



# Wind Noise

Volume 1, Issue 3  
Spring 2004

## Quarterly Newsletter for The National R90s Sport Owners Club

### Spring Ride

If you ever need an excuse to leave what is commonly rumored to be damp and gray April weather in northwest Washington State for California sunshine and some of the best roads the Golden state has to offer, join Darryl Richman and other Airheads for the Bride of the Surf Tech Day in Santa Cruz, California. I would like to extend a huge thank-you to Darryl and his wife Heather for hosting the event and for providing the best in west-coast hospitality. Numerous R90S Club members were in attendance to include the "Big Duke" himself from Santa Barbara, Hans Kaufmann from Oakland, Dr J. from Danville, and the notorious Mik Llama Herman from Livermore. This is a must attend annual event. The coffee and comrade ire is second to none!

After 12 days on the road and

3300 miles riding my 79 R100RS, (Yeah I know, why didn't I take an "S") I must say that the first Spring Ride was a great experience. It has been more than 2 weeks since my return, and I have yet to unpack my bags. I told my wife Rozy that putting away the gear brings an end to the journey. Why end a great thing, an experience that rewards me every day as long as I remember the passage.

Leaving California, my good friend Mike Ashford (damn, GSPD Rider) and I decided to partake in an inexpensive motel with hot running water in Lakeview, OR. This after spending 2 days camping, riding, and taking in the splendor of Yosemite National Park. The wind was blowing and there was imminent threat of snow. The motel owner offered us a covered area to park our bikes. We awoke the next morning to 28



degrees, glorious sunshine, and 2-3 inches of fresh snow on the ground. For those of you in the Midwest, East, and Rocky Mountain states, maybe snow is a viable traction alternative. As for me, I do not like reducing my traction envelope to the point that gyro-rotation is the only thing keeping me upright and moving forward!

We made it through 20 or so miles of snow and ice. The road slowly became clear and dry. The dry arid buttes of southeastern Oregon formed a

*(Continued on page 2)*



#### Special points of interest:

- *New R90s gloves from Bill Stevens*
- *The new book about R90s's is out. Read all about it and get a special club discount.*
- *Club Treasurer John Yee introduces us to 16 new members. Hear what they have to say!*
- *Anyone heading to Spokane in July?*

#### Inside this issue:

<i>Vintage Days</i>	1
<i>Get your own R90s gloves</i>	3
<i>New BMW Book to be available soon</i>	3
<i>Membership Update</i>	4
<i>5th and Last R90s Rally</i>	6
<i>Other Places to show off your R90s</i>	7

## AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days

**BMW will be the "Featured Marque" at AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2004, to be held July 16 - 18 at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio.**

In celebrating the 81-year-old marque, AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2004 will benefit the Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum and will feature an exhibit of classic motorcycles and memorabilia. The traditional "Grand

Marshal" of the event will be announced soon. The legendary Mid-Ohio circuit will again host American Historic Motorcycle Racing Association (AHRMA) road racing throughout the weekend;

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Spring Ride (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

beautiful backdrop as we traveled north on highway 395. Later that evening we reached the Columbia River and made camp along the Deschutes River. It had been a long day, but a day worthy of remembrance.

I look forward to seeing both new and old friends at the BMW MOA National Rally in Spokane, WA this coming July. We will have tent space available to display your bike, an ice chest to chill your favor-

ite beverage, maybe even a few chairs to rest your chassis after a long ride. We are scheduling an R90S Sport Owners Club meeting at 10:00 AM, Friday July 16<sup>th</sup> at the tent site, followed by a group ride and lunch, returning early afternoon.

In the meantime, make it a priority to take a spring ride. Visit a few friends. Travel roads less traveled. Have a good time, and share with us your experience!

**Bill Stevens President**

R90S Sport Owners Club



## Vintage Days (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

two days of AHRMA motocross, plus observed trials and dirt-track racing, also will be on the schedule. In all, the AHRMA racing events are expected to attract more than 1,100 competitors.

AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2004 also will feature two vintage bike shows; the traditional all-brands AMA Swapmeet, North America's largest; a slate of guest speakers,

including renowned designer Craig Vetter; demo rides offered by BMW, Buell, Harley-Davidson, and Moto-Guzzi; an array of vendors featuring new products from top manufacturers and dealers; the annual Motorcycle Hall of Fame Auction of motorcycles and memorabilia; and the return of Rhett Rotten's original 1941 "Wall of Death" drome, with vintage Indians and Harley-Davidsons defying gravity on its hardwood walls.

