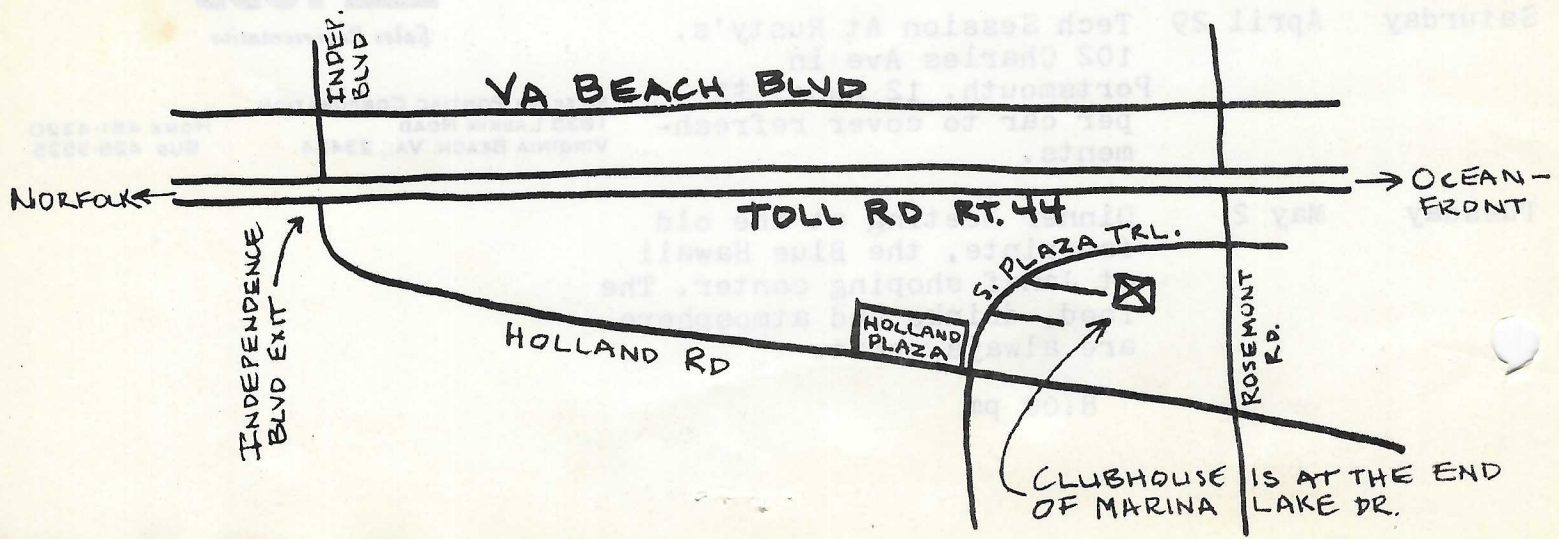
" 7<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY "

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 8PM

AT  
WINDSOR LAKE APARTMENTS  
CLUBHOUSE  
MARINA LAKE DRIVE  
VIRGINIA BEACH

\$ 2.50 PER PERSON INCLUDES:

- |    |              |               |
|----|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | ALL THE BEER | YOU CAN DRINK |
| 2. | " " FOOD     | " " EAT       |
| 3. | " " MUSIC    | " " HEAR      |
| 4. | " " DANCING  | " " TAKE      |
| 5. | " " FUN      | " " STAND     |



## RESIDENTS COLUMN

Dave Pritchard and Jim Craig deserve our thanks for arranging a super evening at the Hermitage last month. The house is truly astounding in its rich wood beauty and the wine and food were tops. The grounds surrounding the Hermitage are beautiful, waterfront areas perfect for an outdoor picnic and party. We will be looking into this possibility for the summer.

It looks like warmer weather is finally upon us which, of course, means perfect conditions to stretch your bimmer legs after a good spring tuneup. One of our newest members pointed out to me recently that the money saved on parts at the club store for just one thorough tune up can almost pay a year's dues. Surely the club parts store is one of the most tangible benefits the club offers.

