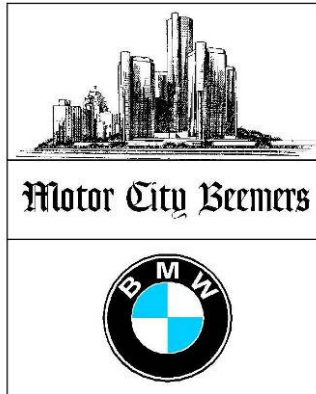




Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

July 2006

Volume 14, Number 7

Meetings; First Saturday every month, 10:30am @BMW of Detroit

Web site: www.bizblvd/mcbeemers

President - Ives Potrafka - ives@mygreyhound.com
Vice President - Dick Hautau - richardhautau@aol.com
2nd Vice President - George Yosin
3rd Vice President - John Saarinen – jsaarinen@peoplepc.com
Treasurer - Norm Ott - motorcycleman@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor – John Saarinen – jsaarinen@peoplepc.com

THE PREZ SEZ

I have been home a few hours since our wonderful ride thru Canada lead by Phil Aylesworth. Good job Phil. We had good weather for most of the day. We did get a little wet as we came into Windsor, but Phil knew a spot to suit up where we were dry and it was almost done raining when we pulled out.

I am writing this article a little early this month as John S has requested it by the 15th...and I will be traveling to and from New Hampshire that week, so I thought it best to write it now. I noticed something interesting today. Many of you know I would be happy if my wife just enjoyed riding as much as I do and even better, if she was bugging me for her own motorcycle. BUT, I don't suspect either of those things will happen to soon and I am just happy she has agreed to ride to New Hampshire next week. So, as we set having dinner, talking as we do... Sharon S. mentioned that she would like her own bike to which I responded that John should get her one. Boy did that go over big with John. So, what is the moral of the story, "One mans joy is another's headache."

By the time you read this we will have also taken our annual club ride to Frankenmuth. If you missed this ride...To bad for you...'cause we all ate chicken as only BMW riders can.... Live to Ride, Ride to Eat....

One last note: Last month I was in Orlando Florida on business and had time to stop by the local BMW dealer. My wife always wants a t-shirt from wherever I travel to, so I found one for her. It reads, "I didn't know BMW made a car until I passed one".

Remember, Ride Safe.... Ives R. Potrafka, President - MC Beemers

JUNE MEETING

Saturday morning, June 3rd was another great day for a ride. The business of running a club was concluded quickly so the group heading to Canada could get on the road.

Ten bikes and 13 riders rode north up Van Dyke following Phil Aylesworth towards Canada. The weather reports predicted cloudy skies with rain after 4PM. We worked our way over to Lake St. Clair and up the shoreline to a waiting car ferry at Algonac, Michigan. Phil had great timing as we pulled directly onto the ferry, no waiting. It was a pleasant trip over to Canada. On the boat ride over Ives got a call from Ryan Blair who was trying to catch up. Ryan had to answer his phone on the way to the ferry and got separated. We passed customs at Walpole Island, Ontario without issue and waited across the street for the Ryan who was on the next ferry. The group, re-united, we pressed east across open farmland. Phil stopped at one point telling those people who like faster curves that they could go ahead. He would lead the rest of the group at the posted speed limit. We would meet them at the stop sign when the road straightened out. Four bikes broke from the pack and headed down the road. Half an hour later we got to the stop sign, the four bikes were not there. It turns out that there was some confusion as to the location of the stop sign. We found them a few miles further down the road patiently waiting. Phil picked a great place for lunch. It was Pete's Family Dining in Belle River, Ontario. Most of us went for the pizza.

Coming out of the restaurant we found that it rained hard while we were in the restaurant. Phil's timing was impeccable. Most of the group put on their rain coats to protect from the road splash. As we rode south along the Detroit River it started to rain hard. We pulled under a drive through area of a building on the river that had a roof. Everyone suited up for the ride home. Phil led us to the bridge and headed home for a well deserved rest.

