



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 announced in this publication.

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APRIL 1979

ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY APRIL 3
Board meeting at 608 Apache Rd., Portsmouth, Va. at 8:00 pm, all members invited. These meetings are your chance to have a say in making it happen the way you want it to happen.

SATURDAY APRIL 14
Tech Session at the home of Richard Desilets, 1117 Geranium Crescent in Virginia Beach. It will start at 12 noon and \$2 per car will be collected to cover the event. To get to Richards house travel south on Holland road from Independence Blvd (either from Virginia Beach Blvd or the interstate) or Rosemont Rd., also an interstate-Va. Beach exit-intersection, anyway, go south on Holland Rd. till you get to Green Run Blvd. which pulls off Holland Rd. just across from The Safeway supermarket. Turn Right on to Green Run Blvd. Geranium is the second right turn off Green Run Blvd. Richard's number is 427-6416.

SUNDAY THE 22th
Progressive Diner. This event was explained in some detail in the March Das Kummert so I'll just say that I only need 2 more generous host & hostess so that we can get on with the nity-gritty planning of details.**CALL ME for reservations by April 15th- deadline will be final.

SUNDAY APRIL 29
Our own "Why Not Have A Driver's School?" Pre registration is open now at \$8 per driver. Registration

ACTIVITES CON'T

after April 14th will cost \$10 so sign up early to save a couple of bucks and help us to do the best job of planning. See Rusty Barton's column for details.

MAY 1****

This is the absolute dead line to sign up for the "We know Why the Blue Ridge is Blue" Tour. Pleas look elsewhere in this issue for a rerun of Eddie Hardman's column on last years tour or ask somebody that went.

This year the cost is up slightly but is still the best value going for three days and two nights of fun with your one and only. Bring your spouse and/or kids and we'll have another memorable time.

The cost, which covers rooms for may 26th at Bluffs Lodge in Doughton Park near Sparta, N.C. and May 27th at Peaks of Otter near Bedford, Va. is \$80.00 per couple. Send your check to Charles Dickens, 608 Apache Rd., Portsmouth, Va. 23701.

SUNDAY MAY 6

Tech Session at Bill Ward's home near Williamsburg.

JUNE 2/

At rockingham, N.C., the Tarheel Chapter 1979 Treffin Drivers School. Watch for your chance to sign up in the April Roundel. Anyone interested call me.

SUNDAY JUNE 10

TECH SESSION and swap meet at Steve Garner's house in Newport News, Va.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Our Chapter's 8th Birthday party was a super time. It was well attended and as usual, the food was great. Charles provided a beautiful cake appropriately emblazoned with the BMW logo. Atlantic BMW's door prizes were very well received. They included a set of model BMW's, a BMW T shirt, and a very neat trouble light that plugs into the cigar lighter in your car. We thank Atlantic for their recognition of our birthday.

Lots of things are coming up in the next few weeks- Drivers School, Spring Tour, Progressive Dinner, and more. There is an activity to suit virtually every taste, and I hope to see all of you soon at whatever activity you prefer.

Spring is springing (Ithink). Time to get out and give your Bimmer a little TLC after a hard winter of neglect (unless you are lucky enough to have a heated garage). This should include a tune-up, cooling system check, oil changeand general once over to correct those niggling problems you have put off until warmer weather hits. Don't forget to wash the rust off the enderside of your car, rust is expensive.

Rusty

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6 BOARD MEETING, TIDEWATER CHAPTER, BMWCCA

Board meetings will be held the first tuesday of the month. Other dates are the 15th of the month for material for the newsletter and the 25th for getting the newsletter to Richard Desilet.

Coming events:

Tech session at Richard Desilet's house on 14 April, '79, Saturday.

Progressive dinner 22 April 79, THURSDAY. April 1 is the deadline to participate--period.

Driver's school 27 April 79, SUNDAY. \$8 fee for those who register before 15 April. \$10 if you miss the deadline. We anticipate instruction on suspension by Jim Craig (please come Jim.), Technical Inspection, and and instruction on car handling and autocross type techniques are anticipated. (Use the 14 April Tech Session to prepare your car for the Drivers school)

Board meeting on 3 apr 79 will be at the home of Charles Dickens.

May Tech Session will be at the home of Bill Ward

Drive Out 26-28 May

June Tech Session will ask Steve Garner. Date 9 June 79. We hope to have swap meet in conjunction with the tech session.

WE NEED 320i tech tips as well as 6 cylinder tech tips for newsletter.

