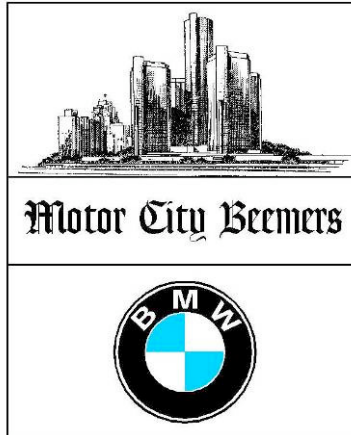




# Motor City Beemers



## Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

February 2008

Volume 16, Number 02

**Next Meeting; Saturday, February 2, 2008, 10:30AM @ BMW of Detroit**

**Web site: [www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers](http://www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers)**

President – John Saarinen - Jsaarinen@peoplepc.com  
Vice President – Peter Payton - rockmanpete@yahoo.com  
2nd Vice President - George Yosin -  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President – Ken Mitchell, kpsacone@comcast.net  
Treasurer – Sharon Saarinen- sssaarinen@peoplepc.com  
Newsletter Editor – John Hooper, jvhooper@comcast.net

### **THE PREZ SEZ**

We got off to a great start this year. Close to 20 members attended the January Meeting, despite it conflicting with the International Motorcycle Show at the Rock Financial Center in Novi, Michigan. We presented Bent Beemer Awards during the meeting to Five (5) deserving survivors. I would like to thank those recipients for receiving them in the spirit in which they were intended, camaraderie and fun. Jim Mick, a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Instructor followed up the awards with a tremendously informative presentation on MSF classes. Taking a refresher course does help sharpen your skills and brush away the cob webs following the winter lay up.

We would like to encourage you to attend the meetings and support the club. We are here to, hopefully, improve your riding experience. We have a lot of new members who bring a wealth of riding experiences to our club. Let's share our experiences.

I know this will be a great year for riding.

Thank you for your help,  
John Saarinen - President,  
MC Beemers

## **2007 BENT BEEMER AWARDS**

Five members of our club received Bent Beemer Awards for 2007. Those members that survived their altercation and were unlucky enough that we found out about them, were each given their own plaque to hang on the wall...or use as a door stop. The competition was tough and, in the end, we decided to award all 5 of them the prestigious 2007 Bent Beemer.

John Hooper, was given the award for "Parking - Where ever/How ever! He was unlucky enough to encounter a heavily crowned road when he stopped at the French Laundry Restaurant on his very first ride with the club. We've all dropped our bikes at one time or another, and always with people watching. John was just unlucky enough to drop it in front of us.

Ken Mitchell, won the "U-Turn Award" for his ability to find antifreeze in his lane during the Blair Color Tour. He also got an honorable mention for his ability to find a pot hole that broke both rear view mirrors and still kept the bike upright.

George Yosin won the "Leg Up On the Competition" after breaking off his left foot peg while in Canada. He drove across a swale and the bike slid out from under him. We could have given him the endurance award for being able to hold his leg up for over 600 miles while coming back to Detroit.

Betty Ward never stops riding when she goes to a rally. On her return trip from Ashville, N.C., while stopped in a construction zone, she was pushed off the road by a tire from a semi truck. For those two points we awarded her the "Tyred in Tennessee" Award.

Norm Ott was awarded the "Trailerling - Rubber Side Up Award". Norm trailers his Harley out west to the Sturgis rally every year behind his K1200LT. This year, in preparation for Sturgis, he tried to load his LT on a trailer so he could drop it off for service. The bike fell off the trailer landing upside down.

We want to thank those members who received the awards and look forward to our next crop of inductees.

## **2008 DUES DUE**

Well it's that time of year again. Please pay your dues as early as possible so we know what kind of a budget we have for the coming year. Please remember that the dues cover the majority of the expenses such as donuts, Frankenmuth chicken dinner, and the annual picnic at Stony Creek in September. Dues remain at \$10 for member and \$5 associate member (wife, husband, or significant other). Please give your renewal form and payment to Sharon Saarinen at the next meeting or mail your renewal application to:

Sharon Saarinen  
6094 Whispering Oak Drive  
Washington, Michigan 48094

## **"WHO'S THE NEWBIE?"**

Meet Ron Rydel

Early Years:

Ron proves that it is possible to grow up on the East Side of Detroit. He attended Osborn High School, MCCC and then Lawrence Tech. When Ron enlisted in the Navy, he was assigned to Communications on board the aircraft carrier U.S.S. America while it made a few laps around the Gulf of Tonkin. After his hitch in the Navy, he married Betty and they have two daughters. Ron and Betty now reside in Sterling Heights.

Career:

Recently retired from AT&T after almost 36 years as part of the Central Office-Network Operations Team.

