



Motor City Beemers



Club Newsletter

BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

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HOT NEWS! - MILEAGE AWARDS

Norm Ott got his 100,000 Miles award from the MOA in October 2005 and John Saarinen got his 100,000 award in November of 2006
Good going guys!

FEBRUARY MEETING

The weather lived up to that old expression; if you don't like the weather wait 5 minutes, it will change. The meeting was well attended and Helen 2 Wheels presented a motorcycle packing demonstration. Phil Aylesworth braved the weather by riding his motorcycle in from Windsor so he could try out some of the Helen 2 Wheel's packing solutions on his bike. Right idea, maybe the wrong day. The prediction was for 3 to 6 inches of snow starting around noon. During Helen 2 Wheels presentation the rain turned to those large, heavy, sloppy, wet flakes right on schedule.

New/old member John Diakonis and new/new member Michael Boyl were in attendance. John was a member before and re-joined. Michael is new to our club. Please introduce yourselves at the next meeting.

MCBeemers Club Newsletter will no longer be sent by snail-mail. Everyone with an e-mail address will have access via the internet. Anyone not connected via the internet can still pick up a copy at the Beemership.

Any members of or people interested in joining the RA (Rides Association) please send Norm Ott (motorcycleman@comcast.com) an e-mail with your name and membership number. We need 10 members to get the clubs fee waved.

HELEN 2 WHEELS PACKING PRESENTATION

Helen 2 Wheels put on a very interesting and informative presentation on packing a motorcycle. Her demonstration was slanted more directly towards camping but provided useful tips on packing for long trips. Her presentation had 2 main points; the rule of 3 and the rule of keeping inside and outside things separated. She points out that we all have a tendency to pack too many things we don't need for a long trip, while forgetting those things we really needed. Space is limited on a motorcycle. She points out that past experience is a good indicator of what you need and don't need. One example is a flashlight. Bring extra batteries but don't bring extra flashlights. By eliminating those extra un-needed things you make room for those things you really need.

Her rule of 3 is to bring 3 of the types of clothes you need. Three pairs of socks, 3 pairs of underwear (she points out that not wearing underwear makes packing easier but can make the ride a little uncomfortable), 3 pairs of pants (can be a mixture of shorts and long pants...depending on expected riding conditions), and 3 shirts. You are wearing one, the second is clean and dry ready to wear. The third will be wet from washing. She makes a mesh pouch that is designed to go on top of your luggage to allow these wet things to dry out while you ride.

Her rule of keeping outside and inside things separate is as follows. Tents, tent poles, tent stakes, and ground cloth go in one bag or container. Sleeping bag, air mattress, pillows and other items used inside the tent go in another. Her point is that they are grouped by activity. Having everything for the tent in one package keeps you from forgetting an important part...like the tent poles. It also makes setting up the tent much more efficient. Secondly, if it is raining when you put your tent away, only wet things will be in that pack. Inside things will remain dry if unpacked and packed inside the tent. She pointed out that you should not fold your tent, tent manufactures recommend stuffing the tent to prolong life. Folding creates creases in approximately the same point on the tent. People tend to use the same system for folding the tent every time they fold it. She says tents and sleeping bags are best packed by stuffing them into the pack. It wastes less space. Stuffing and then compacting utilizes the space better by avoiding those spaces between the ends of those neatly folded and rolled sleeping bags and tents. She demonstrated her packing method using a large cylindrical stuff bag. She rolled her ground pad and placed it in the bottom of the bag and let it unroll against the inside of the bag. This left a deep round hole in the center of the ground pad. She stuffed her sleeping bag down into that hole. Any other items that she might need at night were then placed on top of that. Largest most ridged items first, followed by the larger more stuff-able items.

Packing the outside bag, she recommends putting the ground cloth in the bottom of the pack. Ground clothes are most likely large and stiff. Next, place the poles and tent

stakes in the pack followed by the tent stuffed in to fill the voids around the poles and stakes. She makes tent bags large enough for the tent and camp site folding chairs.

She used one of the bikes on the floor of the dealer to demonstrate how to load the bike and why she sews retaining straps on the outside of her bags. She does not recommend using bungee straps. As she points out they stretch and this means your packs can shift due to their weight and the hooks can scratch your bike. She makes 2 piece straps to be used on her gear or any other manufacturer's gear. The straps should be attached to the bike as close together and still wrap up and over your packs. These straps have double D-rings to allow the straps to be pulled tight and lock down. Prior to tightening double the end of the strap back through the double D-rings leaving a loop of the strap. By pulling the end of the strap it will pull the strap out of the D-rings, releasing the strap. This makes the job of releasing the straps as easy as untying your shoe.

