

Council News

2/07

Newsletter of the International Council of BMW Clubs



4th Bimmerfest of the BMW Car Club of the Philippines 2007

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A Successful Summer Show Off

As the summer heat in Manila headed into the 35°C level, not only did it bring people to the beaches, but it also ushered the season of car shows. The time was ripe for holding one of club's main activities for the year – Bimmerfest. This event provides club members a venue where they can show off their pride and passion. It also gives friends, members and potential members the opportunity to mingle, discuss and swap

stories about club life and their experiences with the marque.

“Bimmerfest 2007” ran its 4th edition last April 14th 2007 with another very successful outcome. The show was held at the Bonifacio High Street, a popular destination of Manila's who's who crowd.

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Key international events for the BMW Club scene and BMW Mobile Tradition in 2007

Dear BMW Club members,

As of May 1, 2007, I have taken over from my predecessor, Holger Lapp, at the helm of the BMW Group Mobile Tradition.

For the last 26 years, I have been fascinated by the proverbial ultimate driving machines at BMW. My previous activities within the BMW Group ranged from a stint in the controlling department, leading to various product and brand strategy functions and culminating in the position of head of development for the Rolls-Royce Phantom. What links all of my previous activities is that they involved a role in planning the BMW Group's ongoing business strategy.



As ambassadors of the BMW brand, you are out there on the streets of the world, making yourselves visible to the public at large through your passionate involvement and varied activities. This means that you, dear BMW Club members, are the ones who are making such a valuable contribution to the BMW brand, as members of the worldwide BMW Clubs, under the banner of the International Council of BMW Clubs.

It is my wish to pursue the development of the worldwide BMW Club Organization, together with you. Not only that, but I also consider it as a matter of great importance to build on the existing trust that already exists between the various BMW Clubs and the regional BMW organizations.

For all these reasons, I look forward greatly to what I hope will be a cooperation between partners, with you, the members of the International Council of BMW Clubs.

With best wishes for your ongoing enjoyment of the ultimate driving experience,

Karl Baumer

Further information

Visit us on our website:
<http://www.bmw-clubs-international.com>

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A glimpse into the heart of BMW

BMW Plant Tours – More than a glance behind the scenes!

By Kati Hockner, International BMW Club Office

Munich, Berlin, Regensburg! Three cities, each one remarkable, and each in its own way of central importance to BMW! What BMW Club member would not like to have a chance to see what goes on behind the scenes at BMW? Specially organised plant tours are available for BMW Club members, with competent tour guides, and plenty of opportunities for technical discussions. BMW plant tours offer both an overview and an insight into the processes involved in producing current and future premium BMW models. For many BMW Club members, this is more than enough reason to undertake a club tour into the cradle of production.

And that is not all that these travel destinations have to offer. While you are there, you can also take the opportunity to explore the old quarter of Munich, together with your friends from the tour, or experience the famous Munich Hofbräuhaus. Or if you are in Berlin, you could visit the Reichstag and then take in some of that city's famous nightlife. In Regensburg, the view of the medieval cityscape from the 'Steinernen Brücke' or Stone Bridge is something that has made a lasting impression on many international BMW Club enthusiasts.



Final inspection of the BMW K 1200 S in the BMW Plant Berlin

Whether you are in the mood for a city tour, or taking a trip of the surrounding region by car or motorcycle, or perhaps meeting up with other local BMW Club members, there are many ways of adding to the works tour experience, whichever city you prefer.

BMW Clubs that have been guests of BMW over the years include the BMW Car Club of America, the BMW Club of Japan, the BMW Motorrad Club Tirol, Avto Klub BMW Slovenija, the



Assembling of the BMW 3 Series Touring in the BMW Plant Munich

BMW Motor Club Vlaanderen, BMW Coupé Club Nederland and BMW Club Schwäbisch Gmünd.

The International BMW Club Office is happy to support all official BMW Clubs wishing to book guided tours of the BMW plants in Munich, Berlin, Regensburg and Dingolfing. Due to the heavy demand, we regret we are only able to offer reservations for groups of ten or more.

And that is not all. We are currently also offering exclusive tours through BMW Mobile Tradition. This offer only applies until the spring of 2008, because then it will be time for the long-awaited reopening of the restyled BMW Museum. The vast majority of the precious BMW Mobile Tradition exhibits will then be on show for all to admire.