Riding Experience:

In his youth, Ron rode around town on a 125 Kawasaki, 305 Honda and a Triumph. In 2004, after months of research/kicking tires, MSF Training and some good feelings about the people at BMW of Detroit, he purchased a R1200CLC. It's about to turn 18,000 miles. His most memorable rides were in West Virginia, Blue Ridge Mountains, crossing the Mackinac Bridge, Route 119 through Harbor Springs, and the "Tunnel of Trees". Much like our previous 'Newbie' (John Hooper), Ron frequently rides the thumb area along Lake St. Clair-Lake Huron. He enjoys taking time to stop and 'smell the roses' at several nice places between the cities of St. Clair and Port Austin. Since retiring, he will have more free time so he's hoping to increase his miles on more long trips.

## **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 nickname for a cost of only \$8.00.

The easiest way to get your ID tag is to send Jeff an e-mail at: [www.jeff@highesthonor.biz](mailto: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 than "Hey you!".

## **NEWS FROM THE BEEMERSHIP**

We would like to invite anyone of the Motorcity Beemers who have picture and stories of their summer trips and outings to bring in hard copies of their activities to us so we can get the

Motorcity Beemers Club Corner up. This will be a great way to get new members involved as they will be able to see and read about all of the fun that we have during the riding season.

The Beemership and the Club will be joining forces to bring in short monthly educational activities that will be open to all. Topics such as remote camping adventure, road trip tools and how to use them, selecting routes, group riding safety, how to change a tire on the road, Gear selection, and much more... see the Beemer Club Corner for upcoming events and activities.

Alaska Road Trip 2008 ~The Alaska road trip is in its final stages of preparation. All interested parties are encouraged to check in with Peter "Rockman" Payton at their earliest opportunity to secure their spot on this once in a lifetime adventure. Alaskan hotels are booking up fast, so if you plan to come along on this trip, you need to pay your deposit by January 15th . Registration and Deposits must be in no later than Jan. 15th. A late registration will be available from Jan. 15th thru Jan 30th , Registration will be closed after this point as we will be unable to book rooms and get reservations for our Fishing and Rafting trips. Check in with the dealership for more details.

If there are any GS riders out there, Peter Payton will be riding out to the MOA rally in Gillette and everyone is welcome to ride with him. Those going with Peter are going to tent camp the whole way (3 days there, three days at the rally and 3 days back), hotel rez's at the rally are the responsibility of the individuals,

Some other dates to remember are the Daytona bike week March 1-9~ and Sturgis Aug 4-10, stop by and say hello to the BMW guys at the booth.

Be sure to get your BMW motorcycles of Detroit shirts and show off your Beemership colors as you travel this season.

Also any one interested in going to the BMW school for GS riders or road riders. We will be looking at going to school sometime in MAY. If there is any interest, please contact Peter "Rockman" Payton here at the dealership.

The Beemership also has a Motorcycle Camping pack special on sale, all the gear you need for back country living on the GS or GS Adventure. Stop by for details or talk to Peter "Rockman" Payton

Stop by and check out our sale table. Last chance for close out 07 items before they are gone!!! See Chris Keller for details.

We have a "Must Go sale" on all of our 2007 BMW's in stock come in get your new bike for the new season !!!

The 2008 F800 GS will be here in September !! Order yours today for fastest delivery.

Check out our total line of First Gear including the new TPG (total performance gear)

Lets get ready to RIDE !!!!! ~Rockman

Peter "Rockman" Payton  
Adventure Tour Specialist

## **2008 RIDE SCHEDULE/CAPTAINS**

Please volunteer to be a ride captain and plan a ride for one of our monthly meetings. I am certain we would all like to join you on one of your favorite rides. It's not a difficult job and I am sure we can come up with a ride leader for anyone that is uncomfortable in that role. Don't forget to pick out a lunch spot! The 2008 meeting dates (first Saturday of the month) are: Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7, Jul 5, Aug 2, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, and Dec 6.

Ken Mitchell (kpsacone@comcast.net; 248-3940633) has "volunteered" to be our ride coordinator for the year. Let him know which month you will plan/lead a ride for the group.

## **MCBEEMERS CLUB PRESENTATION ON MSF, JIM MICK, JANUARY 2008**

Quiz: 5 questions from BRC (Basic Riders Course) and 2 from the Experienced Rider's Course.

1. What is the most common way to initiate and control motorcycle lean?
2. Although tapping the brake may get a tailgating driver to back off, if it doesn't, what is the best thing you can do to decrease your risk of him/her rear ending you (assuming you can't get away from being in front of him/her)?
3. "Swerving" is basically two consecutive turns or countersteers, quickly executed in one direction followed by the other, to avoid an obstacle. When swerving, do you lean with the bike (as in a turn), lean opposite of the bike (as in slow speed tight turns), or stay upright (independent of the bike)?
4. What is the most common cause of tire failure? Dry rot, nail or screw, low tire pressure, or a defective tire?
5. If you need to stop quickly while significantly leaned over in a turn, what would you do?
6. Total Stopping Distance is often divided into three parts or elements. What would the three parts be and what are some factors that might affect each?
7. To avoid a crash, there are three basic things a rider can do. One relies heavily on someone/something else doing something, and two are things we can practice to become more proficient doing. What three basic things can a rider do to avoid a crash?

