

The Tarheel Traveler

The monthly Publication of the BMW-NC Tarheel Travelers

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November 2010

BMW RA No. 34

Traveling With A Foreigner by Rick Young

This past June, I was fortunate enough to join 5 other riders on a 17 day trip through the west and northwest U.S. The trip was led by Marc Krouse and, in addition to Marc and me, included 4 other riders; Bob, Don, Tony, and Rainer. An interesting group as it was an international trip with Rainer coming from Germany specifically for this trip.

Not only was there a good representation of riders [ages from the 40's into the 60's, career minded, retired, etc.] there was also a good mix of bikes including three BMW's, two Honda's, and one Buell. The bikes ranged from a true sport bike, a Honda CBR929RR to a K1200GT, a K1200RS, a R1100RS, a Honda CBR 1100XX Blackbird, and a Buell Ulysses XB12X.

The route took us from Colorado Springs through southern CO, southern UT, across NV, crossing northern CA, through OR and WA, across the panhandle of ID., down through western MT, cutting across northern WY, back into UT, and then returning to Colorado Springs. Over 6,000 miles of spectacular country.

On the second day, Pagosa Springs, CO to Cortez, CO Marc provided an option to the planned 250 mile route. Knowing that we had several long distance days ahead



Tony Parkinson, Don Schoppe, A Foreigner, Rick Young

of us, Don, Tony, Rainer, and I elected to go the 250 mile route while Marc and Bob chose to go the 400 mile route. We said our goodbyes and agreed to compare notes on the two routes once we all met in Cortez.

Traveling through the mountains of southern Colorado was great. The weather was sunny, cool but not cold, and the

roads were dry. This was a great riding environment.

Occasionally, traffic would cause a temporary slowdown for our spirited ride through the mountains. However, the traffic was not much of an impediment as Colorado has some unique mountain passing zones. As long as you can see far enough through an upcoming turn to make a pass there were no solid yellow lines. So, passing in the turns was legal, not to mention fun.

A little over two hours into our route, I was following Don and Rainer while Tony took up the sweeper

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Out & About by Al Jones

November 2010

Steve and Belva in Fayetteville hosted our "Bearable" meeting. Members brought small stuffed animals for the local police departments to have available for children in need. You can see by the photo that Steve, Belva and the club were able to collect quite a few friends for the children. The meeting was well attended. The beautiful October weather really brought the bikes out.



Constitution Change: During the meeting, the club Constitution amendment regarding yearly audits was approved. This proposal had been posted in the previous newsletter. Financial audit for the club will now be required once yearly instead of twice. The Adopt-a-Highway activity for November was discussed and the scheduled date was changed to 20 November in order to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving weekend. This is already posted on the website and we look forward to a good turnout for the final AAH event of the year.

Calendar Photos: Jim Morrison has agreed to put together the 2011 Tarheel Traveler's Calendar but has to have your photos to do it. The Calendar is popular and sells out every year. We need photos hopefully featuring your Beemer. Travel, camping photos are always great but whatever it is, send it by email to Jim or any of the club officers. [See last page. Ed.]

We were informed that the Zooland campground near Asheboro is now under new management. This was the site of the Halloween campout for many years. A number of us are going to camp there this Halloween weekend. Perhaps, the campground will work out for our future hopes with a Halloween Campout revival.

Karol and I spent a riding week in the mountains with friends earlier this month and as always enjoyed the great scenery, roads and people. The roads of Northern Georgia near the North Carolina and Tennessee borders were once again explored. Apex Cycles, a small shop near Ellijay, GA was also visited. Rachel and Wes at Apex cycles are skilled technicians on Beemers and Ducks. There are some excellent examples of their restoration work on the website for Apex Cycles.

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(Continued from page 1)

position. We had just run up on a couple of vehicles and, as you would expect, we took our legal opportunities to pass them. I remember pulling out to pass a car as we approached a left hand turn [legal passing zone!] and out of my peripheral vision I did seem to notice one or two vehicles in a pull off area to the right. As I was concentrating on safely completing the pass, I didn't have time to pay close attention to any parked vehicles. Tony quickly followed me and all four of us were now back together with no cars/trucks between us.