Customs entering the United States was backed up at the bridge. The customs officers were taking their time doing a thorough job of inspecting everyone coming through customs. We met up after customs and split into smaller groups to head home. Rain threatened the trip home but except for the road surfaces it was a dry ride home.

Phil has the map of route posted on his riding group's web site: <http://SunParlourBeemers.org>

FRANKENMUTH JUNE 10th

The group left the dealership at 11:15 heading north up Van Dyke. We wound our way through secondary roads with Ives in the lead. Two hours later we arrived at the Bavarian Inn. We had a dining room to ourselves at the Bavarian Inn. The food was great, the camaraderie was even better. People from the club have done so many interesting things on their bikes and with their lives. Ives asked Sharon if she wanted a motorcycle, I flinched. I want her to have a bike...she has a bike. I just haven't found the time or money to replace the head gasket and put all the parts back on. It got stripped in storage while we were living in Germany. Hard to find parts for a 31 year old motorcycle. Oh well, I digress.

A bunch of us headed over to the little shopping plaza south of the Bavarian Inn to walk around and see what there was to see. Had a great time and would do it again if Frank would pay for it. (Just kidding Frank)

JULY 1st MEETING

Frank Emmerich has a show and tell scheduled for 11am, right after the meeting. The owner of Graphic Works is coming to demonstrate a clear laminate protector that can cover critical spots on a motorcycle to protect them from bugs, etc. He will demonstrate on the demo LT. He has been asked to keep the demonstration limited to 1/2 hour to not delay the ride. These products will be available through the dealership. You can install them yourselves or they can be installed by the dealership.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

I took a motorcycle safety course at Macomb Community College on June 4th. They have revamped the course significantly since the class I took 8 years ago. I decided to take the course and brush up on my riding skills since I had been off of a motorcycle for the last year and a half. The course flowed much smoother and was a lot more fun than the first. Talking to one of the MSF Instructor Instructors (an instructor who teaches instructors) he said the course had been redone and continues to be redone to make it less like boot camp and more about teaching people how to handle their bike in different situations that may arise. Their intent was to teach us safety but never forget that we ride motorcycles for the fun of it. I highly recommend taking a motorcycle safety course from time to time. It will help keep safety in the front of your mind and help break yourself of bad habits that we all pick up over time.

GENERAL

Reminder: A vote at the May Meeting confirmed unanimously that we will continue our policy to no longer send the MCBemers Club Newsletter 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.

A set of keys was mailed to the Beemership this week because the key ring had a "BMW Motorcycles of Detroit" key fob attached. There is a Master key, automotive remote fob, ignition key with Ilco on the key, and several door keys. If you think it is your missing keys, contact Frank Emmerich at the Beemership. If you can prove ownership - they are yours.

Any body interested in joining the RA (Rides Association) please send Norm Ott (motorcycleman@comcast.com) an e-mail with your name and membership number. Membership forms are at the Beemership next to the news letters. We need 10 members to get the clubs fee waved.

RALLIES/OVER NIGHT RIDES

July 6-9, 2006 RA rally in Boise, Idaho.

Dick Hautau is putting together a camping group to ride and/or meet at the rally. Questions or contributions get with Dick. Dick also has information for those that prefer a motel.

MOA Rally July 20-23, 2006

April 1, 2006 registration opens for the MOA Rally in Vermont. 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

April 1, 2006 Rhys Blair led a ride to the Dorsey House Restaurant in Port Huron.
May 6, 2006 Ryan Blair led a ride for fried bologna sandwiches in Waldo, Ohio.
June 3, 2006 Phil Aylesworth lead a ride into and back out of Canada.
June 10, 2006 Ives Potrafka led the ride to Frankenmuth in his 4 wheel BMW.
July 1, 2006 Ride captain needed to pick destination and route.
August 5, 2006 Glenn Hibbert will lead a ride to Bouy Junction, Marysville.
August 22, 2006 John Saarinen will lead a ride to Harsens Island.
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 Stuart Krueger will lead a ride to Grand Blanc Inn and Rocky's (Flint)
November 4, 2006 Dick Hautau will lead a ride destination to be announced.
December 2, 2006 Ride captain needed to pick destination and route.