This Spring marks our chapters seventh year of faithful service to BMW enthusiasts in the area and to celebrate our seventh birthday we will have another beer blast at the Windsor Lakes Apts. party room on April 22nd. If you like to eat, drink and dance, don't miss it!

Rusty

## THINGS THAT MOAN IN THE NIGHT

After almost six years of frustration and revulsion, I have finally found a suitable replacement air cleaner for my Tii. Those of you who own one of the little jewels and those of you who have drooled over your friend's Tii know what a nuisance the stock air cleaner housing is. It takes up the whole left side of the engine compartment making it necessary to remove it to do many simple tasks including changing the oil filter. Besides that, the thing is just plain ugly!

Unfortunately the intake opening just ahead of the throttle valve is an odd size that does not readily fit your common everyday replacement air cleaner you can get at Max's speed shop. Recently, however, I stumbled on a Time Machines catalogue which has a full page spread on Weiand "Ram Flow" filters which come in many sizes and variations. I decided to call Time Machines, did so, and the friendly voice on the other end says, "Yeah, sure, that will be model no. 1025 and it costs \$19.95". Sold!

Three days later it's here- pretty little thing it is! The filter is oval shaped and uses a dry foam element held in place by a wire screen that fits over it. Very simple. The back plate has two small holes cut into it and two fittings are provided to hook up your breather hose. Since the air cleaner neck is not quite the same size as the intake neck, a rubber coupling is needed. After pondering what to use for a couple of days I decided to try the stock bellows and, viola, it's perfect! All that was left to do was to anchor the filter body to the engine since the bellows tends to let it droop. Charles Dickens, Mister have odd parts in stock himself, came up with a piece of steel strap with holes pre-punched. Bolting one end of the strap to the clamp that holds the oil dipstick to the injection pump and bending and shaping the strap appropriately, I bolted the other end to the air cleaner using one of the two small holes provided. The other hole was used with the fitting provided to hook up the breather hose- use a hose clamp. I simply left the hose from the gas tank vapor canister disconnected.

The change in the appearance of the engine is dramatic. Now it looks more like a purposeful, lean powerplant. I can now verify with my eyes that I really do have a brake booster, a steering box, a left side of the engine! The little bugger even sounds more powerful now, exhibiting a mean little intake moan on hard acceleration. I like it.

Rusty

## AN OLD PROBLEM REVISITED

1600/2002 models have always been susceptible to electrical vagaries concerning temperature gauges. corrosion builds up and a high resistance connection causes the temp gauge to either consistantly high or quite erratically. Well the 2500/2800/bavaria/3.0/3.0s etc. have the same problem and the same cure.

Installation of an auxilliary ground connection from the brass stud on the back of the temp. gauge to a good ground behind or under the dash cures this malady. A lenght of wire (16 or 18 gauge), two lug type electrical connectors, and a 4 mm nut with lockwashers are all the materials required.

Jim Craig

## SERVICE REMINDERS

You have changed you BMW's brake fluid within the past 12 months haven't you? And bled the clutch recently? And of course you've repacked the wheel bearings every 40,000 miles. Why? Brake fluid absorbs water which happens to lower the fluid's boiling point. Water can ( and will ) rust the hydraulic cylinders. Dangerously expensive. A "dry" wheel bearing can overheat and disintergrate. In doing so it can chew up your your BMW's stub axle. Or maybe the bearings will just rust itself onto the axle. Axles aren't cheap.

Jim Craig

## TRIVIA QUIZ Answers next month ( from Delaware Valley Chapter )

1. What model BMW first carried twin oval grilles? 327
2. What is the greatest number of cylinders in a BMW engine? 8
3. How many doors on a BMW 600? 1
4. What was the last successful racing year of the 328? 38
5. What is the largest displacement of a BMW street engine?
6. What is a BMW 505 and how many are there?
7. What model first carried the current design four cylinder engine? 1500
8. How many wheels does an Isetta have? 4
9. What was the first year that disc brakes were available on a BMW?
10. Can you buy a Bavaria in Germany? NO

## DEFENSIVE PARKING PART II Alan Barnes from Central Florida's "der Sonnenfleck"

Recently there have been articles in the Roundel and "der Sonnenfleck" regarding defensive parking to prevent dings and worse.