If your BMW Club is interested in having a look behind the scenes at BMW, then all you have to do is get in touch with us. The official enquiry form for BMW guided tours can be found on our website at www.bmw-clubs-international.com in the Exclusive area, under Club Travel.

Due to the growing interest in plant tours, you are advised to send your enquiry at least two to three months before your desired tour date.

We hope you will enjoy your club tours and we are already looking forward to receiving your enquiries.

Further information

International BMW Club Office
www.bmw-clubs-international.com

Continued from title page: A Successful Summer Show Off

A Successful Summer Show Off

Text by Sachiko Ward, Photos by Sachiko Ward & Ogie Abastillas, BMW Car Club of the Philippines



The highlight of the event was of course the show and shine competition where member participants had several chances of winning special awards plus a cache of premium prizes. Public participation was also part of the program as they were given the opportunity to vote on one category which was called Peoples' Choice Award.

M-Sport model that has won consecutive awards in the last 3 editions of Bimmerfest. Augmenting the show and shine was a photo exhibit that showcased the artistic side of the members. There were 30 entrants in the exhibit with again a best photograph was selected by the public. Included in the photo exhibit

To facilitate the groupings, three categories were created, namely: Tradition, Modern and Special. The models under the Tradition Group were the BMW E30's, E36's, and E34's. The Modern Group included the BMW E46's, E90's, E87's, and E39's. And finally, the Special Group covered what the club sometimes call the Letter Cars, the BMW M's, Z's and X's, plus BMW Coupes and Tourings. Aside from the award mentioned above, there were also special awards for The Best Exterior, Best Interior, Best Sound System set-up and of course, The Best in Class. Each defined category had a winner at the event.



The show and shine competition provided several chances to win one of the awards

Major winner was a Sterling Silver BMW Z4 convertible; garished complete with AC Schnitzer products, that won the Best in Class and Best Exterior plums. This year also saw the

introduction of the Hall of Fame award where member cars that have won at least 3 awards are accorded this special recognition. The first ever award went to a Topaz Blue BMW E46 318i



"Bimmerfest 2007" - a place to meet other club members and to attract new ones

was a section on the International Council and how the BMW Car Club of the Philippines (BMWCCP) fits in this organization. The final component was the recruitment activity and again as in the past, this year resulted to a sizeable haul of new members.

In the end, it's all about the members: Everyone had an opportunity to show off their pride and joy (and win awards and prizes along the way), old friends got to catch up with each other, and the club got to welcome newbies. This affirms why members' await the coming of the summer... summer heat... friends... fun... and of course... Bimmerfest!

Further information

BMW Car Club of the Philippines
www.bmwclub.org.ph

The Ascension motorcycle tour from Bouillon to La Clusaz

BMW Club Promotietrip

By Guy Timmerman, President of BMW Motor Club Vlaanderen

3,000 km of motorcycling in 5 days. Winding roads and wide horizons. Sun & rain. Friends and laughs. Fighting with the elements and enjoying a glass of French wine. Dining and tasting food never tasted before. Biking again and coming home, satisfied and in desperate need for a long sleep.

The BMW club Promotietrip has a long history. Over 30 years ago BMW Belgium and Castrol were organising the BMW Castrol Trip, a biker tour of 4 days with an Ascension. Fifteen years ago the event was "handed over" to the BMW Motor Club Vlaanderen.



Time for a stopover

The Ascension motorcycle tour received a complete overhaul, making it last 1 or 2 days longer, using even more luxury hotels and changing it in an all-in trip (except drinks and petrol), but still keeping the original concept.

What is the BMW Club Promotietrip? Each year, a group of 160 to 200 BMW bikers from Flanders experiences a region at a maximum distance of 1,000 km from Brussels. In the first 2 days we ride to the "base hotel". The participants drive their bikes all day long, at night there is time to enjoy other "things". On the road, stops are made to visit and enjoy sight-seeing spots. Well, this is not completely true: Most of the time, the stops are on scenic places where typical lunches or "4 o'clocks" are offered.

