

The Editor Speaks!



All I wish for Christmas.

A yellow R1200GS. (Pipe Dream. Beggars can't be choosy so any color will do, lime green with pink accents would be perfect if it's free.)

A K1200GT with a 2-place EZS sidecar. (Pipe Dream)

A Ural Gear-Up with the optional machine gun. (Pipe Dream, just not as big as #2)

A frontal crash Air Bag for new motorcycles. (Pipe Dream... Oh, well I didn't ask for this but somebody did. It's standard on the \$22,499 top-of-line Gold Wing.)

An Automatic tranny for motorcycles. (Honestly it wasn't me that asked, I'm really not that lazy. It's got a clutch just not a clutch lever, the FJR1300AE; the E stands for Electronic Shift.)

A Schuberth C2 helmet, silver, and size XXL. (Pipe Dream)

Free stickers to cover the scratches on my current helmet. (Plausible).

A platinum Skull ring sold in the back of Cycle World or a platinum motorcycle tire ring from the Rider WearHouse Holiday catalog. (Pipe Dream)

A ring from a gumball machine. (Plausible)

A nice Sunday to go riding. (Very Plausible).

Thanks for all of the kind words about the Newsletter the past few years. With out them it would have been a very difficult task indeed.

Ride Safe, ride far, and every chance you get.

Art

Editor: Art Wheeler

phone: (636) 391-4874

email: wnodrog@hotmail.com

On the Cover: Central Oregon 2001, on the way to Redmond. One of my favorites. AW

Page 1 The Gateway Gazette Holiday Supplement 2005

Gateway Riders BMW Club
P.O. Box 11563
Clayton, MO 63105
AMA #4770 BMW MOA #22

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email: mrob46@earthlink.net

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phone: (314) 838-9179
email: lucieb717@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Rich Race
phone: (314) 909-1947
email: r.race@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Jim Shaw
phone: (314) 521-0341

Rally Director: Larry Floyd
phone: (314) 892-7012
email: sickleguy@aol.com

Technical: David Griffin
phone: (636) 300-3388

Membership: Jay Green
phone: (618) 277-7689
email: jay.green@dcma.mil

Web Master: Art Mester
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email: artk75@swbell.net

Submission's

Please send all submission's to the Editor's email address at left. For snail mail please call for instructions. MS Word, Apple Works, & text files are the best. Photos, send the originals and I will scan it, or .jpg, .gif, or .tiff. If you are unsure about file type or photos give the Editor a call or email first. ***You can't blame me for any mistakes, if I have to type it.*** **Deadlines** are Feb 1st, Apr 1st, Jun 1st, Aug 1st, and Oct 1st.

Events Calendar:

Winter 2005/2006

Events Director: Jeff Ackerman

Phone: (314) 838-2161

email: Mary.Ackerman@worldnet.att.net

Note: To make it easier to meet and fill up, we are switching to starting all the rides at gas stations & convenience stores. The starting point will depend on the direction we are going. See the list below:

NORTH: The east side of the Home Depot parking lot, between New Halls Ferry & Old Halls Ferry, south side of I270 in North County.

SOUTH: The McStop at Peveley (Exit 180 off I55 at Z) OR the Dierburg's Mall on Hwy 21, just south of I270 (on the L/H side at the first light).

WEST: The Quick Trip off I70 by I370 at Mid Rivers Mall (on the north side in St. Peters) OR Gator Flats, just south of Hwy. 40 (I64) on Long Road, OR the MotoMart, on Hwy. 141, just north of I44.

EAST: The Dierburg's or Home Depot – See above.

Note: The Motorcycle Show isn't coming to St. Louis this year. The closest location will be in Chicago on Feb. 10-12. Let your events director know if you are interested in organizing a group trip to see it.

Dec. 10: BMW of St. Louis Customer Appreciation Open House and Christmas Party; Check their website for more info: www.bmwstl.com or call 314-991-8777

* December 2: Christmas Party from 7 to 11 PM at Catering to You (same place as the last several years) 12775 New Halls Ferry Rd.; 314-839-3244, Check the last newsletter for more info. RSVP with Jim Shaw (314-521-0341) by Dec. 3, so he can get an accurate head count. \$10 for members/\$20 for guests this year.

* Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Party – Celebrate 2006 with Pete and Sally; 832 Garonne, off of La Bonne Pkwy. See map on right below. 636-256-3306 - Show up at 8 pm (or later) and bring your favorite snacks; beer and soda provided plus champagne at Midnight. (Map on Page 5)

* Jan. 1: New Year's Ride (weather permitting): Meet at the Quick Trip in St. Peters, off I70 at Mid Rivers at 10 / Leave 10:30. Details worked out at the New Year's Eve Party. Jeff Ackerman 314-838-2161

* Jan. 18: Wednesday General Meeting at Malone's Pub and Grill; 1320 Triad Center Drive (off McClay), St. Peters, Arrive no later than 6:30 if you plan on eating. Meeting starts at 7:30 sharp. 636-447-1707

* Jan. 28/29: Blue Nose Campout at Pierre Marquette park (get reservations early if you want a cabin or to stay in the Lodge; 618-786-3323); Jim Shaw (314-521-0341) Feb 18/19 is the alternate if the weather is really bad (not just a little cold).

* Feb. 5: Super Bowl Party with Art and Judy; Bring snacks and your favorite beverage. The game starts in the late afternoon again, show up 1 hr. before game time for pre-game festivities. 1025 Orchard Lakes Dr., St. Louis. Art Mester and Judie Northcutt 314 567-4405 or 314-304-5051 (Map on Page 7)

* Feb. 11: Valentine's Day party at the Small's. Since they are leaving on vacation the next morning, show up after 3 pm. Bring snacks and beverages will be provided – SUBJECT TO CHANGE 314-727-1466 (Map on Page 5).

* Feb. 15: Wednesday General Meeting at Malone's Pub and Grill; 1320 Triad Center Drive (off McClay), St. Peters, Arrive no later than 6:30 if you plan on eating. Meeting starts at 7:30 sharp. 636-447-1707

* Feb. 19: "Woo's Folly" ride to Diamond Mineral Springs. Meet on the east side of the Home Depot between New Halls Ferry & Old Halls Ferry on the south side of I270 in North County at 9:00 AM/Leave 9:30 (We'll take cars if the weather is bad.) Jeff Ackerman 314-838-2161

* Events that are starred are point events. BMW rallies greater than 500 miles away are point rides, even if not listed. Note: See the MOA magazine or website: www.bmwmoa.org for more Rally information.

The Christmas Party will be December 2nd

Same place as the last several years. (See map below.)

IMPORTANT!!