*"The legendary Mid-Ohio circuit will again host American Historic Motorcycle Racing Association (AHRMA) road racing throughout the weekend;"*

This year marks AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days' tenth annual event at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. Motorcycles previously honored with the Featured Marque distinction include BSA, Honda, Norton, Penton, Vin-

## Make your reservations now for July 16-18

cent, Indian, Spanish motorcycles and, most recently, Harley-Davidson.

Spectator tickets for AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days 2004 are available from Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course at 1-800-MID-OHIO or [www.midohio.com](http://www.midohio.com).



Learn more about it @

<http://www.ama-cycle.org/vmd/2004/index.asp>

Club member **Ron Claus** has been in touch with the Organizers of this prestigious event and you may be able to participate by showing off your beloved R90s. Contact Ron for more info.

[fastducati900@zoominternet.net](mailto:fastducati900@zoominternet.net)

## Exclusive R90s Gloves now here!



ur esteemed President, Bill Stevens has been in the glove business longer than most burglars and definitely longer than O.J. Simpson.

Constantly thinking of new ways to enhance R90s ownership, Bill has come up with a way to impress even the most diehard vintage BMW enthusiast.

### Your very own set of R90s gloves!

The manufacturer, Watson Gloves, is located in Vancouver, BC and has been making leather gloves since 1918. This particular

model is supplied to the RCMP and municipal police departments. The gloves are made out of supple Brazilian cowhide, with a stiff cowhide cuff. Note the logo is heat stamped into the cuff in the upper right.

Prices are as follows:

Cotton lined \$60.00

Thinsulate lined: \$65.00

Plus \$5 for Priority mail shipping

Please contact John Yee (our esteemed Club Treasurer for more details:

248-879-3088 or

JOHN-YEE@SBCGLOBAL.NET



## New BMW Book from Whitehorse Press available soon

### FUND RAISERS:

**N**EW!!!! Want to save a minimum of \$5.00 on shipping costs and help the club with its fund raising efforts? A new book is being released by Whitehorse Press, written by Ian Fallon titled 'BMW Boxer Twins'. The press release goes on to say: "For nearly 80 years, shaft-drive boxer twins have traditionally formed the backbone of the BMW motorcycle lineup. Learn the history of the machine, which for many enthusiasts of the Bavarian marque, was the classic BMW twin, the R90S of 1973-76. Hardbound, 7-3/4" x 10-1/4", 160 pages, black/white/color illustrations." Price: \$29.95.

From the efforts of our esteemed President (Bill Stevens) the club will be able to purchase this book at a 20%-30% discount, depending on quantity ordered. If you were to order this book yourself, the cost would be \$29.95 plus a minimum shipping/handling charge of \$5.00 in the U.S. for a minimum total of \$34.95; for Canada the cost would be \$29.95 plus a minimum of \$7.00 s/h for a minimum total of \$36.96, and to other countries the

minimum total cost would be \$39.95. Your club is offering this book to the membership for \$29.95, shipping/handling included in the U.S. For Canada, shipping will be \$2.00 extra for a total of \$31.95 and other countries, shipping will be \$5.00 extra for a total cost of \$34.95. If you would like to reserve a book, please send a check or money order (US funds) to 'John Yee-Treasurer'. Please get your order in quickly, this book order will be placed very soon and we will only order 10-20 extra copies for sale at the Spokane MOA Rally and AMA Vintage Days.

**Dellorto Float Bowl Nuts:** We still have the hard to find Dellorto float bowl nuts available at \$10.00 each, shipping included. Please make check or money order (US funds) to 'John Yee-Treasurer'

**Patches:** We have embroidered club patches in Daytona Orange and Silver Smoke available for sale. The patches are \$4.50 each or \$12.00 for three in any combinations of orange or smoke colors. We also have a limited supply of embroidered patches from the 2003 4<sup>th</sup> & Last

Rally. These are discounted to \$1.00 each. Add token amount for shipping.

If you are also purchasing the BMW Boxer Twins book with the patches, shipping for the patches will be included at no extra charge. Please make check or money order (US funds) to 'John Yee-Treasurer'

Mail all fund raiser checks to:

National R90S Sport Owners  
c/o John Yee  
717 Amberwood Ct  
Troy, Michigan 48085  
U.S.A.