THE NATIONAL organization is anticipating a membership drive. We will prepare our own flier inserts to put inside the fliers that National provides. We will include such items as information as tech sessions, get togethers, drive outs, technical information, club parts which are all available to our Tidewater Chapter members. Elected to the committee on same are Dave Pritchard and Mike Mc Allister.

Also discussed were Tidewater BMWCCA patches. We want some and Charles will look into prices and availability.

Driver's School at Rockingham 2 June 79, sponsored by the Tarheel Chapter. What an opportunity. There will be a limit of 60 drivers, so if you want to participate, you had best make a reservation now. Contact Charles Dickens for information.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR- I don't get letters any more. Back when I did, well, I won't get into that now. Any way , in order to have a column like this at all, I have to barrow as I do for many other parts of DAS KUMMET from other chapter newsletters. This is from the BOSTON BIMMER.

Dear Editor;

I've been wondering why we call our cars "Bimmers". Do you know?

(signed) Mystified in Medford

Of course. Early in the fourteenth century, a German carpenter, Adolph Meisterbanger, invented the wagon. Unfortunatley, he couldn't think of any way to pull it, so he used it only as an over-large tool box. An itinerant storey teller named Hans Christian Beimer came into town on his donkey and, while staying the night , tied his animal to the wagon. When it was discovered that the donkey could pull the wagon, it was immediately christened "Beimer's Ultimate Traveling Machine". It soon developed a front wheel shimmy. Beimer (Bimmer) became famous as the first man in Europe to get his ass in gear.

DRIVERS SCHOOL

On Sunday, April 29, at the Military Circle Parking lot opposite the C&P Telephone Building behind the Mall we will hold our first drivers school. This event will be for BMW owners only and will not be advertised so spectators should be at a minimum. Registration is open now, just send a check to Charles Dickens. We will also have registration the day of the event but it will cost you \$2 more for your procrastination! Registration will start at 10 am and the first phase of the school will begin at 11 am.

The school will be low key and non-competition oriented. It will be conducted in four phases. The first phase beginning at 11 am will consist of a skull session in which you will learn how to safety check your car; how most auto cross type events are run; how to handle your car in turning, acceleration, and braking maneuvers; and get some pointers on suspension tuning. Then we will break for a short lunch period.

After lunch we will conduct a technical inspection of participating cars using what we learned in the skull session.

Phase three will involve each person driving their car through the course that will be set up. An instructor will ride with you, or if you prefer, the instructor will first take your car through the course with you as a passenger and then you will trade places. After everyone has had sufficient passes at the course with an on board instructor, we will move into phase four.

The last phase will involve drivers going through the course unaccompanied but under the watchful eye of an instructor. You may run the course as many times as you like and if necessary, an instructor could ride with you again to polish up final problems.

The course will be laid out to help you experience right and left turns, acceleration, and braking responses. It will of necessity resemble an autocross type layout but I stress that this is NOT an autocross event. The only reward that will be given will be for the most improved driver.

Our objectives are to teach you how your car handles and how to handle your car. Hopefully you will learn some skills that will come in handy in emergency situations and will enable you to further enjoy the sporting capabilities of your Bimmer. This is a super chance for the female members of our club as well as the males to learn maneuvering skills in a non-competitive atmosphere.

If it rains we will postpone the event to a later date. See you on the 24th. If you have a motorcycle helmet, bring it.

Rusty

ONE THING NEEDS TO BE SAID ABOUT OUR CLUB'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DEALERS over the years. These relationships do not fall under the heading of "The good old days" to say the least. "Nuff said".

All that, it seems is in the past now since, as Rusty said in March's DAS KUMMET, Atlantic BMW Corp. has furnished two 733i's for evaluation, sponsored some very nice door prizes for our birthday party and referred many prospective members to us lately.

For the first time, to my knowledge, we are carrying a dealer advertisement in DAS KUMMET and for those of you who don't know how much this means to club finances, ask any board member.

What do we do to continue to enjoy this new harmony between the club and the dealer? Simple. Say thanks. You can do this by a verbal thank you to Ken Todd or Gene Meekins when you drop by to scout out your next set of monthly payments. You can belly up to the parts window and say to

Wyndham Curles the parts person "Hi, I am a fellow member of the BMWCCA" upon which he will reply "You get a discount". How's that for a bottom line?

If you are in for shop work the nice guy in charge is Steve Edmandson.