One of the questions, we hear all the time, is if we ride in one group all together? Of course not. Each rider receives a roadmap and a GPS file / Tripy file. Most participants ride in small groups of 2 to 5 motorcycles. Just to make sure that everything runs smoothly, two assistance vehicles are accompanying the touristy rally: a fast assistance car and a truck with a great BMW mechanic on board.

The atmosphere during the rally was fantastic. Imagine that you are in a group of over 150 bikers, all heading the same direction over small roads. Local residents standing outside and waving to you as you are passing by. Each stop means seeing your best friends again and at night you are living the day again during talks with your friends. In 2007, we were invited by the French Haute-Savoie Village "La Clusaz" which celebrates its 100th birthday as a tourist village. La Clusaz is a lively, but small and

cousy village in the alps. It is located at the foot of the Aravis mountain range and all high passes, like the Col du Galibier, are within riding range.

This years rally had it all. I mean the weather. Day 1, taking us from the beautiful fortified town of Bouillon (Belgium) to

Dijon, the home of French mustard, was cold and the day of winds and showers. In the Fort of Montlandon we were offered a Farmer's buffet – which was in general very tasty – most appreciated was the big bowl of warm soup and the fireplace. Day

2 took us to La Clusaz. This day it only rained once but for 32 hours. That's why we used the ski entrance of the hotel to keep the hotel of being under water when we arrived. Day 3 was warm and sunny. Finally, we could "use the side of our tires". The "Reblochon" lunch brought us all together. At night everything was quiet. 10 pm and everybody was in bed – exhausted. Day 4 was warm and sunny too. That was the reason why I was having breakfast at 8 am and alone. Everybody was already gone. They wanted to do the big tour and enjoy the mountain roads.

Day 5 was windy and rainy and even worse. We had to drive back home. Near Epernay, we had arranged an extra stop-over for those who wanted to ride the 900 km back in two days. Due to the weather conditions, this was a good decision for many participants. The rest made it home to Belgium in one day and arrived around 3 am.

Next year, Ascension will be much earlier, namely on April 1st! Because of the early date, it would be too risky to organize and plan routes that take us to the high mountains. So we will stay at a lower level. Where will we go? That will be unveiled at the Brussels Motorcycle Exhibition Show in January 2008.

We would like to express our gratitude to our long time organizing partners, Castrol and BMW Motorrad Belgium.



Serpentines in the mountains - pure driving pleasure

Further information

BMW Motor Club Vlaanderen
www.bmw-mc-vl.be

On the tracks of the Mayas

10th International Convention of the Moto Club Nacional BMW – México, A. C.

By Ruben Tenorio, President of Moto Club Nacional BMW – México, A. C.



Crossing the bridges of the Gulf of Mexico

The time came again to celebrate our biggest party of the year: And this was the 10th International Convention of the Moto Club Nacional BMW – México, A. C.

We used to make our year's main event in Central Mexico, so most of our friends could reach the host city, but this time things were different: Cancún is in one of the most distant points of our country, so this Convention was not addressed for beginners. For instance, Mexico City is more than 1,600 km away from Cancún. We were ready to make the trip part of the fun. As soon as we reached the Yucatán Peninsula, we were impressed to see all the Mayan splendor, its cities and archaeological sites. The fortified city of Campeche and the "White" Mérida are places that are well worth a visit. The ancient pyramids at Uxmal and Chichén Itzá are overwhelming.

Our Conventions basically consist in a Thursday's night cocktail, Friday daytrip with lunch, and Saturday daytrip with lunch and closing ceremony. Well, everything was quite different this time. Our first daytrip was from Cancún to Isla Mujeres (Women Island). We had a one hour trip across the Mexican Caribbean in two ferries with more than 150 motorcycles inside each one. We had a great time at the upper deck with friends and Corona beer. The turquoise blue of the sea along the route is something to admire. In Isla Mujeres we had sea food and more beer and more friends at the Na Balam beach resort.

