



the Beemer Reader

Newsletter of the BMW Riders of Vancouver Island

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JUNE, 1996

FROM THE EDITORS

In this issue we have a very interesting article by Ross King, the intrepid traveller and American agent for Freedom Moto-Touring of England, introduced to us by Michael Ziegler in the April newsletter. In the article, Ross describes his experience of the Bavarian "Elephantentreffen", a mid-February rally that attracts thousands of European (crazy!) bikers. I've included three of the pictures he sent up, and can only hope the reproduction does them justice - I don't know how the snow-covering will come out in black and white! Ross is a very engaging and warm person, as I found out when I met him a few weeks ago, and his writing conveys the depth of feeling that attending this event inspired in him. Don't know if it makes me want to go exactly! But I think I understand it, and admire him for doing it.

PARTIES!!

First, Derek and Karen Norman are hosting a barbecue get-together on their farm near Coombs on June 8-9. This can either be an overnight (Saturday), with camping facilities close at hand in one of three provincial parks, or a day ride on the Sunday for a farmer's brunch, tour, and ride to Cathedral Grove. See page 4 for more details; get directions at next meeting.

The second invite is from Stan and Suzanne Jensen for a repeat of their backyard barbecue of last summer, this time on August 10th (see page 4). Anyone who attended last year will remember what a perfect setting this was for a gathering, and what a fine time was had by all. Mark this one early!

Happy riding season everybody. Love, Sally

PRINCESS MARY RESTAURANT

⊕ 9:30 AM ⊕

January 6	Saturday
February 4	Sunday
March 2	Saturday
April 14	Sunday
May 4	Saturday
June 2	Sunday
July 6	Saturday
August 11	Sunday
September 7	Saturday
October 6	Sunday
November 2	Saturday
December 1	Sunday

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Membership List for 1996

ELEFANTENTREFFEN 1996

by Ross King



Who said the R11GS isn't versatile? It proved just the ticket for cutting much-needed firewood.

You don't just go to the Elefant, or attend. You prepare yourself for the personal challenges of the Elefant Meet. It's a personal survival experience. True, you probably have joined up with a group, or if you came by yourself you the joined up with a group. The main purpose of the group is: #1 building a fire, #2 cooking food, #3 conversation. It's very similar to a winter military bivouac, only fun is the main purpose. The bottom line is you accomplish the Elefant, and try to do it in good form. I know all of this now, but not before.

What is the Elefant Meet? It's the winter meeting of about 6,000 to 8,000 motorcyclists from *all* over Europe. The sole purpose is to gather as a clan, or clans, and do what clans do. In the case of motorcycle clans, look at bikes - more sidecars than I ever thought existed (they don't fall over as easily on ice and snow). Thou-

sands of motorcycles of all shapes and forms. Lots of winter rat bikes, a couple with stuffed pet rats who had passed on to another world.

Guys who are members of Europe's toughest gangs (like Banditos) and a total mixture of all the other kinds in between who ride bikes. Everybody smiles; that's good, because the language barriers are difficult at times. Germans, Poles, Italians, Slovenians, Norwegians, English, Spanish, Dutch, French, Aus-

trian, Czech. Lots of Europeans speak English or some English. It's the strongest feeling in motorcycling I've ever experienced or can imagine.