Her demonstration ended with a drawing for door prizes. She gave away almost everything she brought to demonstrate plus duplicates. I would say everyone walked away with some new information to make his or her next trip a little more pleasurable. For anyone interested in checking out her products: h2w@helen2wheels.com or call 734.662.2008.

RALLIES/OVER NIGHT RIDES

Branson, Missouri, Easter Weekend

Internet Rides IMBMW being organized by Dick Hautau. If interested please contact Dick for details and to join the group.

July 7-9, 2006 RA rally in Boise, Idaho.

Dick Hautau is putting together a camping group to ride and/or meet at the rally. If you have any questions or contributions get with Dick. There are several members that are going for sure. Dick will also have information for those that prefer a motel to a tent.

MOA Rally July 20-23, 2006

April 1, 2006 registration opens for the MOA Rally in Vermont. Dorm rooms are going to be made available to those who do not wish to camp at the rally. George Yosin has volunteered to coordinate a club luncheon at the rally. This is something we have done for most of the MOA rally's in the past. This gives us a chance to get together as a group for an organized ride and have a chance to eat lunch together, share some experiences, and maybe make plans for other activities during the rally weekend.

George will determine a location and time to meet. He will have a route and restaurant planned. Just in case you wondered, no George isn't buying your lunch!

October 21-22, 2006 Color tour.

This is a two-day trip covering approximately 720 miles. Last year the colors, dinner, ride and camaraderie was great. We stayed at Rhys's cabin at Lake's of the North and ate dinner at Legs Inn. The food was great.

MONTHLY CLUB RIDES

March 6, 2006 Rhys Blair will lead a ride to the Dorsey House Restaurant in Port Huron.

April 1, 2006 Need ride captain to pick destination and route.

May 6, 2006 Rhys Blair will lead a ride for fried bologna sandwiches. At first I went just for the ride. But I have to tell you it was well worth the ride. The bologna is made at the restaurant and it is great! Don't miss this once a year opportunity!

June 3, 2006 Phil Aylesworth will lead a ride into and hopefully back out of Canada.

Remember to bring 2 picture I.D.'s or a passport to speed the crossing of the border.

June 10, 2006 Frank Emmerich will lead the ride to Frankenmuth in his 4 wheel BMW for the annual chicken dinner. Members with paid up dues will be treated to a family style chicken dinner.

August 5, 2006 Glenn Hibbert will lead a ride. Destination to be announced.

September 9, 2006 Picnic at Stony Creek. Members with paid up dues will be treat the barbecued steaks grilled by our very own Grill Meister Rhys Blair. The only man brave enough to wear an apron!

October 7, 2006 Need ride captain to pick destination and route.

November 4, 2006 Need ride captain to pick destination and route.

December 2, 2006 Need ride captain to pick destination and route.

We need to get our 2006 ride schedule filled out for the riding season, and an emphasis on getting your dues paid. All those donuts, the Frankenmuth luncheon, and club picnic need to be funded!

...from the BeemerShip

by Pink Linguini

Winter? Even the weekly sportbike night in downtown Royal Oak continues through the winter if Mother Nature cooperates. The temperature hovered around 38 degrees on a clear Thursday evening last month - not the least bit uncomfortable if you have the proper clothing. Arriving on my R1100SP I was surprised to see only one bike there...**ME!** I walked over to the table inside Starbuck's where all the regulars were sitting and was greeted with a unanimous and deadpan; "Figures." I smiled knowing it was really a back handed compliment and replied 'What's the problem guys? I thought you rode motorcycles?' ;-)



My dog Daisy (2nd from left) and her brothers and sisters are very worried about the current economy.

ALPO is up to \$3.00 a can.

That's almost \$21.00 in dog money.

If you have the same urge to ride this time of the year as me, you're taking advantage of the "weather windows" our fickle climate offers during the usually unrideable January and February. Even if it's only for an hour after work or a couple on the weekend, the opportunity to flex your BMW's muscles feels great, both physically and mentally. If you ride, make sure you get the bike up to full operating temperature - don't just ride around the block. Either RIDE it, or don't even start it. Fortunately most of the opportunities have followed a street cleansing rain to help wash away the salt dust. If you have been fortunate enough to take your bike to warmer climates...well...I'm jealous. We're ALL jealous. But "good on 'ya, mate". I suspect winter has returned however, so now's a good time to catch up on your reading and planning for the national rally in Vermont.