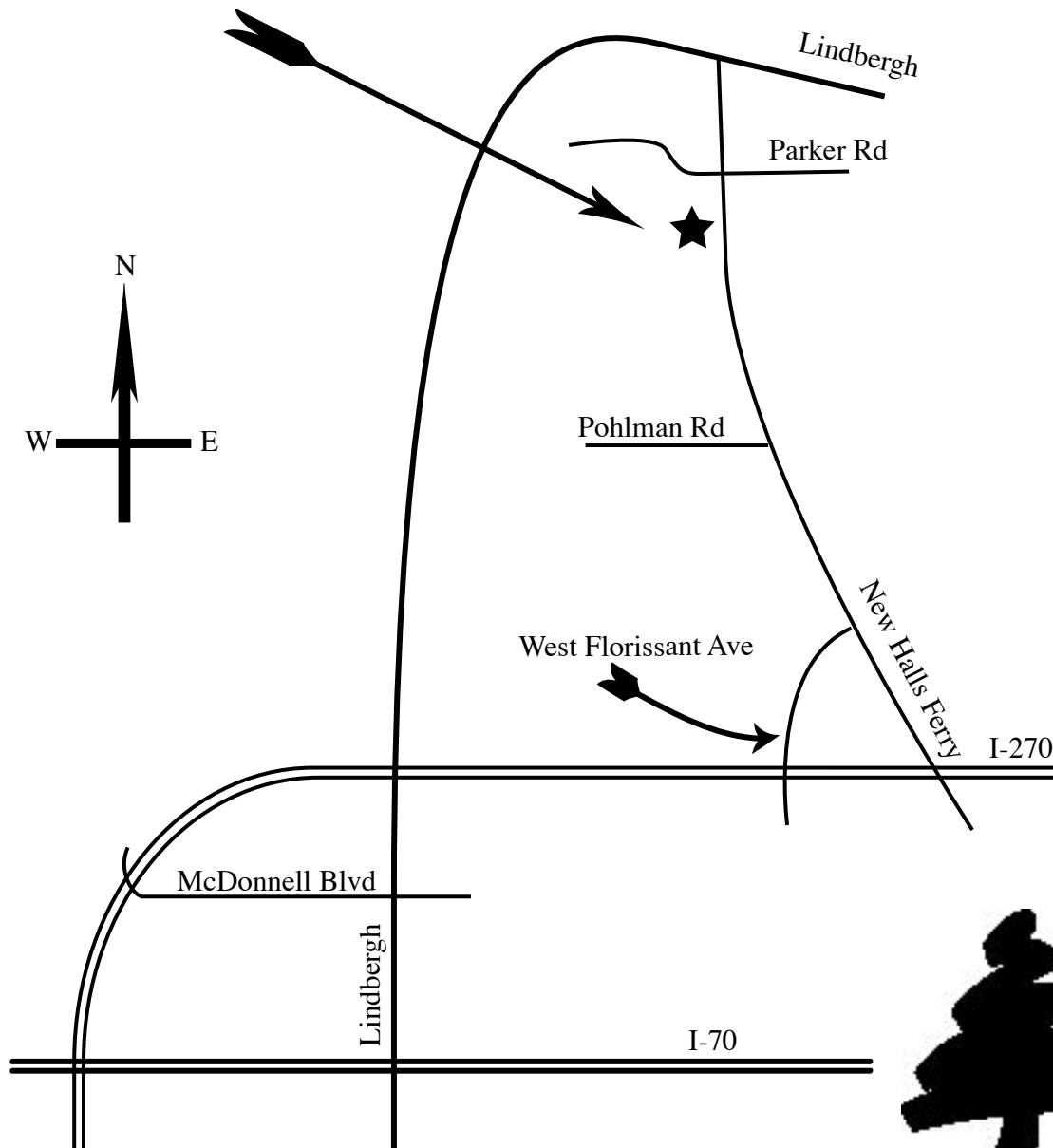
You need to RSVP with Jim Shaw By no later than November 28th.

The Cost will be: \$10 for members & \$20 for guests.

To RSVP call Jim at: (314) 521-0341

Catering To You Banquet Center

12775 New Halls Ferry Rd
Florissant, MO 63033-4031
314-839-3244



The special awards given at the annual holiday party are a treat to see and are enjoyed by all, but please be considerate and limit your presentations to 10 minutes. Thank you.

Ballot for 2005 Club Officers.

If you will NOT be attending the Christmas Party on December 2nd, please mail this ballot to the Club P.O. Box listed at the bottom of this ballot. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the Christmas Party. A blank space has been provided if you wish to run a Write-in campaign...

President: Jay Green _____

President of Vice: Lucie Sulfstede _____

Secretary: Susan Anderson _____

Treasurer: Rich Race _____

Mail to: Gateway Riders
P.O. Box 11563
Clayton, MO 63105

All memberships are due for renewal with the New Year.

Gateway Riders BMW Club - Membership Renewal

\$14.00 primary & \$7.00 spouse/child

Name and any *NEW* information - Please complete typewritten or printed.

Name _____, Spouse _____

Street Address _____, City _____

State _____, Zip _____+4 _____,

Home PH(____) _____ - _____, Emergency PH(____) _____ - _____

E-mail address _____, Work PH(____) _____ - _____

Return to:

Gateway Riders
Attn: Membership Director
P.O. Box 11563
Clayton, MO 63105

OFFICIAL USE ONLY! Payment amount\$ _____, cash(), check/M.O.# _____,
Regular (), Associate ()

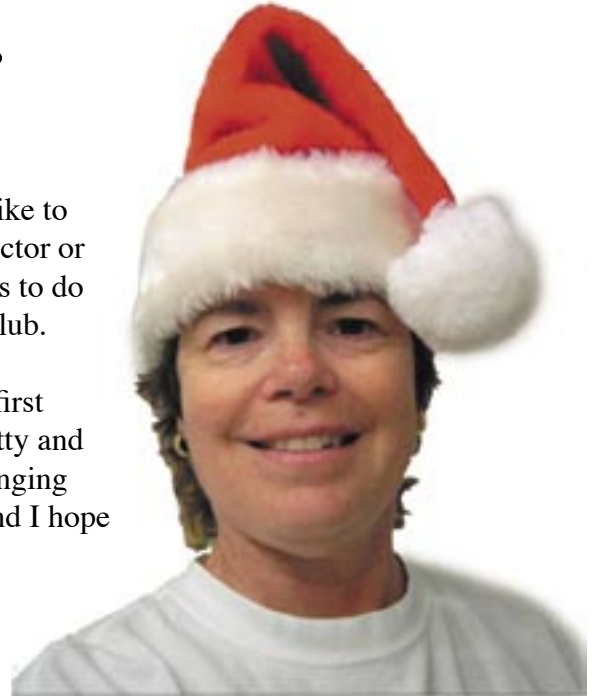
Presidential View...