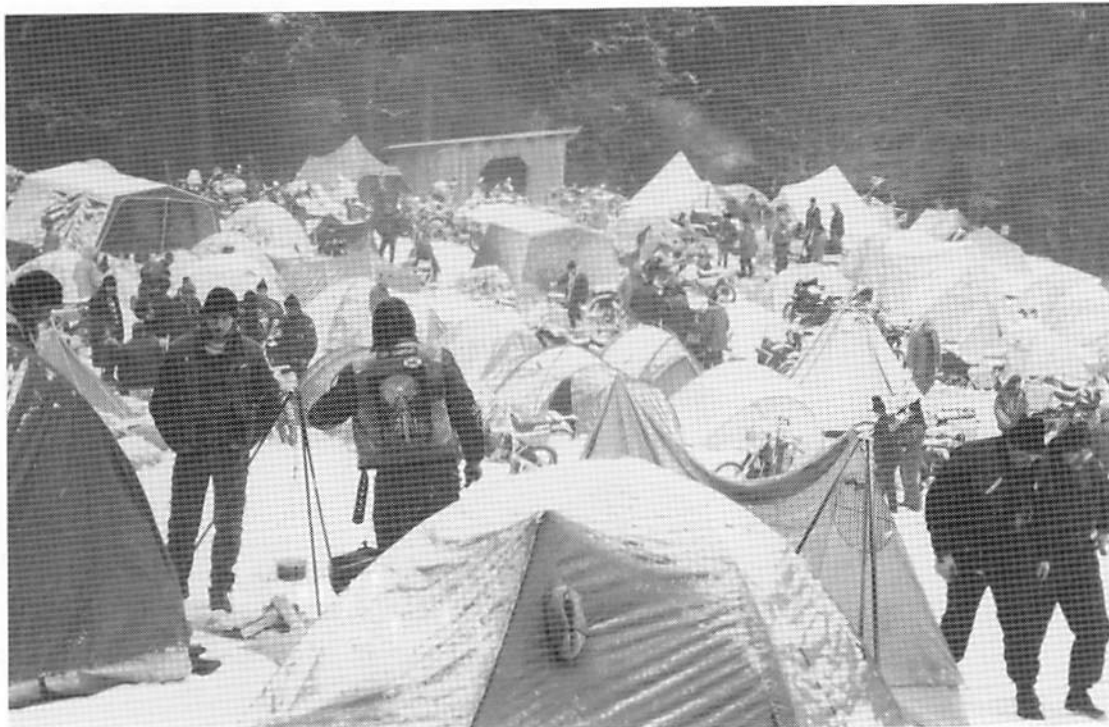
Where is the Elefant and when? In the coldest part of Bavaria, Germany at the beginning of February. This year it was February 2, 3, and 4th. The 41st meet will be January 31, February 1 and 2nd of 1997. When I say Bavaria, it would help you to know it's in a huge hilly farm pasture in the Thurmanstang-Solla/Loh area. That would be southeast of Nurnberg past Regensburg to Deggendorf, then north to the hills. If you go 20 km or 12 miles too far, you will be crossing into the Czech Republic. Beautiful country and great motorcycle roads in the summer. I can only imagine what it would be like because our weather was never above 31° F. The temperature in hazy daylight was 29-30, and at night 25° F. About 6 inches of snow, and falling. Thanks to Marcus, Gehart, Andrea, Georg,

Martina, Christian, Michael and Burget, it was not cold, only warm incredible feelings. How fortunate I am to be able to travel and experience the world by moto.

As I sat looking at the faces around our fire, my mind turned to the thousands upon thousands of men and women, of the generation ahead of mine, who couldn't be at the Elefant because of war.



Only three bottles broke!



Tenting in the snow - with 7,000 other people!



COMING EVENTS

JUNE 2, SUNDAY

Breakfast meeting, Princess Mary, 9:30am

JUNE 8-9

Party on a Dairy Farm

This can be a one or two day affair, depending on your desire to camp; Rath Trevor, Englishman River, and Little Qualicum Falls campgrounds are all within striking distance of the farm. Bring your own barbeque and drinks for Saturday night. Sunday brunch, farmers style, will be provided at 11am, followed by a tour of the dairy farm (Island Farms co-op) and a ride to Cathedral Grove, with a stop in Coombs or Port Alberni. RSVP to Derek and Karen Norman - 954-1184 - or call Kristin Ackerland - 592-8590. Directions will be provided at the next meeting, June 2.

JUNE 21-23

Chief Joseph Rally, Redmond, Oregon

This is a great little rally, with truly great roads and scenery, good accomodation - lots of lush grass for camping or motels within walking distance - plenty of sunshine and friendly people. Let's get lots of members out this year! I have pre-registration forms - \$25 instead of \$30. Must be received by May 31.

JULY 6, SATURDAY

Breakfast meeting, Olympic View Golf Club

AUGUST 1-4

Cascade Country Rendezvous, Cashmere, WA

Pre-registration must be received by July 15 - \$33 - or \$38 at gate (I have pre-registration forms).

August 10, SATURDAY

Party at Stan and Suzanne's - 1365 Hastings St
BYOBBS same as last year - bring your own bike, booze and barbecue food, condiments provided.

BUY AND SELL

FOR SALE:

1989 K75 Standard

Low seat, 70,000 km, lady driven \$5995

1986 Yamaha Maxim X

750 ccc, 10,000 km \$2795

Chris/Leslie Bell - 477-7102

Leave a message.