The next day we went to a "new" archeological site named Ek-Balam. Although it is more than 150 km away from Cancún, it is something really cool. Our Mayan guide, Gregorio, explained everything we had to know about this impressive place. After lunch at Ek-Balam, we got back to the host hotel during the



At the Ek-Balam archaeological site

afternoon and then we went to one of the best places in town, called The City. At a lounge, we had supper consisting mainly in sea food buffet, and then we attended the closing ceremony. Our friend Ruben Ibarra, President of the Convention Committee, gave the farewell to participants from Canada, USA, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Dominican Republic, Venezuela and from more than 15 of the 31 States of Mexico. The last part of the event was the awarding of the grand prize, consisting in a brand new 2007 BMW F 800 S.

Hope to see you all in our next International Convention, which is going to take place in a very different (again) latitude of the country: Monterrey 2007 will be a great event for sure.

Further information

Moto Club Nacional BMW – México, A. C.
www.bmw-nacional.com.mx

31st International BMW Veterans Meeting in Garmisch-Partenkirchen

It was great!

Text and photos by Stefan Bordt, Editor of the BMW Veteranen-Club Deutschland e.V.

It is nearly nine o'clock in the morning. I have just put my silver integral helmet on over my balaclava and am now sliding my legs carefully into the narrow body of a Steib S 350 sidecar. The smile on the face of the man behind the handlebars, Josef Kastner, is as concerned as it is friendly, as he looks over from the swing saddle of his BMW R 50. As a fan of BMW motor cars, this is the first time I have been so close to a BMW motorcycle, and to be honest, I am more than a little curious to discover what it is all about. We leave the skating centre and make our way to the pedestrian zone in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. This is the perfect backdrop for what can only be described as a moving museum of 160 classic and vintage BMW vehicles (60 motorcycles and 100 cars); indeed it is now finally beginning to roll, past lines of spectators, all waving enthusiastically and showering us with approving applause. Club members from a total of ten nations have made their way to Garmisch-Partenkirchen especially for this event. The starter waves his flag and our BMW R 50 sidecar combination accelerates impressively from the pedestrian zone. At the second bend from the start, we are joined by an additional crowd of waiting motorcycles. This is where it really gets going. Our route takes us through Farchant, Oberau and Eschenloh, and then on to Grafenaschau and into the Werdenfelser Land district, also known as the "Goldenes Land" or "Golden Land". We wander along the narrow roads, through rustling pine forests and rich Alpine meadows, dotted with shimmering buttercups. The smell of unspoilt nature is in the air of the wonderful Alpine



Impressions out of a BMW 501 police car

foothills, unmistakable through the open visors of our helmets. We pass by Lake Riegsee and through small villages with their typical Upper Bavarian farmsteads, attractive churches, and traditional rural lifestyle. In Grossweil, we begin the 622-metre ascent to Kreutalm, where we break for lunch. The car park located just before Kreutalm is filled in every last corner with BMW cars, including just about every model that has ever been made. From the 1928 BMW 3/15 DA1 (Dixi) to the BMW Z1 from 1990. And that is not all. The drive road to the car park is lined with BMW motorcycles, from the 1927 BMW R 47 to the R 100RS model from 1977. Later that afternoon, I hear a loudhailer mes-



BMW automobiles at the Kreutalm parking place

sage that is obviously meant for me: "Isar 12, please come in..."; I am to spend the second part of the trip sitting on the dark green leatherette seat at the back of a BMW 501 police car.

The man behind the wheel of the police radio patrol car is Ulfried Grüllmayer, resplendent in blue uniform and a short black leather jacket, as worn by police officers in Munich until 1966. Using the dashboard mounted gear lever, he skilfully changes down and manoeuvres the heavy six-cylinder limousine with its 72 bhp through the steep and narrow bends of the winding country road that leads to the 858m high summit of the Kesselberg, through gradients of up to 8%. Returning downhill through the dense woodland of the Kesselberg, we can already start to make out the turquoise coloured water of the Walchensee lake. A short while later, we are rolling past it, along the lakeside promenade, through perfect spring weather. Further on, we pass by unspoilt beaches and make our way through typical Bavarian villages, where children wave to us as we go past. The vintage police car is a veritable centre of attraction. The enthusiasm of the spectators appears unbounded, particularly when the driver sounds the siren and switches on the car's flashing blue light. The route has obviously been put together by people who know the region. We continue along narrow pathways, which take us across fields and through an altogether more peaceful part of the region. The cows are grazing happily on the lush Alpine meadows. The sound of their cowbells can be heard clearly through the open window. Mountain huts rise from the slopes, and flower-covered knoll-hills, typical feature of the Karwendel region, nestle gently in the rugged mountain landscape. But even the most wonderful journeys have to come to an end. All of the riders are met with a hearty applause as they approach the finish. The quaint, Upper Bavarian-style pedestrian area is quickly transformed into an enormous open-air museum for vintage BMW cars and motorcycles. The warm afternoon sun bathes the BMW classic vehicles in a warm and inviting light, and the even begins in good company in the pleasant atmosphere of the many small cafes.