## Membership Update

By **John Yee**

Treasurer/Membership Chairman

For the spring edition of the newsletter, we now have a total of 146 renewing & new members. Thank you to all that have renewed your membership to support the club. You will also be receiving the latest updated rosters with this newsletter. Please advise me of any roster changes. Please note that I have a new e-mail address. Old address:

[DUCJYEE@YAHOO.COM](mailto:DUCJYEE@YAHOO.COM) New address: [JOHN-YEE@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:JOHN-YEE@SBCGLOBAL.NET)

It is my pleasure to acknowledge and welcome the following new members with their comments:

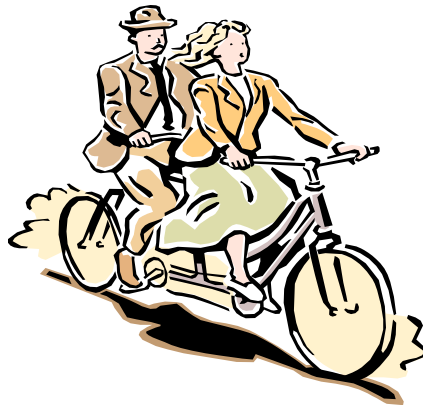
**ADAMS, JEFF:** Center Conway, NH. "Special Sales and Resident Airhead Nut" of Whitehorse Press. Jeff Adams was given a free one year membership to the club for helping the club members obtain the new book "BMW Boxer Twins" at a reduced rate.

**COFFEY, BOB:** Savannah, GA. 1975 Daytona Orange, serial #4980066 with 27,800 miles. Modification: air pressure fittings at top of front forks.

**BRITT, TOM:** Vineyard Haven, MA. 1974 Silver Smoke, serial #4950142 with 18,880 miles.

**DeMARCO, ROBERT:** Eastchester, N.Y. 1974 Silver Smoke, serial #4950020 with 44,029 miles. Bike has been in storage for 10 years; hopefully I can have it running in a few days and start restoration from there!

**DENNING, ROGER:** LaBelle, FL. 1975 Silver Smoke, serial #4981289 with 12,150 miles, no modifications. Just as a point of interest, I purchased my R90S from a gent in Tacoma, WA last spring. It had 7,500 miles on it and looked as if it just rolled off the showroom floor. I flew out to get it and rode it back to Florida (4,000) miles with nary a problem. It fills the space in my shop between an R69S (which came from your neck of the woods – I am originally from Jonesville, MI) & an R1100S. The need for speed helps keep old farts young!



*When I feel that I am not fully appreciative of BMW's, I take my '73 Norton out and oil the back roads.*

**DOBYNS, CHRIS:** Haslett, MI. 1976 Silver Smoke, serial #4991104. The bike is stock. This is my 1<sup>st</sup> R90S. I have wanted one since one passed me on US 1 on the Maine coast in July 1974. At the time, I had a 1966 BMW R69S. At present I have a '65 R69S, '64 R60/2 and a '65 R50/2 so I have just gone 'modern' with the '76 R90S. This is partially in jest as old reliable is a 2001 R1150GS. When I feel that I am not fully appreciative of BMW's, I take my '73 Norton out and oil the back roads.

**ERICKSON, JERRY:** San Ramon, CA. 1974 Silver Smoke, serial #4071030. I have been riding bikes since I was 10

years old and still ride as often as I can. I have always ridden more dirt than street, probably 85% dirt, 15% street on average. Probably because I like to race, and dirt is a lot more forgiving. I race motocross in the 50+ class now, and ride vintage trials, and trail ride lots. I had 3 BMW's for a while but sold one. Still have the R90S and also an R100RS. These are still projects in progress with lots still to be done. Both about 90% stock right now, but that will change before too long. I hope to do some touring on the RS one of these days. I really enjoy taking the R90S out for an early morning ride thru the canyons. I belong to the BMW Owners Club but have not done any of their events yet. I am not into the social stuff, I just like to ride. I belong to the Airheads and love the technical stuff, but I am not as fanatical as most of the Airhead members. I like the beauty of older bikes, and because they are simple and easy to work on. I do almost all my own wrenching, and enjoy finding an old wreck that has been neglected and forgotten and fix it up into a nice bike to ride. All my bikes are riders, no show bikes or trailer queens, and all have been junk or wrecks or basket cases when I got them. Check out my web site