Brand new H4 55-60 watt headlight bulbs. I have 20 which will be offered to members at \$7 each, approximately half the regular price. Need a spare? Doug Hunter - 384-7661, or see him at the next meeting.

WANTED TO BUY:

Sidecar (any!) Russ Blow 656-9150 or
Les Blow 658-4482.

R100RT 1981-84 Geoff Stevenson 652-9127.

Extra large summer gloves; Red Gortex Riding Jacket; Touring boots, size 44; Leather pants, 32 waist, 33 leg; Windshield for R100S fairing.
Doug Hunter 384-7661

Editors:

Sally Harvey - submissions

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2430 Mowat St.

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595-6369

		BMW	Riders of Vancouver Island				
	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ADDRESS	CITY		CODE	PHONE
1	APPERLEY	Gord	3371 Woodburn Ave.	VICTORIA	BC	V8P 5B8	370-5030
2	BAILEY	Bob	405 Gamble Place	VICTORIA	BC	V9B 2R2	478-1952
3	BAKER	Tom	551 Leaside Ave	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 2K9	479-4150
4	BARDSLEY	John	8892 Pender Park Dr.	SIDNEY	BC	V8L 3Z5	656-9660
5	BEAN	Gord	1142 Clarke Rd.	BRENTWOOD BAY	BC	V8M 1Z2	652-4380
6	BEATTIE	Nigel	2430 Mowat St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8R 5S9	595-6369
7	BELL	Chris & Leslie	2210 McCoy Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V8N 1E5	477-7102
8	BLOW	Les	9340 Lochside	SIDNEY	BC	V8L 1N7	656-4482
9	BOYLE	Dave	420 Atkins Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V9B 2Z8	478-8226
10	BROWSWORD	Vernon, Margaret	1265 Woodway Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V9A 4W8	382-5081
11	DAMANT	Michael	215 Beechwood Ave.	VICTORIA	BC	V8S 3W6	595-3751
12	DANIEL	Stephen	18c Cooper Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V9A 4K2	385-9051
13	DAVIES	Brian	302-805 Cook St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8V 3Z1	386-0967
14	DAVIS	John	741 Gladiola Ave	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 2T2	479-1291
15	DEWEY	Paul	1261 Union Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V5P 2J5	
16	EMERY	Jaime	50-7925 Simpson Rd.	SAANICHTON	BC	V8M 1L3	652-0293
17	FISHER	Mike	2527 Bevan Ave.	SIDNEY	BC	V8L 1W4	656-5722
18	FLANAGAN	Jim	22-1311 Hillside Ave.	VICTORIA	BC	V8T 2B3	381-0440
19	FONTAINE	Jay R.	634 Hillcrest Ave.	NANAIMO	BC	V9R 3M7	1-755-1662
20	FORSYTH	Gary	312 Benhomer Dr.	VICTORIA	BC	V9c 2C6	474-2356
21	GODLONTON	Roger, Brenda	2117 Summergate Blvd.	SIDNEY	BC	V8L 4K9	656-5395
22	GRIMMER	Dennis	522 Doyle Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V8X 3X1	479-0588
23	HARVEY	Sally	#301 - 940 Inverness	VICTORIA	BC	V8X 2R9	383-1810
24	HELMUTH	Volker	2005 Cameron St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8T 3N4	384-5827
25	HIBBERSON	Ted	8511 Bourne Terrace	SIDNEY	BC	V8L 1L9	656-3427
26	HILLS	David	1000 Market St	PORTSMOUTH	NH	3801	
27	HOPKINS	Ted	579 Langvista Dr.	LANGFORD	BC	V9B 5N2	474-7951
28	HUNTER	Doug	1 - 1048 Lyall	VICTORIA	BC	V9A 5E9	
29	JENSEN	Stan	1365 Hastings St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 2W5	479-1495
30	JONES	Chris	3229 Service St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8P 4M8	592-4311
31	KEATING	Lawrence	2535 Scott St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8R 4H8	592-2456
32	KNOBLAUCH	Ingrid	955 Norris Rd	VICTORIA	BC	V8L 5M8	656-2959
33	LANGMAN	Wayne	Box 202	QUATHIASKI COVE	BC	V0P 1N0	1-604-285-3264
34	LINKLETTER	Dave	2869 Gregory Rd. RR#1	SHAWNIGAN LAKE	BC	V0R 2W0	1-604-743-1633
35	LUCAS	Barry	2680 Queenswood Dr.	VICTORIA	BC	V8N 1X5	477-4240
36	MADILL	Grant	2623 Richmond Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V8R 4S8	595-8171
37	MALONE	Alan	1216 Princess St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8T 1L5	381-6008
38	MARSULA	Wayne	2803 Morningside Terrace	ESCONDIDO	CA.	92029	
39	MEEHAN	Patrick	1106 Leonholm	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 1Z6	727-6401