OTHER RIDING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, July 23, 2006 - Another poker run? Ride with a bunch of Harley folks? Well let me suggest why this is a poker run you want to attend. The proceeds go to a children's group (Clarkston Scamp) that is well established and helps kids with special needs. The money gets used for just the children.

This poker run isn't organized by a motorcycle group, but by the Lambda Chi Omega Sorority. Don't get all excited, this isn't a bunch of coeds looking to meet a bunch of motorcycle guys. The Sorority is an organization of ladies that have been together since the 20's and look for unique ways to support Clarkston Scamp. As in most poker runs there are prizes, fun, and fellowship. But the first place prize is a dinner at Schuler's Restaurant & Grill in Marshall Michigan. A dinner in Marshall? Did I mention that transportation is provided by airplane? The second place is an airplane tour of Oakland County Lakes. Very unique!

I would like the Motor City Beemers to support this ride. It's for a very good cause! There is a flyer on the bulletin board at the Beemership. Frank...

Every weekend

Group of BMW riders (primarily LT) ride every weekend and once month take longer trips. They are based out of Toledo but do ride into Michigan if that is what the group decides.

Their big trip is to the CCR Reunion over Labor Day weekend. Departing Saturday, August 26th and arriving at CCR on Monday, August 28. Leave for home Saturday, Sept 2, arriving home Sunday night the 3rd. This will be a no Interstate ride. Ride will include Deals Gap and Dragons Tail in TN and NC. Contact Fred Turner for more information at 419 420 7422.

Third Sunday of every month – Phil Aylesworth is trying to get a Windsor Beemer group started in Canada. For details contact Phil, purpleduck@gmail.com or go to the group's website: <http://SunParlourBeemers.org>

from the
by Pete Lentini
Beemers



Do we have a club "Restaurant Critic"? Well, I'm not volunteering but here are a couple recent discoveries. Fellow MC Beemers Mike & Trudy Nowicki and I recently rumbled up to the thriving metropolis of Berville, Mi. Find Armada on the map, look about 5 miles north and you're there. Built way back in 1886, the Berville Hotel could accommodate folks with 6 spacious rooms! Owner Chris Martin recently purchased the establishment and continues the hotel's unbroken continuous operation since it's opening over a century ago. Chris, a recent new Triumph Bonneville owner, welcomes motorcyclists to his weekly "Bike Night". We thought the food was great, the portions huge and very moderately priced. Chris even went so far as to order the favorite beer of the local RAT's, the Rider's Association of Triumph, Newcastle Brown. Granted, Chris' ties may be a bit stronger to us RAT's, but I know for a fact he is a "motorcycle guy" and welcomes all makes and models.

Secondly, Valerie and I stumbled upon a great new Mexican restaurant in Waterford, Mi. Located on the northwest corner of Williams Lake Rd and Highland Rd. (M-59) just west of the Pontiac Airport, "El Patio" has an extensive menu, large portions and some of the best homemade salsa we've ever had. Holding the envelope to my forehead, the Great Carnac predicts someone leading a Saturday club ride in the northwest area of Oakland County followed by lunch at "El Patio". I don't think you'll be disappointed.

Most of the current monthly motorcycle mags now feature reports from BMW's recent press introduction in Cape Town, South Africa. Included are impressions from the new K1200GT, the R1200S and the F800. Scope these out for some interesting reading and possible inspiration! Our carpet now caresses the tires of a brand new yellow R1200S and it sure looks purdy! Complete with full Ohlins suspension, larger diameter exhaust system, 20 more horsepower and 30 less pounds, it's essentially a Boxer Cup Replica without the racing graphics and belly pan from '03 and '04. All you "S" fans come check it out.