([www.vintagejerry@comcast.com](http://www.vintagejerry@comcast.com)) and you can see all my bikes and projects. Note: If you like vintage dirt bikes (like I do) check out Jerry's web site. It's great! (John Yee)

**GATTIS, JIM:** Charleston, AR. 1976 Daytona Orange, serial #4981626 with 36,985 miles & Koni rear shocks.

**KAUFMANN, HANS:** Oakland, CA. 1974 Silver Smoke, serial #4950162 with 42,000 miles. Basically stock with a few adders including: Progressive fork springs, Hepko Becker saddle bags, CC products wrist pins (plugged those in

*(Continued on page 5)*

## More Membership Update

*(Continued from page 4)*

while I was doing a valve job), upgraded the shifter mechanism, S.S. brake lines, Butler & Smith rear sets. I'm the 3<sup>rd</sup> owner having bought the bike with 28,000 miles on it. When I want to putt around slowly, I ride my fully restored 1967 R50/2.

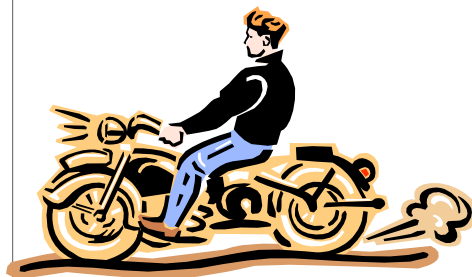
**HALLSTROM, PETER:** Farsta (Stockholm), Sweden. 1975 Daytona Orange with 110,000 Km. & electronic ignition. 1<sup>st</sup> owner 1975-1976; 2<sup>nd</sup> owner 1976-2003; 3<sup>rd</sup> owner 2003 and I bought it in September 2003. Repairing the gearbox and fixing it up for this summer. The longtime owner basically used it so it's coming up nicely.

**O'KEEFE, RICHARD:** Berwyn, PA. 1975 Daytona Orange, serial # 4980663 with 53,254 miles. No modifications, currently in the process of a frame up restoration.

**RUSSELL, JIM:** Blairsville, GA. 1974 Silver Smoke, serial #4070891 with 42,000 miles. My R90S is currently housed in Arizona. I purchased it from my nephew who lives in Phoenix. I have only ridden the bike a couple of miles while visiting out there. Looking forward to getting it back here to Georgia. It will need some minor work which I am capable of doing. I have done frame up restorations on an R60/2 and an R75/5 which I still own and ride. I also have an R80/GS, an R100R, and an R1100RT. The only problem is finding enough time to enjoy them all. I really enjoy the airheads, and am anxious to get the 'S' on the road here in the mountains.

**SHERMAN, CHUCK:** Phoenix, AZ.

**STEVENS, CHRIS:** Gallatin Gateway, MT. 1976 Daytona Orange, serial #4990597. It all started in 1969 when I rode my first BMW – an R50/2 brought back to Seattle by my buddies' Dad who rode BMW's in World War II. A few years and a few bikes later I bought a new 1976 R90/6 from Buckingham BMW in Seattle. There were two bikes on the floor in the small shop/dealer, the black



*I jumped in my Jeep and tried to follow that Flash of Orange, hoping to catch up*

R90/6 and a Daytona Orange R90S. I decided on the /6 which I rode many enjoyable miles including a two week trip from Seattle to San Diego via Hwy. #1. In the back of my mind I always wondered about that Orange R90S that I almost bought. A few years and a few bikes later (a Harley, a BSA and a Triumph) I was splitting firewood on a cool fall day in Montana when I heard the unmistakable sound of a BMW Twin and saw a flash of Daytona Orange through the trees on the dirt road by my house. The bike I always wanted just went by. Remarkable as you seldom see any motorcycles that time of the year, much less an R90S and quite coincidental since I had recently been talking to my brother Bill Stevens (whom some of you may know) (Bill Stevens is President of this club-J.Yee) about his lust for the same bike. As a matter of fact I thought it could be Bill making good on his threat to buy and ride home to Washington an 'S' he had discovered in North Carolina. I jumped in my Jeep and tried to follow that Flash of Orange, hoping to catch up