I recently have had my Bavaria repainted and have been trying to use as many of these ideas as possible, in particular parking at the furthest end of a public parking lot. It was annoying to return later and find some "disgusting American car" parked next to me, and I would often check the sides of the car before I left, to decide if any revenge was warranted.

A few weeks ago, I mentioned to a friend riding with me, as I parked, that more than likely, the car would be surrounded when we returned. Imagine my surprise when he told me he often looks for a car such as a BMW or Mercedes-Benz parked by itself when he parks his six year old Dodge, knowing the owner won't ding his door.

The moral of this storey is, check your car if you want to, but don't be angry; be flattered, unless of course you find some damage.

THE WINE AND CHEESE PARTY AT THE HERMITAGE or "If you missed this one, you really should ask the nearest available person to kick you in the hind parts without delay"

The Wine and cheese party last month was possibly the most elegant function that the club has put on to date, and at a reasonable price. The women were lovely, the men refined, the comestibles and wines great and the atmosphere sublime. The men actually managed to find something to talk about besides cars for periods of time heretofore unknown at a BMW club gathering. Don't miss the next function we have there if you missed this one. Jim Craig spent considerably more time than I did in making the evening a success with his arrangements with Chez Andre for the catering. Thank you Jim. Like I mention above, if you missed this one,....

Dave

SLEEPER " Das Bimmer Bomber" Klamath Basin Chapter

Them peepul at Duke Yewniversity sez that if you got a good education your more likely to fall asleep while driving than them which dont. In fact, Them as has masters degrees is 28 times more lykley to fall asleep at the weel than them with ony grade skool.

DECAMBER PLATES REQUIRE BIGGER ANTI SWAY BARS

Bill Gilmore in Roadrunner Chapter Newsletter

I installed the Miller & Norburn decamber plates along with the Bilstein street schocks and foud they add greatly to the self steering and to the straight ine stability. But, beware! Adding decamber plates without changing the stock front and rear bars to 19mm ones increases the cars oversteer to almost violent proportions. This happens because the plates change the front geometry and thus keep the front tires in contact with the road to a greater extent than before. By switching the stock bars to the reccomended 19mm size, you are increaseing the front roll stiffness relative to the rear. This keeps the tires on the ground better and makes them stick more than the front. What you end up with is a total package of increased, balanced handling.

SWOOPS by Barry McMillan from Vintage/Classic Bulletin

For those of you who actually beleive BMW existed before the 2002, and those few of us who can see past slab sided efficient transport, the Vintage/Classic Division announces a crusade. We have armed and organized to save the wounded pre war BMW's. They are languishing in garages all over the U.S. instead of being the four wheeled joy of your life.

We are hear to anounce that if you seriously want one, you can have a pre-war or even a V-8 BMW. We seek new owners and would like the chance to show you that it is possible to own a vintage model without being J. Paul Getty. Persistence, enthusiasm a few connections, and a moderate influx of cash can conquer all barriers.

If the thought of touring to the grocery store on weekends in your 40 year old Cabriolet jostles your mind, please write the Vintage/Classic Division in care of the national office-- we hope to incurably infect you with enthusiasm.

Remember, Slab Is Drab-But Old Is Gold

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BEY EM VEY CORP.



BEY EM VEY MEMORIAL DAY DRIVE OUT MAY 27-28-29

UP FRONT- Cost- \$60 per car-couple-family- however you people like to spend the night--This will cover lodgings for 2 nights and must be paid for by May 1.



MILEAGE- 220mi to Peaks of Otter lodge---139 mi to Big Meadows from Peaks of Otter-- About 225 mi home from Big Meadows. Approximately 580 beautiful BMW miles.

SEND OR BRING CHECKS to Linda or Charles Dickens, 608 Apache Rd. Portsmouth Va. 23701. Questions answered free from 4pm until 10pm so call or come on by. Only 10 rooms were first available so first 10 checks received will make the trip.