US 550 in Colorado, just prior to The Incident.

A couple of minutes later I hear the sound of a siren and my first thought was that there must have been an accident and this is the EMT response. It didn't take long for that thought to disappear as I noticed a fast approaching county sheriff's SUV coming up from the rear. The Deputy came up beside each bike indicating that we should pull over. Once he stopped us all by parking across the lane in front of Don, he indicated that we were all to follow him to the next scenic view parking area.

As soon as we got to the parking area it became evident that we were dealing with an irate law enforcement official. Immediately after demanding our license, registration, and proof of insurance, the Deputy stated that we were going 52 mph in 25 mph zone. [Have you ever tried to ride 25 mph on nice, smooth, open mountain roads on a beautiful late spring day? I didn't think so.] Furthermore, the Deputy stated that we would all be returning to his county for a July 28 court date. [What a way to start a trip! Only our second day of a 17 day trip and we have already earned an official invitation/command to return at a later date.] Upon hearing the demand to return for our court date, Rainer said in perfect German accent, "But I am from

Germany!" The Deputy responded with a non-committal, "Well, that complicates things."

So, I started unpacking as I had packed my registration and proof of insurance under the seat of my K12. While I was unpacking I overheard the Deputy use the word "unfair". I thought that this was a strange comment but

I kept unpacking. When I had all the required documents in hand, I returned to the group that had been pleading our case and the Deputy asked if I had heard the conversation. When I said no, he said that if he was to give us all tickets for speeding he

would have to

arrest Rainer [remember, from Germany?], we would have to bail him out for \$750, and his bike would be confiscated.

At this point I'm thinking this day is going to get a whole lot worse or a whole lot better in the next few seconds.

The Deputy then states that to avoid the complications of giving Rainer [the foreigner] a ticket [I read this was going to be way too much paperwork for the Deputy] it would be "unfair" to give the remaining three of us tickets. So, the situation got a whole lot better very quickly. The Deputy handed our documents back, said good-bye and got in his SUV and left, but not before giving us a warning to slow down.

For the remaining 15 days I didn't let the foreigner, Rainer, out of my sight. He was my walking, talking 'Get Out of Jail' card.

By the way, I have been trying to perfect a German accent but it always comes out with a southern accent. *Auf Wiedersehen, y'all.*

— TT —

My First BMW Motorcycle by Marc Krouse

I started riding again in 1995 and in 2000 my bike was a 1999 Honda CBR1100XX. A mighty fast motorcycle and why I decided to add a BMW is a lost memory. Maybe it had something to do with the Guggenheim's 1998 "Art of the Motorcycle" show and a beautiful book that I was given as a gift that contained all of the bikes in the show. I still have the book although its spine is gone, now bound with rubber bands after Tony the Labrador chewed it quite thoroughly.

But somehow, in 2000, I purchased a 1975 BMW R90S from a graduate student attending Duke University. A project bike that was years in the planning, but never got started. I'd never done this before so there was no reason I couldn't be just as successful as the previous owner. It had been sitting for several years and was not running. Both tires were flat, it was painted black with bits of the original 'smoke orange' paint scheme peeking through the peeling paint, and was graced with a Luftmeister fairing. It didn't look like the bike on page 336 in the Guggenheim book.

It had 37,750 miles on the speedometer, BMW hard bags and Henry floorboards. I junked the Luftmeister fairing [unbelievably heavy], sold off the bags, the floorboards and started cleaning and stripping the bike down to the desiccated rat found atop the engine. He was small, flattened, and my wife had him mounted in a picture frame under glass. It was truly a rat bike. My job kept me traveling from Sunday through Friday but I spend many hours planning and

researching the 'restoration' hoping to keep the cost minimized. I still have an Excel spreadsheet with every part I purchased or service I had subcontracted.