for a closer look. No luck. The bike had disappeared in the middle of Montana's wide open spaces, leaving me to wonder if my imagination had gotten away. Not surprising since that Orange Bike had been on my mind for 25 years or so. The following spring a small ad appeared in the local paper which in this country is mostly for tractors and pick-up trucks. It read "1976 BMW Orange Color in Great Shape". That same day I walked into a run down shop at the end of a dirt road to find that same BMW I had seen through the trees and that had been on my mind for 25 years. This time I rode home on the R90S, a ding here, a scratch here, but new to me. And what a bike it is! A full blooded 'S' with horses and big hairy legs. It's distinctive and satisfying in every way. It's more powerful and agile than my /6 and a pleasure to ride and behold. The bike is mostly original with new Metzlers, Lester wheels, a reinforced swing arm and a recent tune up from Bob Clement at his Motorwerks in Roberts, Montana. My 'S' has had an inspection from my exacting and knowledgeable brother Bill who can spot an imperfection at 50 yards and with a few changes and repairs may meet his approval. That Flash of Daytona Orange on the Beartooth Highway in Montana will be Bill and I bound for Red Lodge on our BMW's. See you out there.

**TRUMBORE, TODD:** Harleysville, PA. 1974 Silver Smoke serial #4950209 and a 1976 Daytona Orange serial #4990131. The '74 has 52k miles and is stock, bought from original owner, runs fine, looks ok but will restore from the frame up in the near future. The '76 has 5,000 miles, all original, and showroom condition. I've been riding over 36 years and the last 22 years on BMW's exclusively and have a collection of about 15 BMW's at this time. I've done quite a few cross country tours as well as many

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Even More Membership Update

(Continued from page 5)

trips up and down the east coast. I've done trips to Daytona for bike week and trips to Nova Scotia, rode the Cabot Trail a couple of times, which is probably my favorite road in the east and ferried to Newfoundland and spent a few days in that province. You should never pass up a chance to fuel up in Newfoundland when given the opportunity. I've learned the hard way. My oldest bike is a '55 R50 (900cc engine) with a Steib S501 sidecar in excellent condition and a real joy to ride. My newest bike is an '84 R100RT with all the accessories for long distance touring. Happy motoring.

**VAN HEERDEN, AURET:** Kelowna, B.C., Canada. 1974 Silver Smoke, serial #4950537. I bought a 1974 R90S in November last year with 41,000 k on it. Someone had painted it Daytona Orange and I have just finished repainting it Silver Smoke. It also needs pushrod tube seals and a few other minor things. Hopefully it will be on the road soon and with a bit of luck I should be able to make it to Spokane. I plan, over the long term, to restore it entirely. I am a bit of a traditionalist and plan to keep it original except for electronic ignition. We live in Kelowna which is in the Okanagan Val-

ley in Southern B.C. We have beautiful, hot, dry summers and wonderful areas for motorcycle touring. It would be well worth a visit if you are ever up this way.

**WISHART, MARK:** Columbia, S.C. 1974 Metallic Blue, serial #4070230 with 133,586 original km (83,006 miles). Corbin saddle, San Jose billet triple clamp, San Jose fork brace, stainless steel braided brake lines, K & N air filter, late model luggage platform, Koni shocks, Progressive springs, fork gaiters, gel battery, Gustafson bubble tinted +2" wind-screen, Dyna ignition and soon to be added "Ira's Nuts".

**MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS:** Comments that the following members have included with their renewals for 2004.

**Borbely, Alex:** Newton Falls, OH. 57,878 miles, dual plugged, EBC floating rotors, CC Products handlebar master cylinder, Dyna III ignition, Works Performance shocks & fork springs, Telefix fork brace, /5 aluminum turn signal pods, newer stock rims & stainless spokes and Reynolds ride-off stand. Owned since 7/91, still has original paint on bodywork & frame.

**De Boer, Jorrit:** Munich, Germany. Enclosed please find a check of \$50 to cover my renewal membership and an additional donation to cover a drink for those working for the club. My R90S is in the shop to replace cylinders & pistons and valve guides & seats after 100,000 Km running. Those driving behind me had complaints about the smell.

**Richman, Darryl:** Santa Cruz, CA. 37,xxx miles, new Works Performance shocks & new BMW HD fork springs.

**Wright, Dale:** Amherst, OH. Progressive fork springs & rear shocks, fork brace & reinforced swing arm, dual plugged, electronic ignition, Corbin seat, rear rack & Krauser saddlebags.