Last but not least, remember these people and this dealership when you buy your next Bimmer. They are in business you know.

One last big thank you to Atlantic BMW Corp., especially Gene Meekins and Ken Todd, not only for the door prizes but for a whole new feeling and sense of togetherness about these great cars we are such fools over.

Charles Dickens

TIPS FOR CHIPS from TARHEEL FOOTNOTES by Mark Borkowski

All of us loose chips of paint on the front cowl and along the fender walls. I have sometimes looked at my 2002 and thought I had been following a 328 roadster in a prewar Mille Miglia (probably a gravel truck on I-94). Here is my technique. If the ding has not broken through the primer, apply the finish coat. First the factory touchup kit--cut off the brush in the cap, it is useless. As Harrah's restoration shop recommends, The brush tip should always be smaller than the ding in the paint. A pointed sable tip brush is my choice. After touching up a spot, let it dry overnight. Then use Classic Car Wax finish restorer and fub the spot out; then wax. Clean the brush in laquer thinner and then in warm soapy water. Before it is dry, draw the tip back to a sharp point (these brushes will cost about \$1.50). If the chip goes to the bare metal, first check for rust. If the rust is only a day or so old the metal is probably not pitted. In this situation Naval Jelly will remove it. Apply with a Q-tip and follow directions. If the chip is older and the metal pited, I have resorted to a more radical solution. Remember, The spot must be absolutely free of rust. I use a Dremel hobby grinder with an accurate pointed conical stone. After the spot is brought to bare metal. clean with acetone, alcohol or laquer thinner. This insures a clean dry surface. Prime the spot with a zinc chromate primer and allow to dry over night. Then apply the finish paint as previously described. These techniques have worked for me and the dings will not rust again. I guess the only true solution is to buy the new BMW-Lamborghini fiberglass coupe and forget all this nonsense about rust and dings.

Tii MYSTERY HOSES N.J. CHAPTER by Bill machrone

There are three water hoses for the Tii that should be carried and are not readily available. Two of them go to the fuel injection pump: #11531254680 and #11531254681. The second is the same hose but shorter. If it is not available the #680 can be cut to fit.

The third hose is of normal diameter. It runs from the top of the water pump to a metal tube that connects to the heater return line. It is: #11531252227.

320i GAS CAP FIX N.J. CHAPTER by Joe Laufenberg

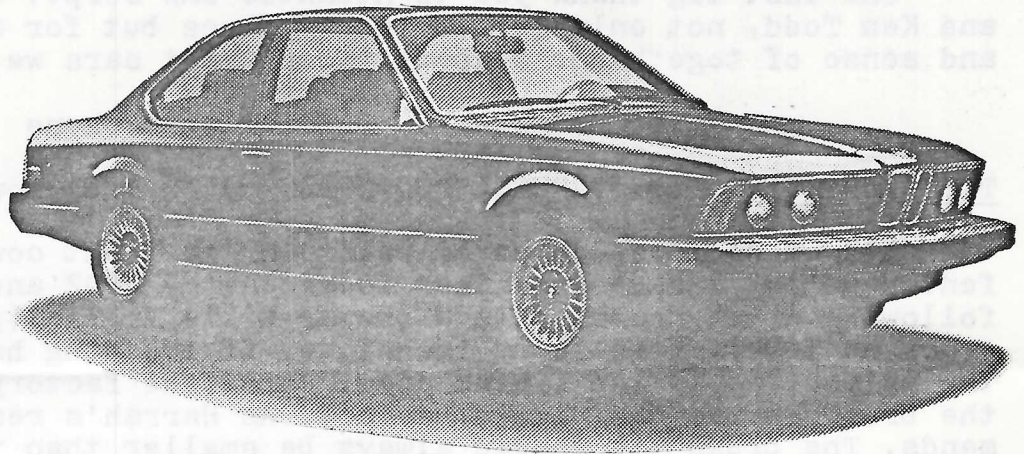
Does your 320i slosh fuel from the filler neck when cornering, even though the gas cap is screwed down until it clicks? Try this solution: pry out the neoprene gasket and lightly crimp the edges of the gasket in four places (90 degrees apart) to defeat the ratcheting feature that doesn't allow you to overtighten the cap. Replace the gasket upside down to gain more thickness. The cap will now seat firmly against the filler neck.

ATLANTIC BMW corp.