The biggest deal was the paint job. At the time there was a guy in Fayetteville that was well known for his

restoration painting and he agreed to paint the pieces. So as I saved money, my friends ran an individual part down to Bob Meyers of Cycle Colors where he sprayed on a 'smoke black' paint scheme. It was gorgeous. Total cost \$1300. The bike ran fairly well and I even travelled to AMA's Vintage Days in Ohio when BMW was the featured marque. My son rode my Blackbird and although the R90S was pretty fast in its day, the XX probably never got out of 4th gear. The centerstand fell off on the trip back to NC, but at least it was considerate and did it while parked at a rest stop on I77.

I contacted one of the original owners of the R90S using research



notes from the most recent owner. It seems I've lost his return letter but my original letter to him is in the file. My notes say we talked on the phone for about an hour. He confirmed the mileage and the reference notes I

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(Continued from page 4)

found in the owners manual and service manuals that were included with the bike. He claimed that my message was "like getting a love letter from a long lost girlfriend".

My plan was to ride the 'restored' bike down to meet him accompanied by a friend on a 1984 Moto Guzzi SP1000. A piece of junk compared to the R90S. The guy said if the Moto Guzzi rider makes the trip, "bring a tow rope for the last 10 miles".

We never made the trip before I sold the bike, and I don't remember the details of why it didn't work out.

My spreadsheet say I had over \$7000 invested in the restoration which did not include any engine work.



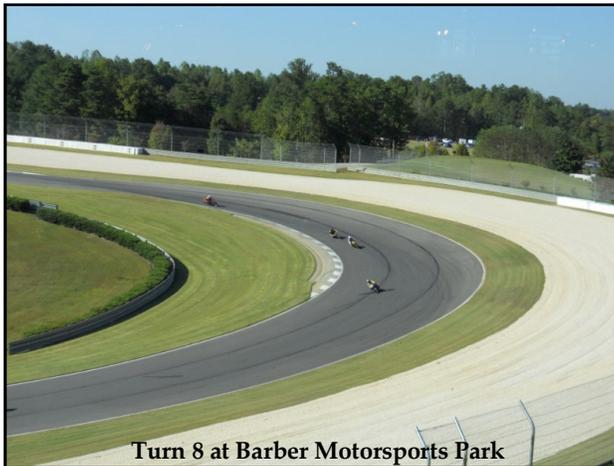
There was more to do and although I did enjoy riding the R90S, I was not a mature enough rider to slow down and enjoy the ride. I rode quite fast, although it took a while to get up to speed with my friends, but it was barely able to stop within the horizon. I sold it to a guy in NJ taking a substantial loss on my investment, but I'll always remember it parked in the family room over the winter while I wrenched on it with Enya playing on my CD player.

It's impossible to listen to her music without recalling the memories of working on my first BMW.

— TT —

(Continued from page 2)

Our last day in the North Georgia area was spent on the Cherohala Skyway. We ended up the week at the Barber museum near Birmingham, Alabama. It was the weekend of their Vintage Days Event. There were beautiful older bikes everywhere, Vincents, Beemers, Japanese hardware etc. A swap meet area revealed bikes and parts for nearly everything imaginable. We awakened to the sound of two-stroke engines in the mornings and then the day was filled with bike activities. An auction was held for individuals to bid on that one that got away previously. Vintage racing events filled the schedule and there were even BMW sidecar racers on the track. Of course though, the best thing at Barber is the museum itself. Everywhere you turn in there, you see a bike you have owned, should of owned or dreamed of in some manner. It is refreshing to go to a bike museum that isn't nearly exclusively a Harley-Davidson showplace.



Turn 8 at Barber Motorsports Park

Keep riding safe out there and be thinking of a couple of our members that have had road difficulties recently. Gary Shimizu and Joe Keithley are both trying to recover from road incidents on their bikes. They each broke a number of ribs and required hospitalization. Gary is out of the hospital and increasing his activities but will be unable to ride for another two months. Joe should be out of the hospital later this week.