**DONATIONS:** A special thanks for the following members who donated extra funds to the club along with their new or membership renewal: **John Archer, Jack Chermak, Dave Clemens, Bob Dean, Jorrit de Boer, Peter Deets, Norm Delezenne, Roger Denning** (new member), **Wayne Kosaka, Randy Lum, Kirk Ratzel, Laszlo Repay, Bert Rose, and Dennis Wilcoxon.**

## R90s Rally just around the corner

**M**ark your calendars now for the 5th and Last AND best R90s rally to date.

**August 20, 21,22** are the dates and Mike and Rhyley Meagher are our hosts once again. (if you recall the R90s rally was held there two years ago).

Mike and Rhyley treated R90s members to

their beautiful Bed and Breakfast located on 5 rolling acres of wooded land.

Located in the sleepy little town of Webberville, just northwest of Detroit, this installment of the latest R90s get together promises to be one of the best.

We'll have a Saturday Day Ride, Bike Show as well as a catered dinner.

John Yee, our esteemed Newsletter Editor has more information.

You can reach him at:

**john-yee@sbcglobal.net**



## Other Upcoming Events

### Annual Vintage Motorcycle Rally and Show

Caldwell ID.

May 15-16, 2004

Sponsored by the Idaho Vintage Motorcycle Club, Inc.

Contact Molly at 208-377-4981 or visit [home.velocitus.net/norton99/IVMC.htm](http://home.velocitus.net/norton99/IVMC.htm)

### Festival of Fives Rally

May 21 - May 23rd, 2004

Welcome to the 3rd Annual Slash5 of Kentucky Rally AKA: festival of fives/b. It will be a simple gathering of riders. The main focus of this rally will be to hang-out and enjoy the company of other slash5 fans in the rolling hills of Kentucky. All are welcome, all bike, and all makes. If you can find a BMW slash5 to ride in on, you will be praised for your fine selection in bikes and will feel more at home.

Located on the scenic Kentucky River, at the mouth of Elkhorn Creek. RV & tent areas have water/electric at all sites and sewer to most RV sites. Two primitive camping areas. Camp store, concessions, dump station, and bathhouse. Boat ramps, bait, canoeing and kayaking on the Kentucky River and Elkhorn Creek. Fishing, skiing, hiking, and old fashioned recreation.

[www.5united.net/html/fofb.html](http://www.5united.net/html/fofb.html)

### Vintage BMW Motorcycle Owners Ltd.

29th Annual Mayday Madness Rally

May 21- May 23, 2004

Our Annual Mayday Madness will again be held in Lee NH, and the dates are May 21-22 and 23, 2004 (so as not to interfere with other local BMW clubs having their events on the Memorial Day weekend that immediately follows.) Please see the write up in the VBMWMO Bulletin

### British/European Motorcycle Day

Gaithersburg, MD

Sunday May 23, 2004

Held at Butler's Orchard in Gaithersburg, MD. This huge event features a Vintage Concours, Large swap meet, Vintage trials demonstration, food, and door prizes. It is very popular and usually will see around 300-500 vintage motorcycles of all

marques. BMW's have always been one of the majority attending marques. For more information please see their website at: [www.classicmotorcycleday.org](http://www.classicmotorcycleday.org)

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**GET OUT AND RIDE!**

**Quarterly Newsletter for The  
National R90s Sport Owners Club**

**National R90S Sport Owner's Club**

c/o John Yee

717 Amberwood Ct.

Troy, Michigan 48085

U.S.A.



**We're on the Web!**

**Look us Up**

**[http://  
www.bmwr90sowners  
club.org/](http://www.bmwr90sownersclub.org/)**

*The*

*R90s Sport  
Owners Club*

*is an International non  
profit organization dedicated  
to the preservation, restora-  
tion and overall enjoyment of 1974 thru 1976 R90s  
Motorcycles.*



*Many of our enthusiastic members feel this bike was  
the pinnacle of Motorcycle design, function and aes-  
thetic beauty.*

*On our website and in our chat room you will find  
many members willing to offer advice, recommenda-  
tions and support designed to keep your bike where it  
belongs.....On the Road!*

*Please join us at a rally or better yet, join our organi-  
zation so you can share your enthusiasm with like  
minded members. (ed)*

**Chat with fellow R90s members @**

**<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/R90SWORLDNET/>**