Quite a bit of notoriety surrounds the Bonneville Salt Flats lately. I hear from reputable sources the latest motorcycle movie *The World's Fastest Indian* starring Anthony Hopkins is pretty good, despite the fact that Sir Tony has absolutely no personal interest in motorcycles! This past fall, a production BMW K1200S set a world land speed record in the 1000 to 1350cc class of stock, normally aspirated (non-turbo) motorcycles. The bike reached a top speed of 176.789 mph and averaged 173.570 mph for the "up & back" runs. Later this fall, Chris Carr, multiple AMA dirt track champion, will attempt to set the record for a fully streamlined bike targeting the neighborhood of 370 mph. TT

Motorcycles, the newest local Ducati and MV Agusta dealer will also stage a fall attempt for a stock bike using a new 1000cc MV Agusta F4.

And speaking of MV Agusta, it's the featured marque this year at the Mid-Ohio Vintage Days in July. A few club members make this event an annual pilgrimage and I'm sure they won't be disappointed this year. MV's are considered by many to be even more exotic than Ducatis. MV Agusta has a stellar racing history with 37 world championships earned by notables like Giacomo Agostini and Mike "The Bike" Hailwood behind the bars. I'm sure Mid-Ohio will host an impressive assortment of old and new MV's this summer.

New Nolan Helmets? We got 'em! Both the new N42 $\frac{3}{4}$ helmet and the new N102 full coverage "flip" helmet are in stock. Combining the best features of the previous models, these new lids have a redesigned aerodynamic shell, removable washable lining and the ever popular external flip-up sun visor.

Also available is the new wireless Bluetooth™ hands free headset from Cardo. This unit features quick assembly in virtually any helmet; talk time of 7 hours, self adjusting volume, high impact balancing and much more. Most impressive.

The new Olympia Air Mesh II jackets are expected by Feb. 22 and current "in stock" Olympia jackets are discounted 35-50% off!

If you've been waiting to purchase ratcheting tie down straps, we've got new ones from MSR that are the best I've used. These have a stronger $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide strap and a very convenient movable ratchet feature that I trailer tested on a customers' new bike last week.

I hope to provide a brief report from the Feb 17-19 Motorcycle Dealer Exposition in Indy for the next newsletter. The equivalent of SEMA, (Specialty Equipment Manufacturers Association) for the aftermarket high performance auto industry, the Dealer Expo houses all motorcycle accessory vendors under one roof. From AeroFlow to Z-Technik, Arlen Ness to Vance & Hines, EVERYBODY'S there.

MOTORCYCLE AIR BAG

BMW had the first motorcycle with a seat belt and it met European 30 MPH occupant crash protection standards without a helmet. Now Honda launches first motorcycle air bag as an option on their top of the line motorcycle. It will be interesting how the motorcycle public and other manufacturers react.

Honda debuts first motorcycle airbag

According to **Honda**, data from Japan, the U.S., and Europe indicate that frontal collisions account for over half of all motorcycle collisions. Many injuries result from the rider's impact with vehicles or the road surface. So Honda engineers developed the motorcycle industry's first airbag. The airbag is designed to deploy in the case of a frontal collision in which the rider could be thrown forward from the motorcycle. Stored in front of the rider, the airbag module is composed of an airbag, inflator, a cover for the airbag module, and a retainor box. When a frontal collision occurs, crash sensors convey data to the airbag ECU, which determines whether or not to inflate the airbag. If the ECU indicates that airbag deployment is necessary, the inflator releases its nitrogen gas to inflate the airbag. To absorb some of the forward momentum of the rider, the gas is allowed to escape slowly from two side-mounted vents. The deployment takes only about 0.15 s, helping to reduce the incidence and severity of injuries by absorbing the energy of an impact and reducing the rider's forward velocity.



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FOR SALE:

The for sale section of the newsletter is for all club members to post ANYTHING (legal) they have for sale or wanted. Take advantage of a circulation of 90+ club members. You don't have to limit you postings to motorcycle items. The one thing that we ask is that once your items sells, please notify us so we can remove it from the newsletter. There are several items that have been posted for some time now. If they need to be removed, please let Frank Emmerich know.

Pete Lentini offers a good source for motorcycle painting. John Diakonis is the owner and operator of Prism Motorcycle Painting. John has painted bikes, parts, and helmets for several club members. Check out his website: www.prismmotorcycles.com

1995 K1100 LT

All stock (bags, trunk, radio with rear speakers, heated grips, elec. windsheild, gauges, touring seat) heavy metallic gun metal gray paint, new battery, new tires and all servicing done, including spline lube.

\$5200.00 Dale & Denise 734-789-8249

1986 K100 RT

New Black paint, new seat, very good tires, new battery, all service done, bags.

\$3500.00 Dale & Denise 734-789-8249

I would like to buy a used low drivers seat as I am too short for comfortable riding.

Bill Meier 810-987-4566 or meierbj2@comcast.net