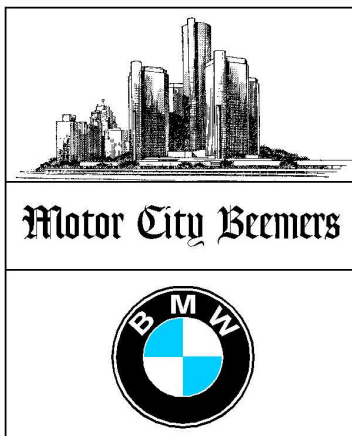




Motor City Beemers



Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

October 2006

Volume 14, Number 10

Next Meeting; Saturday October 7, 10:30am @BMW of Detroit

Web site: www.bizblvd/mcbeemers

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THE PREZ SEZ

The weather threatened rain...even though the weatherman said SUNNY. The picnic was still a great success. Those of you who didn't come, it was definitely your loss. Many thanks to the cook Rhys Blair, picnic coordinator Frank Emmerick, table supplies John Either and Dr Phil for getting the steaks... I hope everyone had as good of time as I did.

A friend sent me a web site; <http://wmta.org/coveredbridges/index.html>

This is a list of covered bridges in Michigan. Many are a days ride there and back. So far, I have been to #1. This site is worth checking out if your looking for an excuse to ride.

Our next club meeting will be a ride to the Grand Blanc Inn in Flint and Rocky's Sporting Goods. Rocky's is offering a 10% discount on all motorcycle and camping supplies. You have to pick up the flyer at the meeting to get the discount. Hope to see you all at the October meeting....

DONT FORGET... the club coffee mugs are in and available for \$15.00. We only order 36, so get yours at the next meeting.

RIDE SAFE and OFTEN....

Ives R. Potrafka
President - MC Beemers

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

This is an ideal time to take that fall color tour. Keep in mind that wet leaves on the road surface and deer are real hazards this time of year. These are especially true on secondary roads after dark. Ride safe!

2006 SUMMER RALLY REPORT

BY DICK & SHARON HAUTAU

2006 Summer Rally season started for us with the Three Peaks of America Tour. This was comprised of the RA National Rally in Boise, Idaho; Top of the Rockies Rally in the small town of Paonia, Colorado (near Grand Junction); and BMWMOA International Rally in Essex Junction Vermont (near Burlington).

We were joined on our cross-country trek this year, at the 11th hour, by Rob Keay. Together we started out the afternoon of June 30th near the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak. We rode across the Michigan to Muskegon. We crossed Lake Michigan on the new Lake Express Ferry to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Arriving in Milwaukee shortly after 1:30 a.m., we headed for a pre-arranged nearby motel. The first day was memorable because of several things that we did, as is usually the case when we tour. Our first planned stop was at the Hormel Company's Spam Museum, in Austin, Minnesota. We were treated to the newest Spam food product known as "Spam Golden Honey Grail". After a taste test we promptly bought a very colorful can of for the mere sum of \$5.00! We then proceeded west to the town of Jackson and the home of the Jackson KOA. While checking in, we asked the friendly owner behind the counter where one might obtain a memorable meal. Without a moments hesitation she replied "why at the Bergen Steakhouse just about 10 miles to the north off US 71. The 3 of us agreed that the steaks we enjoyed that night were about the very best we had ever sunk our teeth into! Day 2 we decided to make a small jog in our westward trek to the Indian grounds known as the Pipestone National Monument in the SW corner of Minnesota. The Pipestone Monument was the quarry source for the terra cotta colored and often ornately carved Indian ceremonial pipes used for 100's of years.

Leaving Pipestone we proceeded westward ho and the Mitchell Corn Palace out in S. Dakota. Sharon, the ham that she is, took up with one of the local guys, be it a kinda stiff character at that! We proceeded on past the Badlands and into Wall Drugs in the town of Wall, SD. We looked around and saw their world famous Jack-a-lope's mounted on several of the gift shop walls. We spent the night at Hill, SD, which is near Mt Rushmore. We went to the Monument in the early evening expecting to see a nice light show. Boy, were we wrong on that expectation! Following a great sunset with the spectacular storm clouds all across the skies, the NPS spokesperson droned on and on about all sorts of mundane trivia no one really was interested in. Natures own light show started up and the already dark sky started to sprinkle. We rushed for the BMW's and took off, as did the entire crowd of probably 2 to 3,000 other folks. We were the first out of the parking structure and down the road we headed as the rain really let loose!

It was a white-knuckle experience, which was not fun at all. But by the graces of the almighty we made it safe and sound back to our tents, rain pouring down and all. Love the sound of rain on the walls of the tent and in no time at all we were asleep. We awoke to blue skies and a temperatures already in the low 70's. That day and for that matter, the next several, were enjoyable riding as we passed Yellowstone National Park. We rode along several large and

scenic rivers from Missoula, MT, through Lolo Pass, and down along the Lochsa River into Lewiston, ID, home of the Nez Perce National Historic Park.