Further information

BMW Veteranen-Club Deutschland e.V.
www.bmw-veteranenclub.de

TECHNO-CLASSICA in Essen

Recent Classics – BMW Classic and Type Clubs at the TECHNO-CLASSICA 2007

By Dr. Ralf Ziegler for the International BMW Classic and Type Clubs Section

Once more, the BMW Classic and Type Clubs took up residence at the largest vintage car exhibition in the world, in the BMW hall, hall 12 of the Essen Exhibition Centre. Unfortunately, three factors came together at this year's event to produce somewhat unfavorable circumstances: the record number of sixteen participating clubs combined with a reduction in the available floor space compared with previous years, added to which was the veritable flood of no less than ten model anniversaries. If it weren't for two clubs offering not to exhibit any cars at the event (BMW Veteranen-Club Deutschland e.V. and BMW Z1 Club e.V.) to the benefit of the other clubs participating, there would have

vehicles that were never built, for this purpose. As you would expect from the motto 'Recent Classics', there was a varied selection of recent or still youthful classics on show at the BMW Club stand. The vehicle classes were displayed according to their relative ages. From the small BMW (02, E21 and E30), to the middle class (New Class, BMW E12 and E28) as well as the coupés (BMW E9 / E24) and limousines (BMW E3 / E23). On the opposite side, along with a BMW 325iX Baur TC2 and a BMW M1 Procar there were a number of classics that have seen a great many years come and go: an Isetta, a BMW 600, a Glas V8 and a 502 Coupé.



BMW Club stand with old and new classics at the TECHNO-CLASSICA 2007

been quite a serious problem. However, despite the space problems, praise is still due to BMW for seeing to it that the access path leading from the BMW hall was wide and well lit this time round. The carpeting perfectly matched the colour design of the BMW hall and the illumination was on a par with that of the BMW area.

Moreover, not only were there some original BMW wall decorations (a wonderful showroom motif from the 1950s and two BMW 02's), but there were also – for the first time in a number of years – three new motifs, which, thankfully, had been produced by BMW especially for use by the clubs. Former chief designer for BMW, Paul Bracq was kind enough to lend the BMW Classic and Type Club Section three of his own original plans of draft

All in all, this TECHNO-CLASSICA was of great interest to the BMW Clubs and provided much opportunity for making new friends and contacts. There were many club members who stopped by for a chat, to get to know the faces of people who were hitherto only familiar from phone calls and emails. Despite all the work and the frantic pace, the event was great fun for everybody, and we are already looking forward to the next TC in March 2008!

Further information

International BMW Classic and Type Clubs Section
www.bmw-clubs.org

Portrait: BMW Motorcycle Club of Colorado

BMW Motorcycle Club of Colorado

By Bruce Sanders, President of BMW Motorcycle Club of Colorado

The BMW Motorcycle Club of Colorado (MOA Affiliate #66) was founded in May, 1976, by a handful of enthusiastic BMW motorcycle riders living in the Denver, Colorado area. They had

As our annual Ride Book and monthly newsletters document: we have informal breakfasts each Saturday morning, a monthly dinner meeting, usually with entertainment of some socially redeeming value, an annual holiday party, numerous organized rides throughout the riding season, an annual election breakfast, a New Years Day joint gathering with the Pikes Peak BMW Road Riders (from Colorado Springs), and several other annual events that have achieved prominence, including the Top o' the Rockies Rally (Paonia, CO), the 100,000 Foot Ride (transversing a succession of mountain pass highways whose cumulative altitude totals at least 100,000 feet), and a multi-day Gypsy Tour ride that covers a lot of ground... usually in the Colorado/Utah/Arizona/New Mexico "Four Corners" area.



