



Das Kummert

NOVEMBER 1977

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ACTIVITIES

Nov. 13 Tech Session. Bring \$2 per car for the refreshment fund. See article for details.

15 Dinner Meeting. See article for details.

Dec. 10 Christmas Party. See article.

THERE IS NO MEETING IN DECEMBER!!!

FOR SALE.

1971 2800CS 4spd 65,000 mi. 195-70 Semprits less than 1 yr old / new factory air, cassette stereo, electric windows. Asking \$8000. Call Ted Williams at 464-2824

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PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Its hard to believe this year is almost over. Year end brings a number of business and pleasure items to bear on your club. Let's take business first. Nominations for next years officers will be accepted at the November meeting. The board will be making some calls in the weeks ahead to find competent candidates for each office: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Activities Chairman. The general membership is invited to nominate additional candidates at the November meeting.

The board has decided to withdraw from SEVSCO next year. We now have Zero members who actively rally or autocross their Bimmers and we can no longer justify continued membership in this competition oriented organization. I can't even round up people to attend SEVSCO meetings as our representatives- there is simply no interest. Yes we will lose the discounts at some local parts stores* but judicious use of Roundel advertisers can result in even lower prices.

Now the pleasure side; The Missigs have volunteered to host this years Christmas party on Dec. 10. Details can be found elsewhere in this issue.

I just returned from this month's Tech Session at Bill Wards' in williamsburg and it was one of the most enjoyable afternoons I've ever spent working on the car. The drive to and from was beautiful with the fall cololrs in full splendor. The day was perfect-clear and cool. Bill's home is an ideal spot-wooded, large, garage, and located right on the James River. Thanks Bill for a great afternoon.

See you at the November dinner meeting.

Rusty

*The Manager at Bab-Geon told me that she would continue to give the discount to Bey Em Vey members.Editor.

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

Its that time again! November is dinner meeting month and this time we will be going to the Aberdeen Barn, 5805 Northhampton Blvd. on Tuesday the 15th. We will have a room to ourselves from 6:30pm on. Unlike previous meetings which were rather formal affairs starting at 8:00pm, we would like to encourage you to come early for cocktails before dinner and then enjoy a liesurly meal after which we will conduct business, sell parts, have some more drinks, and just enjoy the good fellowship of other BMW owners. Spouses of course are encouraged to attend.

If this meeting format proves successful, we will probably continue with monthly meetings at restaurants instead of the library. Let's get a good turn out so we can get a good reaction and have a good time. Don't forget that nominations for next years officers will be finalized at this meeting.

TECH SESSION

This months tech session will be at my house in Portsmouth, 102 Charles Ave on sunday the 13th beginning at 1:00pm. Refreshments will be available as usual. Please bring spouses and childern; we have a large yard for playing and Janis likes company! It's a good time to winterize your car- bring some antifreeze.

CHRISTMAS 1977- AT THE MISSIGS

Mark December 10th on your calender now- that's the date for our annual Christmas party which Brian and Sue Missig will host. The festivities will begin at 8pm and the club will provide the traditional punch. Those who wish to drink something else , please bring it. Each couple must bring a plate of hors d'oeuvres so we will have plenty of good eats. Also, each person who would like to participate in a pollyanna gift exchange, bring a cheap gift, gag variety encouraged. This exchange of gag gifts is usually the highlight of the evening so don't be left out- bring anything!

Don't forget, Saturday, December 10th at 8pm at 3564 Goodhope rd. Va. Beach. Call 340 2154 for directions.

VIII BACK TO SQUARE ONE* by Micheal Lenhardt from CONTACT, BMWCCC

1945: BMW's main production facilities in the German East Zone had been destroyed and the remains put in public possession. The factory in Munich had been bombed out, dismantled and confiscated by occupation authorities.

The U.S. military used the remains of the plant as a repair shop for its vehicles, utilizing the expert labor BMW had to offer. Production was prohibited except for cooking pots manufactured from left over scrap. When in 1948 the ban on the production of motor vehicles was lifted, the corporation struggled along on the strength of its achievements, by resuming the production of motorcycles up to the permitted displacement of 250cc. The single cylinder R24 with 12hp was the first post war BMW vehicle , assembled under the most primitive conditions in a makeshift machine shop.

By 1951 the motorcycle production reached 25,000 units, but sales started to decline. At the Frankfurt auto show that year the BMW 501 was shown to the public, but the first car was not ready for delivery until December 1952. The 501 had a two liter, 6 cylinder engine producing 65hp, followed by the V8 in the 502 in 1954. Later the 8-cylined car became available in many more body styles. The most famous one of the group was of course the 507 sports car. Only a modest number of these expensive large automobiles were built. Production reached its peak with 5,042 units built in 1955 but sales declined to 798 in 1960. BMW's only vehicle for the lower income group was the tiny three wheeled Isetta. Approximately 200,000 Isettas were manufactured.

The German public was no longer satisfied with the use of motorcycles and tiny vehicles and demanded compact cars of quality.

In 1959 BMW's reserves are exhausted. The board of directors suggests a merger with a major manufacturer; but a group of small shareholders and dealers fight for the existence of the company. Their combined efforts get Dr. Quandt to show interest in BMW and a vital financial transfusion soon shows its effect. The 700 series gets off to a good start the same year, paving the way for a new range of cars. In 1963 the first model of the middle class high performance automobiles, the four door BMW 1500, is a smashing hit at the Frankfurt show.

BMW has survived once again.

*This looks like it may be one of a series that I missed other part of in gathering materials for Das Kummert. If I find any others of interest I'll pass them on as well.
Editor

BULLSHIT

"What would you do if you caught someone fooling around with your wife?"
"First I'd break his white cane and then I'd shot his dog."

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