Who has the world's largest BMW motorcycle dealer? BMW! A 27,000 square-foot building near the company's Munich headquarters was opened by BMW Motorrad. The center will employ about 80 people, have 25 work stations in the service department and stock approximately 200 bikes at any one time. I wonder what their "store" T-shirts look like?



Although retired from professional road racing, Daisy and I still like to get out and do an occasional track day.

For those heading to Vermont for the national rally, keep your eyes peeled when you're riding near the shores of Lake Champlain. According to legend, "Champ", a Loch Ness type creature, resides in the depths of the lake. Maybe we can offer the following: "a photo with Champ will get you a free year's membership to the club". Now that would be a unique Kodak moment. As a state, Vermont ranks second from last in population with a bit over 600,000 residents. Hopefully that means fewer cars to impede with scenic, relaxed touring through the Green Mtns. "Vermont" is actually derived from the French words "Verts" and "Monts", meaning Green Mountains. No extra charge to your annual membership dues for the trivia, but gratuities to the author are not discouraged.

Here's a shout out to fellow MC Beemer and June ride leader Phil Aylesworth. A Windsor native, Phil led an enjoyable tour circling Lake St. Clair. I don't believe I'll get into details about the blast from Chatham to lunch in Belle River, just in case we have any members who are also OPP's. (Ontario Provincial Police) Sufficed to say, Dick Robbins on his new GT, and me and Valerie on the "SP" had a "most enjoyable ride"! (Well, maybe Valerie was just a bit upset! Sorry dear.)

Quite a few months ago, I mentioned Ducati intended to produce a street version of their 260 hp. Moto GP racing bike. Officially named the Desmosedici RR, it has been recently introduced at the Italian Grand Prix in Mugello, Italy. Without question, this is **THE** most exotic street bike, albeit extremely limited, ever produced. The bike is currently in the productionization phase with approximately 400 bikes planned per year, and possibly just for one year.

Certainly a new frontier for any of the manufacturers, a supreme technological evolution, even a dream come true - the bike demonstrates what a manufacturer can do with courage and passion. Realistically, Ducati shows its ability to transfer extensive racing experience to a machine targeted for road use.

A revolutionary service plan is confirmed for the RR: a three-year warranty and a three-year maintenance period free of charge. A dramatic plan for what is essentially a pure race bike with lights and turn signals. Then again, ~~I will be paying~~ oops; any customer who pays a premium price for a premium bike deserves a premium warranty. I'll keep you posted. ;-)

By now, those who actually read the newsletter recognize my love for animals, especially dogs. I'm going to quickly take this opportunity to personally, on behalf of the dealership and countless local motorcyclists, express my condolences to Ken Hugelier; a good friend, customer, fellow BMW rider and president of the BMW Touring Club of Detroit. Ken recently lost his long time pal Otto, the dachshund. Otto was known far and wide as Ken took him everywhere - whether in the car or in his BMW/sidecar rig. I don't know of a local bike dealership where Otto was not welcome to scamper freely. He and I were buds. I'm not sure who got more excited when we saw each other; Otto or me. Some may feel, 'Hey, it's just a dog.' But those of you who own pets understand. Losing a longtime companion is never easy.

MOTORCYCLE STRETCHING THE ENVELOPE



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. Please let John Saarinen know if they need to be removed.

1995 K1100 LT

All stock (bags, trunk, radio with rear speakers, heated grips, elec. windshield, 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

K1100LT stock seat, used 1 month, in new condition. \$125. Brake pads \$10 set. John Saarinen, 586.596.4027 jsaarinen@peoplepc.com

1999 R1200C

Jens Schoening Jens.Schoening@hna.hella.com

1996 R1100R for sale, excellent condition, for details contact Allen Gigliotti, giglioa@comcast.net

Highway pegs for LT's: www.ridingiswonderful.com/ridingiswonderfulinc/ Jim & Jason Mick