The day that we arrived in Boise for the RA National Rally was a treat. We rode along both the Salmon and Payette Rivers before reaching the Boise Fairgrounds and the RA Rally site. We and some 950 others called it home for several days. Boise as a town really surprised us, with a very vibrant bustling downtown marked with many outdoor sidewalk restaurants and nice weather. Even a parade of old time VW cars in the downtown one evening.

As Sunday morning July 9th came we broke camp. We had our customary breakfast of cereal and milk before we started the days ride. The ride between Boise and Paonia, Colorado started with a challenging and spirited ride up along the Sawtooth Mts. along the Ponderosa Pine and Sawtooth Scenic Byway's, past the small town of Stanley. At lunchtime we stopped at one particularly scenic pullout overlooking a huge valley and snow-covered peaks. We made tuna sandwiches to go along with other goodies we had packed away for that day's lunch. Generally as we travel cross-country or most any place for that matter we pack our lunches. Another thing about touring the west is that one soon learns what vast space is really all about. We stopped on Monday to enjoy some very warm Hot Springs. These were just to hot for my taste (103 to 110 degrees in 3 different pools). We did however stop for the evening at a very nice National Forest Service campsite on a small Lake. There we enjoyed a refreshing swim before a great dinner. The boys made Fajita wraps with all the fixings. Boy does Sharon love it when the boys do all the cooking!

Tuesday evening we had made it through Flaming Gorge and some 15 or so miles along a back road up and through a remote Canyon. We passed through Dinosaur National Park and into the only campground near the town of Rangley. We really wanted to "motel it" that evening because of threatening skies. The only two motels were full of workers who had jobs nearby. Following another gourmet evening meal prepared by the boys, Rob and Sharon decided to "walk some of it off" with an exploratory walk along the nearby river. Upon their return to camp, the tall story started with their reported sightings of a Mt. Lion, several deer and any number of strange birds. Later in the evening a local lady from the Parks Dept. came by and said they had also seen a large bear over on the nearby Golf Course.

Wednesday started out by riding up and over the 8,268-foot Douglas pass along a narrow state route 139 before descending to enter the very scenic Colorado National Monument. This is a National Park of beautiful geological rocks, colors, scenic views, and a very steep, narrow curvy road. Great for motorcycles! We were able, as always, to use our "Golden Age National Parks" card, which we purchased because it is good for a lifetime of usage. We can now enter every National Park we visit without paying any further entry fees. It also gets us 1/2 off camping fees at any of the other Federal Agencies campgrounds. A real money saver! Wednesday afternoon we arrived in the small town of Paonia, home of the Top of the Rockies Rally. We were a day early, but there were 3 to 400 campers already set up as well as most of the vendors. This years Rally marked our 4th visit to this very nice Rally and great place to ride, and ride, and ride.... The thing that made this year's Rally most memorable was perhaps the Wednesday night's dinner. We ventured over to a local eatery and while studying the extensive Greek offerings, we happened to see a plate full of "Sweet Potato Fries" pass by on the way to customer. Asking our waitress, she indicated that they were a house specialty, a great dish and that we should give them a try. Dick hates sweet potatoes, but I ordered them anyway (1/2 order mind you) and I think Dick ate most of them! What's new? The next several days were hot near 100 degrees each day. Blue skies and nice refreshing breezes

each afternoon. We enjoyed the weather while under the tall large oaks within the park area. Roads on all four sides surround the park, making it easy to park the BMW's near where you camp. Showers were available at the nearby High School. Saturday evening meal featured a BBQ that was scrumptious. We helped the local Colorado Club who put on this Rally on Thursday morning by volunteering to help man the Registration table. What a rush...as more than 900 of the eventual 1250 attendees passed through the registration line!

Sadly, as it must, this years Rally came to a close and we were OFF! to Essex Junction, VT some 2,400 miles away. As we traveled in the early hours of Sunday morning up over the 10,666-foot Vail Pass and 11,992-foot Loveland Pass little did we know that the refreshing low 40-degree temperatures were about as opposite as what was to follow! As we descended out of the Rockies past Denver, which Sharon slept through, we were met by a little warmer weather, or should we say a lot warmer weather!

As we traveled eastward through Kansas the afternoon high reached 110 degrees. We had to stop about every hour to refill our water bottle. One should note: Don't travel in the west during the summer without either a water bottle or a camel full of water. You will need it! We made Independence, MO the first night and had clocked about 800 miles that day. The next day we did another 600 or so into the western edge of Ohio and the third day we made another 550, well into New York and only about 50 miles from the BMWMAO International Rally site. We arrived, early on Wednesday, at the Vermont Rally site having done the trek cross-country in 3.25 days and did 2,400 miles in doing so.

The BMWMOA International Rally was the largest ever with an attendance of over 9,000 enthusiasts from many places near and far. We hit the BMWMOA Country Store first and decided that the Rally official T Shirt was pathetic and did not purchase it. Opting instead to pick up one from the local BMW Dealer who also had one made up for the occasion that was quite nice. We picked up our Award pins for having completed the Three Peaks of America Riding Tour, having attended the RA National, The Top of the Rockies and the BMWMOA Rallies. What an expense for some lousy old pin!