Next month's meeting is at Bombar's Beemers in Durham. Peter asks that you bring your Kermit chairs (or suitable substitutes) as chairs are in short supply around the shop. I visited his shop last month and they look like

a great additional resource for all of us especially those with older hardware. Mark your calendars for the Christmas meeting. We have moved it up one week to Sunday, 12 December. Remember, we need you to host a meeting for the upcoming year. Sign up for a meeting in 2011. Just notify one of the club officers, so that we can get it on the calendar. *Look forward to seeing you at Bombar's.*

— TT —

Tarheel Traveler Calendar

11/06 - 1st Saturday Ride, 10:00 a.m. Gassed up and ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. Carolina Euro, 2407 Greengate Drive, Greensboro, NC (GPS N36 01.592 W79 48.083)

11/07 - TriadRiders 1st Sunday ride - 9:00 a.m. Gassed up and ready to ride at 9:00. Cheesecake by Alex, 315 South Elm Street, Greensboro, NC (GPS N36 04.195 W79 47.422)

11/10 - 2nd Wednesday TT Dinner, 7:00 pm. The Mayflower XI Seafood Restaurant, 3301 Capital Blvd., Raleigh, North Carolina 27604 (N35 49.461 W78 35.249)

11/14 - 2nd Sunday Ride - 10:00 a.m. Breakfast at 9:00 a.m., gassed up and ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. Hardees, 28 East Rd, Pittsboro, NC (GPS N35 43.212 W79 10.603)

11/17 - 3rd Wednesday Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Taqueria El Tio, 2103 Owen Drive, Fayetteville NC (GPS N35 01.335 W78 55.304)

11/20 - Destination Ride - 9:00 a.m. Gassed up and ready to ride at 9:00 at the BP Station, 5016 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh, NC (GPS N35 51.359 W78 33.399) The ride is cancelled if it is raining.

11/20 - Roadside Cleanup - 9:30 a.m. Jim & Pat Morrison, 11111 Empire Lakes Dr. Raleigh NC (GPS N35 54.835 W78 48.253)

11/21 - Monthly Meeting - 11:30 a.m. tire kicking, 1:00 pm meeting with lunch and Q&A afterward. Bombar's Beemers, 127-B Wolfpack Lane, Durham, NC 27704. (N36 03.287 W78 52.296)

For additional event/rally dates be sure to check the TT website www.tarheelbmw.org

November 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 1st Saturday Ride. Greensboro
7 1st Sunday ride. Greensboro	8	9	10 2nd Wednesday Dinner. Raleigh	11	12	13
14 2nd Sunday Ride. Pittsboro	15	16	17 3rd Wednesday Dinner. Fayetteville	18	19	20 Destination Ride & Adopt A Highway. Raleigh
21 Monthly Meeting. Bombar's. Durham	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

The Chairless Meeting Place – Sunday November 21st

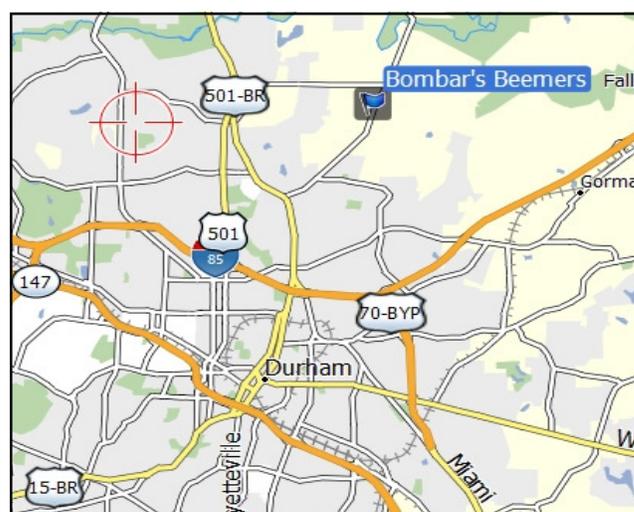
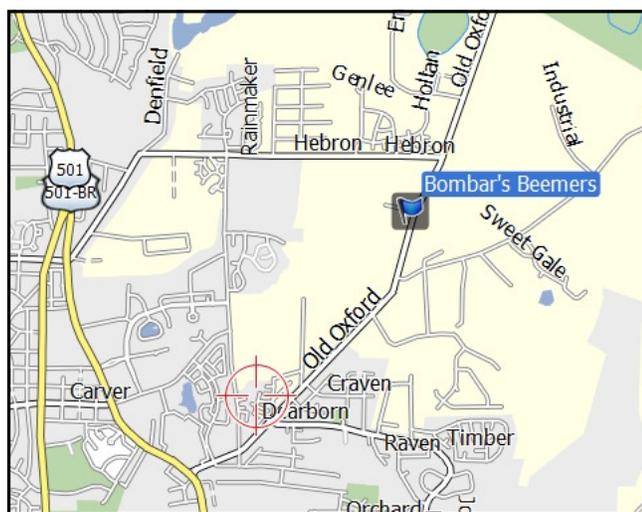
Bombar's Beemers
127-B Wolfpack Lane, Durham, NC 27704
(N36 03.287 W78 52.296)