By: Marilyn Roberts

This will be my last column as president, at least for a while. I'd like to give a big thank you to everyone who has served as an officer, director or other volunteer in the past two years. I know you have other things to do and I appreciate your assistance and the time you've given to the club.

It's only early November as I write this but I've already heard the first holiday song on the radio. It could have been one of the many pretty and inspirational holiday songs, but it just happened to be Porky Pig singing "Blue Christmas." That sets the tone for a fun and silly holiday, and I hope your holiday will be just the way you want it.

Keep the rubber side down and enjoy!



Holiday Party Special Awards!

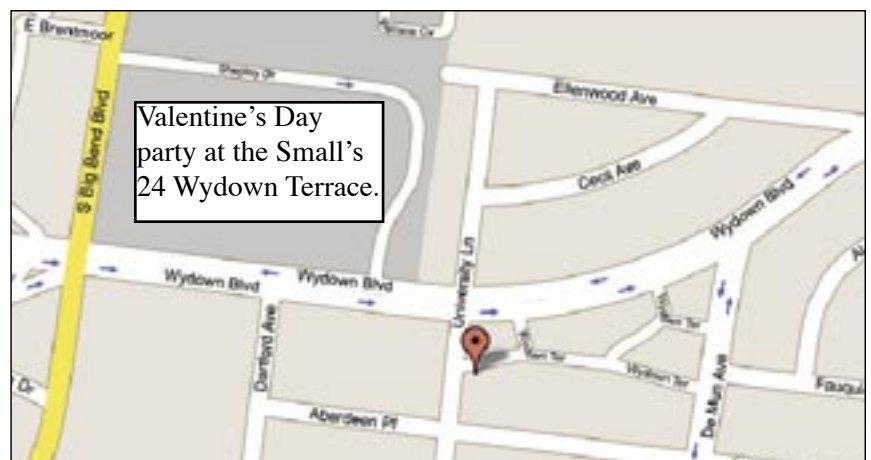
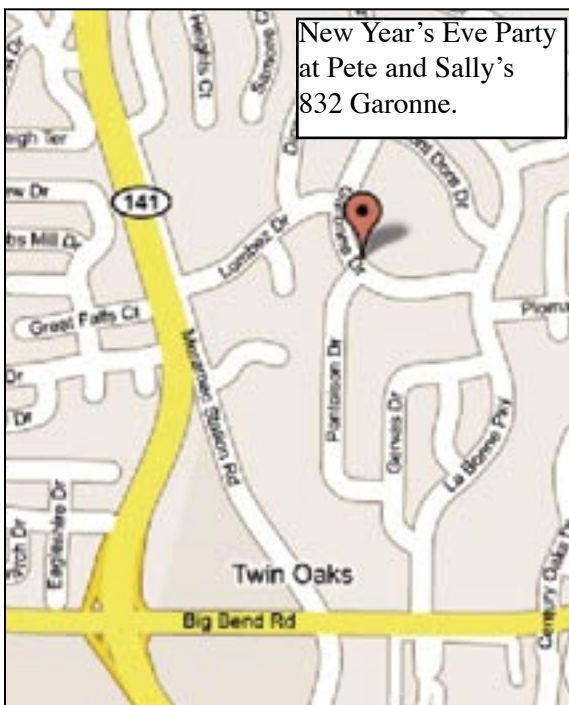
The special awards given at the annual holiday party are a treat to see and are enjoyed by all, but please be considerate and limit your presentations to 10 minutes. Thank you.

2006 Gateway Riders Calendar.

The Second Gateway Riders Calendar is now complete. You can go to (<http://www.cafepress.com/gatewayriders>) and order one. The price is \$14.99 plus shipping (shipping starts @ \$7.00)

Events' Contest.