		BMW	Riders of Vancouver Island				
	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ADDRESS	CITY		CODE	PHONE
40	MIDLANE	Wayne	4136 Mariposa Heights	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 6P6	727-6652
41	MILLER	Bill & Gay	1989 Barrett Drive	SIDNEY	BC	V8L 1A5	656-5190
42	NORMAN	Karen & Derek	1575 Price Rd. General Delivery	ERRINGTON	BC	V0R 1V0	1-604-954-1184
43	RADFORD	Brian	456 Duke Road	SALT SPRING ISL	BC	V8K 2B6	1-653-9370
44	ROMYN	Mike	4700 Sooke Rd.	SOOKE	BC	V9B 5B4	478-0978
45	SCHAEFER	Hermann	6337 East Sooke Rd.	SOOKE	BC	V0S 1N0	1-604-642-5006
46	SCHULZ	Chrissy	4690 George Rd. RR1	COWICHAN	BC	V0R 1N0	1-748-1260
47	SHADE	Gary	#301 - 2739 Koa Rd.	SAANICHTON	BC	V0S 1M0	652-6595
48	SHEARER	Dave	705 Robleda Cres.	VICTORIA	BC	V8S 3K6	385-2320
49	SHERKIN	Ken	607 John St.	VICTORIA	BC	V8T 1T8	920-9483
50	SLAUGHTER	Robert	201-545 Manchester Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V8T 5H6	380-0706
51	SMITH	Marilyn	2199 Newman Rd.	SAANICHTON	BC	V8M 1T3	652-2975
52	STEVENSON	Geoff	6924 Bayside Place	BRENTWOOD BAY	BC	V8M 1B2	652-9127
53	TIRLING	Eldon	528 William Street	VICTORIA	BC	V9A 3Y9	381-5115
54	TITTERTON	Geof	8569 Aldus Terrace	SIDNEY	BC	V2L 1K9	656-8106
55	WADDELL	Tim	10 - 750 Miller Drive	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 3C8	727-3618
56	WADE	Pat & Sherri Mclvor	824 Batting Pl.	VICTORIA	BC	V9C 3P7	478-3187
57	WALMSLEY	Mark	1863 Oak Bay Ave	VICTORIA	BC	V8R 1C6	592-8500
58	WAMER	Keary	1018 Maple Lane	PARKSVILLE	BC	V9P 1T3	1-604-248-8938
59	WILCOX	Neil	3821 Peak Dr	CAMPBELL RIVER	BC	V9H 1M8	1-923-3575
60	WOOD	Hugh	918 Leslie Drive	VICTORIA	BC	V8X 2Y5	475-1162
61	ZEIGLER	Michael	350 Beach Dr.	VICTORIA	BC	V8S 2M2	595-2904
62	c/o Jeff SZEPOWSKI	Great Plains Beemers	42 Greensmith Bay	REGINA	SK	S4X 1K1	
63	c/o TOM MORRIS	Bee Cee Beemers	1767 Anderson Way,	COQUITLAM	BC	V3C 4R4	1-941-8847
64	BERGER	Gerd, Jutta	4711 Scarff Rd.	PENDER ISLAND	BC	V0N 2M0	1-629-3443
65	HAMLET	Derek	977 Foul Bay Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V8S 4H9	592-8590
66	JUERGENSEN	Peter	#6-310 Goldstream Ave.	VICTORIA	BC	V9B 2W3	478-3244
67	LANG	Fred	3158 Marine View Pl.	VICTORIA	BC	V9C 1Y6	478-7629
68	NEMEC	Bob	441 Stannard Ave.	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 3M6	598-2655
69	PAUL	Chris	1423 Hampshire Road	VICTORIA	BC	V8S 4T5	592-9024
70	DOUCET	Richard	P.O. Box 5534	VICTORIA	BC	V8R 6S4	655-5041
71	WALLACE	Bill	6989 Wallace Dr.	BRENTWOOD BAY	BC	V8M 1E9	652-0214
72	MAGNIN-FORSTER	Fernand	1145 Roy Rd.	VICTORIA	BC	V8Z 2X5	479-3220