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SALES MANAGER

STEVE EDMONDSON
SERVICE MANAGER

WYNDHAM CURLES
PARTS MANAGER



1839 LASKIN RD. AT HILLTOP IN VA. BEACH
Phone 422-3201

RUSTING GAS TANK FIX by George Friedhoff, BUCKEYE CHAPTER

Sooner or later every owner of an older 1600/2002 must come to grips with the nagging problem of a rusting gas tank. The problem has been well documented in recent Roundel correspondence and the solutions are many, but unless you can stop the rust on the inside of the tank seam, the problem is still with you. And with new tanks costing over \$100, you may feel like your caught between a rock and a hard place, right? Wrong, good old American ingenuity can fix this Bavarian blunder.

The 3M company makes a product called SCOTCHCLAD#776 Fuel resistant Coating specifically made to coat the inside of fuel tanks, sealing minor leaks and stopping rust cold. The tank has to be rinsed with acetic acid (vinegar) and then the honey like stuff is poured in, allowed to set forthree days, after which time your tank is better than new.

You need a quart to do a BMW tank. 3M classifies this as an industrial coating and sells it through local industrial supply houses.

WANT TO ELIMINATE A VACUUM HOSE? by Herb Challis, Cental Florida Chapter

To any 2002, 2002tii, 320i, or 530i owners who want to eliminate vacuum hoses for various reasons (example: ERG, diverter valve, vacuum retard, etc.), your BMW dealer has just what you are looking for. It's a rubber hose about .9"(23 mm) long with one end molded shut. This is better than the old plug the line with a bearing or BB trick.

BMW part #12-54-1-261-472, VW part #068-130-229. About 25c each.

TIDEWATER CHAPTER'S 1978 BLUE RIDGE TOUR

The Blue Ridge Tour was: Five Bimmers being driven the Bavarian way-- Ten people off for a weekend of fun and relaxation--Two 2002's and three Tii's-- Oncoming BMW drivers stunned to be flashed five times in a row-- Avoiding interstates and other multilaned highways to find "our kind" of roads to have fun at 55 on--Open sun roofs durring the day and sunburned noses in the evening--Spectacular mountain scenery and sunny weather while Tidewater dripped under rain clouds--"Rich", "Hard Roller", and "Sailor Boy" keeping everyone together on channel 23--Smoking exhausts on long downgrades making the Blue Ridge a little bluer.

Also: Comfortable lodges in breathtakingly beautiful settings--No television and no telephone at no extra charge--Sumptious dinners from extensive menues--Wine and popcorn for the faithful few who stayed up past 10:00--"All you can eat"breakfasts fit to delight any gourmet--Casual strolls by a buy a peaceful lake--Sprawling on the lawn, munching peanuts and drinking in the scenery.

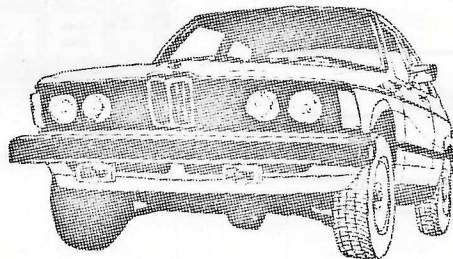
And on to: Stopping in line at scenic overlooks--The clicking of many cameras and buying more film--Roadside picnics--Hiking mountain trails-- Discovering we were headed for Georgia on the Appalachian Trail when we thought it was the path back to the parking lot--More group photos.

The flawless preservation of Appamatox--The statliness of Monticello and the feeling of the presence of the Jefferson genius--The awesome Grandeur of Natural Bridge--A sense of history lost at the Jamestown Rivers Locks.

Finally: The long trek home--Merging in with the Holiday traffic-- One last "Big Mac" stop when all the picnic goodies were all gone--Wondering who had won at Indy--Thinking of our friends who had missed all the fun-- Realizing it would have been even more fun with more people--Hoping we can have twice as many Bimmers and Bimmer folk for the Fall Tour.

If you suspect you may have missed out on a fine, fun weekend we will confirm it for you. Just ask any of us who went.

Eddie Hardman



The Blue Ridge Tour was five days long... The people left for a weekend of fun and relaxation... Avoiding interstates and other well-traveled highways... The weather was just what we needed for Georgia on the Appalachian Trail... The feeling of the presence of the Jefferson genus... of Natural Bridges--A sense of history... Finally, the last few hours... let me stop when all the picnic grounds were all gone... who had won at last... Realizing it would have been... can have time as my... If you suspect you are... confirm it for you...

VA. BEACH, VA. 23462

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