The events' contest ends at the November meeting, and Jeff Ackerman needs to total up everybody's points for the Christmas Party. There were a number of rallies that were listed in the events that we haven't received any sign-up sheets for. Also most BMW rallies that we didn't list are also eligible for points. Anyone who attended BMW rallies this past year let Jeff know before the Christmas Party. Jeff's email and phone number can be found above the Events.



The Ride.

Art Mester had a friend from Arizona come and stay with him last month. He asked him to write an article about riding in Missouri. Below is the result, enjoy.

Hi All,
A brief self introduction. I'm David Redbear. None of you know me. I am an old friend/brother of Art Mester whom I'm sure many of you readers know. We go back maybe twenty five years or so. We were once both young, now he is still young and I'm old, I'm jealous!

His Mom has recently passed back to the Spirit world. I called her Mom also. She wanted it that way. It is my honor and privilege to have known her and spent time with her. The recent ride we had together is in honor of her. Mom, we had a great time and I believe you were there through every curve and shift.

I've never been to Missouri before. It was all new to me, the people, the countryside, everything. I live out West, in Arizona. Spent most of my riding years in California. I rode and owned a bike before I ever owned or drove a car. Funny what brings people together. I met Art because of an old 750 Honda I had for sale. He bought it and I got a life long friend along with a few bucks. What a deal for me! I can't remember what he paid, I only remember the day we met. Never dreamed it would be anything more than a quick transaction. Here I am today with a brother for life.

In all honesty, I was dreading my trip to Missouri. I figured it would be dark and cold and windy, generally miserable. What a beautiful surprise I got. The weather was great! Sunny, warm, really green. I was stunned!

I met up with Art and Judy. They took me to their home. The riding began. It had been a long time for Art and I, Lake Tahoe was our last ride with Art's Mom on back. She was a natural, looked like she grew up on the back of a BMW.

You all know Art's bike, the Falco. I tried it but did not have room enough to let it loose, just around the neighborhood since I got lost so easily. It felt like a frustrated horse wanting to run but no where to go. It tempted me to say the least. I stayed cool, remembering some old basic misjudgments I made long ago as a younger rider.

I became good friends with his BMW R 1100 RT. It took some getting used to. I ride a Valkyrie, it makes everything else seem light and agile. I loved the front brakes and the balance of the RT.. My feet rarely touched the ground, even at stops, just sit there with feet up, no sweat! I can do it on my Valkyrie also but not for as long. When that Valk does start to tip, you'd better be ready for it.

I was lost most of the time, couldn't have found my way back to Art and Judy's place in the dark for nothing. It was fun! All I had to do was follow and enjoy the drive. I wore a full face helmet, not used to it as I don't wear one at all in Arizona. The BMW was surprisingly comfortable to me, I like it!

The next ride I was alone while Art and Judy were at work. I ventured around and eventually made my way over to Cahokia mounds. This was something I did not expect to ever do and has special meaning to me. I am a Son of Keetuwah, commonly called Cherokee. The origins of the mounds are still controversial among archaeologist and my People alike. Some say we built it and others say not. Some say we helped build it. I am absolutely certain that we have been there and lived there. I stood in the center of the largest pyramid where the Sacred Fire would have been over a thousand years ago. I stood there making connections where past, present and future are one. Connection's! Motorcycles, Art, me, riding, coming to Art's home, coming to an ancient place of my Ancestors. All of it happening because I sold him a 750 Honda long ago.

As many before me have said, 'it ain't the destination, it is the journey'! I still can't figure if it is just me or if it is real, but it seems to me that people around your area drive more rationally than here in the West, especially California. To me, driving in southern Cal is experiencing a much more hostile environment than around your town and country. In California,

it is survival of the fittest! If you are on a bike on a California freeway in rush hour, you had better have your wits about you if you want to reach your destination and live to ride another day. I found riding in your land much more relaxing.

Here in Arizona where I live there is mile after mile of straight road with little to look at and almost nothing green. If you like high speed and want to find out what your machine will really do, you can do it here. A curve in the road here is precious. A curve where you might have to down shift, lean over and gas it through the curve is something really rare. I can go to such places but they are about three hours from my home.

In your land, I leaned into more curves the first hour we rode than I have in two years of riding here in Arizona. You folks have a beautiful place to ride. I was so pleased with the variety of roads and the environment around them, all the green grass and trees. Appreciate it all while you can. What we have here in Arizona is 85 degree temps in October and November, nice! I wear shorts all year long, yeah, when I ride too. Don't say it! Shorts!