As we were putting our tickets into the Rally Awards box, Sharon was heard to say, "Why we do this I will never know, we never win anything." Well good folks, she hit the bonanza! She won the largest non-grand prize of them all, a full Aerostich Roadcrafter Darien Riding Suit! So much for never winning anything, but I guess she has paid her dues having attended more Nationals than most...24 in the last 26 years! The Rally once again served us well as we made day trips to "Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream plant, Stow Ski Resort, and several other places nearby. The MOA announced that next years Rally site was going to be in West Bend Wisconsin, about 10 miles west of Lake Michigan and 1.5 hours north of Milwaukee. Plan now to attend, it will be a good one for sure!

We departed this year's Rally we traveled over into the Wine Country of the Finger Lakes Region and stopped at the Lucas Winery where we procured several bottles of our favorite red wine, Tugboat Red. We like it because it has no bite to it and goes down really smooth for a semi sweet Red Wine. We made Erie, PA that evening and on home by Monday evening July 24th. The entire trip was about 7,000 miles in slightly more than 3-weeks time.

40th Four Winds Rally:

The 40th 4 Winds Rally was the 19th out of the 40 that they have held thus far for Dick. This years Rally was held at the Redbank Valley Municipal Park just outside of New Bethlehem, PA

(NE of Pittsburgh). An all day rain marked the Rally on Saturday, but great conversation with many of the other more than 300 Rally attendees. Dinner was a catered affair under a large pavilion, where we picked up yet another "Longest Distance Two Up" award plaque. This Rally site is in the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania with awesome scenery and great riding small rural roads throughout the area.

Broccoli in Utopia Rally:

The weekend of August 24-27th mark the second time we have attended this Moto Guzzi/BMW Rally put on in part by our close friend of the Rolling Broccoli Club in nearby Ontario, Canada. The Rally site is held at a Camp that has many cabin rooms as well as tent sites. The food is great and the riding around the Barrie area is interesting. The Trent Severon Portage is really something to see, with boats being lifted up and over the roadway before being placed on the other side of the road in the next body of water. This is a much smaller Rally having an attendance of generally from 115 to about 130 or so each year.

10th ROK On Rally:

This Rally is held at the Newport Tennessee KOA Campgrounds east of Knoxville and around 600 miles from Detroit at the foot of the Great Smoky Mountains and National Park, nearby Deals Gap, Blue Ridge Parkway and the fairly new 50 mile Cherhala Skyway Drive between Robbinsville, NC and Tellico Plains, TN. This is also a small Rally of around 100 to 125 attendees, but some of the best riding country in the east.

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.

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.

MOTOR CITY BEEMERS NAME TAGS

Motor City Beemer name tags are available for purchase at Highest Honor, Inc. Highest Honor, Inc is located at 34711 Dequindre Road, Troy, Michigan 48083. Their shop is just south of 15 Mile Road, on the west side of Dequindre. Herb and Jeff have a die set up with the club logo and can add your name and/or nick name for a cost of only \$8.00.

The easiest way to get your ID tag is to send Jeff and e-mail at: www.jeff@highesthonor.biz. Spell out exactly what you want on your tag and when you want to pick it up. You can also call Jeff at 248-588-7845. Tell him what you want on your tag and when you want to pick it up.

Join the growing number of members who wear their ID tags proudly with their one of a kind moniker. It will help us to get to know each other. Works a lot better then "Hey you!".

RALLIES/OVER NIGHT RIDES

October 21-22, 2006 Blair 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

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

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>

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 your postings to motorcycle items. The one thing that we ask is that once your items sell, 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

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

1995 BMW K1100LT \$5,500. Less than 18,500 miles. Dealer serviced. The Bike is located in Warren, Michigan. It comes with hard bags, truck, waterproof liners and tank bag. It also has a Corbin seat, heated hand grips, radio, 4 speakers, adjustable tinted windshield. If Interested contact Patricia @beemerlt93@yahoo.com

AMD 1200 PC Computer for Sale.... Color Monitor, Keyboard, TrackBall Mouse, 40 GB Hard Drive, Modem, NIC Card, Windows XP Home, AliWord, SSS Spreadsheet, AVG Anti-Virus IrfanView. Was my fathers, like new, I gave him my laptop. \$200.00 or best offer
Ives 248-207-1575

World's First XM Portable - Delphi XM MyFi™ is the world's first XM2go receiver -a personal XM satellite radio. The MyFi includes everything you need to enjoy XM anywhere - in the home, in the car, and on the go.

Includes:

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MyFi is a revolution in portable Audio, playing XM's Ultimate Playlist™ anytime, effortlessly
Memory Mode - Store up to 5 hours of fresh new XM content - with no computer downloading or list management. Absolutely no computer needed.

Live Mode

Hear over 130 digital XM channels live coast to coast by satellite

Rechargeable Battery

Automatically charges and provides 5 hours for travel or play

Built-in Wireless FM Transmitter MyFi can wirelessly transmit to any FM radio speaker system, car, home or portable.

InfoExtras

Large, illuminated six-line LCD display with personal stock ticker, sports score ticker, clock, alarm & more

Paid over 200.00 with the extra's..... Will take \$100.00

I used this on my Motorcycle

In my car and in My office..... It works great..... Ives 248-207-1575