From the South:

140 west to Durham Freeway NC 147.
 Durham Freeway north to exit 12A to US 15-BR.
 US 15-BR north 3.7 miles to Old Oxford Road.
 Old Oxford Road north 1.9 miles to Wolfpack Lane.
 Left on Wolfpack Lane to 127-B.

From the West:

I85 north to exit 177 to US 15-BR.
 US 15-BR 1.5 miles to Old Oxford Road.
 Old Oxford Road north 1.9 miles to Wolfpack Lane.
 Left on Wolfpack Lane to 127-B.



2010 Meeting Hosts

May: Gary and Tina Shimizu - Fayetteville	Sep: Joel Harris & Ed Gray - Raleigh
Jun: Annual Picnic - Harris Lake County Park	Oct: Steve & Belva - Fayetteville
Jul: Sandy & Pete Osta	Nov: Bombar's Beemers - Durham
Aug: 33rd Annual Daniel Boone Rally	Dec: Al and Karol Jones - Fayetteville

New Member !

Welcome to new member Randy Bryson from Durham, NC. Join us at Bombar's in November.

1991 BMW K75S - \$3295 (Raleigh, NC) OBO

After having car hit me last year (all repairs to fairing, rim and clutch shifter completed, and accident was at low speed), having skiing accident this year that left me in a wheel chair for the better part of this year and having the bass player in our band drop his Harley, I am finally parting ways with dangerous sports and bought a 2001 BMW M5 with 4 wheels.

[Jim](#)

Re:1991 BMW K75S - \$3295 (Raleigh, NC) OBO

Do you want me to place an ad in the TT Newsletter for November? If so, let me know if it sells before I publish, 5 business days prior to November 30.

[Marc](#)

Re:1991 BMW K75S - \$3295 (Raleigh, NC) OBO

Your K75S looks like one I used to have. Good luck selling it and enjoy the M5. Be aware BMW M cars can suck you into performance awards.

[Pete](#)

Re:1991 BMW K75S - \$3295 (Raleigh, NC) OBO

Thanks :-)
I had Porsche 930 before getting married, having kids and getting Honda Civic. M5 is more well balanced and has all the performance I want plus *looks* like a normal 4 door sedan. She is old (2001) but good just like me :-)

[Jim](#)

Mountains

At today's destination ride I was asked to lead a ride to the mountains. Being the nice guy that I am I said yes but it would have to be an overnigher. On October 30th leaving from the BP at Spring Forest and 401 at 9am I will lead a ride to Peaks of Otter. We should arrive in time to have lunch then can play on the nearby roads. I plan on having dinner at a nearby German restaurant. All are welcome.

[Pete](#)

Re:Mountains

It seems Peaks of Otter has no rooms for the night of 10/30 so I found the Holiday Inn Express in Waynesboro had rooms available. If you intend to

come on the this ride you can book a room either online or call 877-859-5095. Room is \$115 for the night. Hotel is at 20 Windigrove Dr just off I64 and hwy 340.

[Pete](#)

BMW 1600GTL unveiling

Visit Jay Leno's Garage (videos) to see the unveiling of the K1600GTL with Pieter de Waal of BMW Motorcycles.

<http://www.jaylenosgarage.com/>

[Bryan](#)

Re:BMW 1600GTL unveiling

Wow! Great looking bike... Bet the cost is up there, too... Guess I'll have to win the Lotto just so that I could get one. Sure would be nice, though...