Bike technology has come a long way since I began. I remember when a BSA or Triumph Bonneville was king! Only "bad" guys and cops rode Harleys. Then came the Japanese, they changed everything!

Now we have EFI computer controled liquid cooled multi cylindereed engines, turbos, adjustable air suspensions, disc brakes big enough to stop a train with ABS and speedometers that go to 200 mph.! I remember when a bike that would reach 100 mph was considered insane and riden by some guy who had to be insane. Well, o.k., I have had my insane moments!

It is today, still two wheels that kiss the road and the dangers haven't changed much other than the speeds that are possible on today's machines. Many people ride for many reasons. My reasons have evolved, changed. Initially it was just better than walking, barely, on a 65cc honda. Eventually it was to race! Drive as fast as I could as often as I could just for the pure hell of it. Not in no hurry, just loved the thrill. Then it became more spiritual, a way to not only see the environment but to be more a part of it. I payed attention to the sounds, smells, feelings,

wind, rain, and cold that you experience on a bike that you just don't feel in a car. The warm spots, the cold spots, you miss 'em in a car.

This ride on the Art's RT was purely for friendship and Mom. I'm blessed to have made the ride, to meet Judy, and to be with my old friend again for one more adventure. The country roads were a joy to ride. Seeing the rivers and the mounds of my Ancestors was special. Meeting Judy was a blessing in many ways, mostly because I can see the happiness she brings to my friend. They both are great to me.

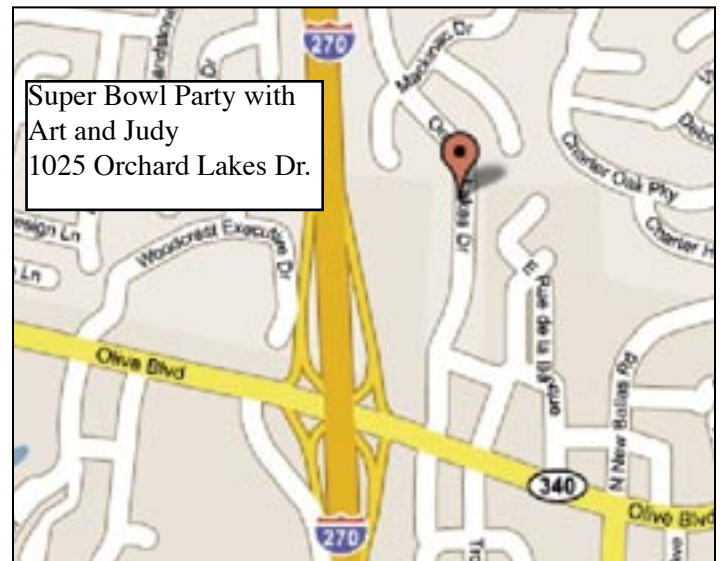
But in the end, it is the journey. I now have some really good memories of your lands, your country roads, the people, and two wheels singing on blacktop.

I have a fear that I hope none of you feel. I fear that somehow we will loose all this. Maybe it is the gasoline situation. Maybe it is my phobia of big government getting bigger each minute like a global cancer. Hell, maybe it is just me getting old. I can tell you all this. Ride while you can and be glad we are able to do so.

Special thanks to Art and Judy who treated me so well and shared so much with me. Thanks to all those I met and gave me their time and consideration. I thank the Great Mystery for motorcycles, country roads to ride them on, the freedom to do it, and mostly for good friends to share it all with.

Mom, we rode for you.

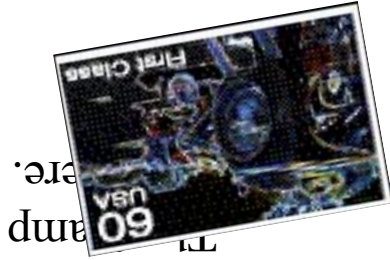
Redbear



Gateway Gazette

Vol.33 Number 6

Holiday Supplement 2005



Gateway Riders BMW Club
www.gatewayriders.com
Legendary Riders of the Midwest

To:

Cancelli



From: Gateway Riders BMW Club
P.O. Box 11563
Clayton, MO 63105

Where in the World am I? The Contest!