Top of the Rockies Rally

organized the first Top o' the Rockies Motorcycle Rally in the high country even before the club was registered as a BMW MOA affiliate. About 17 years ago, after having moved the annual rally from place to place, the event settled in Paonia, a town whose hospitality has simply made it impossible to leave.

By 2004 our membership had grown to nearly 500 members and we found ourselves with a website, an email address, and a post office box number with 5 digits, the latter an upgrade from the two digit number that had been adequate for so long. While most of our members live within an hour's ride of the State capitol, others hail from Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, New Mexico, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, and Wyoming. Our growth has been possible due in part to the enormous support received from the BMW motorcycle dealers in Colorado: BMW of Denver, Foothills BMW, Northern Colorado BMW/Ducati, and BMW/Ducati of Southern Colorado.

We are proud of our active affiliation with BMW MOA, as evidenced by several of our present and past members serving as MOA officers, ambassadors, and rally chairs, as well as our hosting the BMW MOA International Rally in 1977 and 1995. We are also grateful for the opportunity to support the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's Ride for Kids during its first four years in Colorado, raising over \$100,000 to help find the cause of and cure for pediatric brain tumors. We invite and encourage all BMW riders and their friends to join us. All riders and their families are welcome at our rides.



On tour

Please visit our website: www.coloradobeemers.com for images of numerous events, smiling faces, and information that may tempt you to come ride with us.

BMW Motorcycle Club of Colorado

Founded:	1976
Membership:	500
Type of club:	Motorcycle Club
Website:	www.coloradobeemers.com

Diary

Expect a multiplicity of interesting and exciting events in the upcoming summer months. If you find your event is missing, please send us the relevant information.

You will also find a current calendar of events on our website at www.bmw-clubs-international.com



BMW Z3 roadster Club travelling through the Sächsische Schweiz
Photo: Gaby Kreiner

July	July 06 – 08	BMW Motorrad Days 2007 (D) http://www.bmw-clubs-international.com/en
	July 20 – 22	BMW Regionaltreffen Dresden (D) BMW Veteranen-Club Deutschland e.V. http://www.bmw-veteranenclub.de
	July 21 – 29	2000 km durch Deutschland (D) http://www.2000kmdurchdeutschland.de
August	August 10	Driver Safety Training International BMW Classic and Type Section (D) http://www.bmw-02-club.de/kalender/ftr.htm
	August 10 – 12	35 th AvD Oldtimer Grand Prix, Nürburgring (D) http://www.avd.de/ogpracing/index.shtml
	August 19	International BMW Z1, Z3, Z4, Z8 Rally (CH) http://www.bmwz3club.ch
	August 24 – 26	31 st Annual Meeting of the Isetta Club e.V. (D) http://www.isetta-club.de
September	September 01 – 09	BMW Classic - Der Großglockner ruft (A) http://www.grossglocknertreffen.bmwklassiker.com
	September 06 – 09	45 th BMW Club Europa Meeting, Leersum (NL) http://www.bmwclubnederland.nl
	September 07 – 16	RALLYE DE FRANCE (F) http://www.bmw-veteranenclub.de
	September 08 – 09	International BMW 02 Meeting – 40 th anniversary BMW 02 Convertible (D) http://www.bmw-02-club.de/kalender.htm
	September 15 – 20	International Council Meeting (A) http://www.bmw-clubs-international.com
Oct.	October 13 – 14	Veterama, Mannheim (D) http://www.veterama.de

Further information

All websites given in this newsletter are listed here for quick reference

Clubs:

- www.bmwcarclub.org.ph
- www.bmw-mc-vl.be
- www.bmw-nacional.com.mx
- www.bmw-veteranenclub.de
- www.bmw-clubs.org
- www.coloradobeemers.com

Events:

- www.bmw-motorrad.de/motorraddays
- www.bmw-veteranenclub.de
- www.2000kmdurchdeutschland.de
- www.bmw-02-club.de
- www.avd.de
- www.bmwz3club.ch
- www.isetta-club.de
- www.grossglocknertreffen.bmwklassiker.com
- www.bmwclubnederland.nl
- www.veterama.de



BMW Clubs Africa members on a BMW R 1200 GS Adventure in Botswana
Photo: David de Bruyn