[Dave](#)

Alton Brown will be in Raleigh

Alton Brown, is a BMW (GS,I believe) rider-writer that is touring the country, checking out various Road Foods and then writing about it. The latest book is called "Good Eats 2", and he is on tour. He will be at Quail Ridge Books, at 3522 Wade Ave. in Raleigh, on Thursday, Oct.14, at 7:30 PM.

Hopefully, he will ride his bike on this part of the tour, so the local BMW bike folks should show up at Quail Ridge Books with our bikes as well. I have seen him at the Nationals and he is a lot of fun.

[Willie](#)

Replacement Member

Well, I sold my 1991 K75S to a 70 year old psychologist in Raleigh with another 1969 airhead. He is a former member, and I encouraged him to join your ranks again. Many thanks for the fellowship at the meetings I was able to attend and for the help tracking down parts when I got hit by that Ford Crown Vic. I feel much more comfortable in my steel cage with 4 wheels, a BMW M5. She is old (2001) but good just like me, and I pamper the delicate lady all the way to the floor board.

[Jim](#)

The Tarheel Traveler Yahoo Forum can be found at <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/nctarheeltravelers/messages>.

The Market Place

2005 BMW R1200ST, Graphite & Sydney Blue, 27,500 miles. Accessories include BMW saddle bags with liners & luggage rack, ABS brakes, centerstand, Z-Technik smoked windshield (original clear windshield also included), BMW head guards, Chase Harper tank bag...\$9,000.00. E-mail wildvikings@bellsouth.net or call (919) 274-0716.



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2011 Meeting Hosts Needed !!

Please consider hosting a meeting sometime during 2011. **All months** are currently available! If you don't feel able to do it alone, consider teaming up with another member to co-host. Or book a park shelter and have a stress free outdoor meeting. **We're flexible!**

The meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month. There are two hosting formats you can choose from 1) 11:30 a.m. tire kicking with the meeting at 1:00 p.m. and lunched served afterward and 2) 1:00 p.m. tire kicking followed by a 2:00 p.m. meeting with snacks served, not a full lunch. Your choice!

If you're interested, drop a line to the editor or one of our officers so we can get you on the list. Thanks to everyone who has graciously agreed to host.

2011 TT Calendars by Jim Morrison

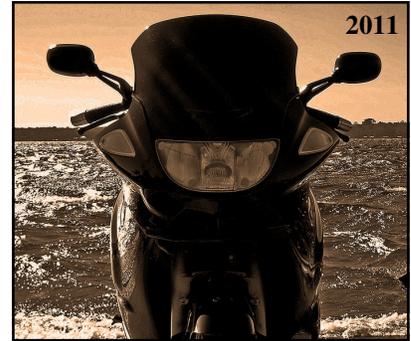
It is time to get started on the 2010 TT Calendar and I need your pictures. The plan for the 2011 calendar is to have all TTer pictures, so send along any great photos you have and keep this in mind as you and your camera tour the highways and by-ways. When you send in pictures, please note:

- **BMW's as the only, or at least primary, motorcycles in the picture.**
- **No identifiable people in the picture.**
- **Digital photos only.**
- **Horizontal format preferred.**
- **Consider artsy and close-up photos.**
- **No larger than 3 MB files.**
- **Include date and place of the picture.**

Just email them to me, one at a time, to TTJim@jpmorrison.us.

Sales will start in December. The calendars are on 11 by 17 photo quality paper, folded and stapled with a picture and the calendar showing each

month...and a hole punched for hanging. It is a 13 month calendar running through January of 2011. It includes our regular dinners, rides and meetings as well as rally reminders and holidays. The price is \$10 per calendar and includes shipping, if you need it sent to you.



Member Written Articles Are Needed For The Tarheel Traveler Newsletter !!

Slam some words and pictures together and let me worry about copy editing and polishing. **Send editorial copy to:** Marc Krouse, 106 Beaver Pine Way, Cary, NC 27511, **Or email to:** Editor at TarheelBMW.org

**Tarheel Editor
C/o Marc Krouse
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