The PURPOSE of MSF is "improving the safety of motorcyclists on the nation's streets and highways."

One of the GOALS is reducing motorcycle crashes and injuries through quality rider education and training programs.

The Detroit Metro Regional Consortium Motorcycle Safety Education Program conducts several classes of three basic courses plus one course to train riders to become MSF Rider Coaches to teach MSF classes.

The BRC (Basic Rider Course) is the beginner's class. It involves about 5-6 hours of classroom and about 6 hours of riding exercises before two riding evaluations are given. It takes at least a weekend commitment or a Friday night, followed by most of Saturday and Sunday. We do schedule a couple weeknight class which have a little extra riding and a much slower pace. This is ideal for the person who can't walk and chew gum at the same time.

Unlike some classes you and I have taken, these are demanding classes that require more than just showing up and staying awake. Completion rates in the Detroit Metro program are usually between 70 and 80% of those who sign up. QUESTIONS about the BRC?

The Performance Based Course is offered only in the Detroit Metro program. I define it as 'the meat of the BRC that you do in one day on your own bike.' Many riders use this as a refresher course, especially in the Spring, after several months of not riding. QUESTIONS about the PB?

The Experience Riders Course is our third class. Like the PB, the ERC is done in one day on your own bike. There are a couple exercises designed for skills beyond the basic class so students are expected to have several thousands of miles logged before enrolling in the ERC. QUESTIONS about the ERC?

In 2007, the Detroit Metro Regional Consortium offered 106 classes and trained 4,226 students. Schoolcraft CC serves as the program administrative center and Vince Consiglio has been the Coordinator for decades. We usually have 60-80 Rider Coaches who are able to teach at the 5 local CCs. Each year we add about a dozen Coaches who complete an 80 hour Coach Preparation Course. QUESTIONS?

### **EXPERIENCED RIDER COURSE, SUNDAY, MAY 18TH**

During Jim Mick presentation on the MSF Courses, it was suggested that those Club members interested in taking a course sign up for a class and it could be a special group just for the MotorCity Beemers. At the time this Newsletter is being published, seven (7) Club members have signed up for the ERC Class on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. A couple more members signing up would insure a group specifically for the Club.

If you are interested, go to [www.macomb.edu/cce](http://www.macomb.edu/cce) and click on Motorcycle Safety to view schedules and other information. You can enroll through the web site or by calling MCC at 586-498-4000. There is a \$25 charge for the course. If you are "old" you might qualify for a 10% discount! Tell them you would like to enroll in Class #50092, Sunday, May 18 at the South Campus. Report to C-125 on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Class Hours are from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE AUGUST 2 LUNCH RIDE**

The August lunch ride will be to Whities, in Davison, for fish. Anyone interested can continue with George Yosin to over night at Fairview, Michigan. The cabin is 1 ½ miles north of Fairview, off M33. The cabin sleeps 9 in beds. Shower and kitchen facilities are available. There is also room for tent camping, if desired. Bring towel, toiletries, and bedding/sleeping bag.

The Trip Report from last year indicates a excellent time was had by all those going. It is a great time of year with great riding weather. To reserve your spot or ask questions, call George at 586-264-8625.

## **BMW RA RALLY, AUGUST 19-22, HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN**

The riding in the Keewenaw and Porcupine Mountains is the best in the state of Michigan. The sports facilities at Michigan Technological University are great. The camping site provides more than enough showers for campers. John Saarinen will put together a list of things to see and do in the area. It would be a great opportunity for the club to participate.

## **OTHER RIDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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

## **WEST VIRGINIA. ANYONE?**

A few people have been kicking around the idea of a week long ride to West Virginia this Spring. I have heard from a number of folk that the riding there is great. How does the 2nd or 3rd week of May sound? Let Ken (kpsacone@comcast.net; 248-3940633) know if you have any interest.

## **FOR SALE:**

For sale section of the newsletter is for all club members to post ANYTHING (legal) that they have for sale or wanted. 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. Please let John Hooper know if they need to be removed.

PAINT PROTECTION FILM: Protect your bike's paint from stone chips and damage from your tank bag. Kelly, 248.312.0968 or [graphixwerk.com](http://graphixwerk.com)

K1200LT Champagne, 26K miles, 6CD changer, and Bailey windshield, MC BMW maintained, asking \$8900. Bill Meier 810-824-7382 or [meierbj2@comcast.net](mailto:meierbj2@comcast.net)

HIGHWAY PEGS FOR LT's: Gives you optional places to put your feet for those long trips. Note that this is a new web site address: [www.ridingiswonderful.com](http://www.ridingiswonderful.com) Jim & Jason Mick