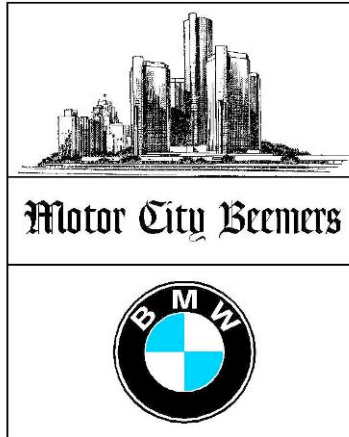




Motor City Beemers



Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

November 2008

Volume 16, Number 11

Next Meeting; Saturday, November 1, 2008, 10:30AM @ BMW of Detroit

Web site: www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers

President – John Saarinen - Jsaarinen@peoplepc.com
Vice President –Peter Payton - rockmanpete@yahoo.com
2nd Vice President - George Yosin -
3rd Vice President – Ken Mitchell, kpsacone@comcast.net
Treasurer – Sharon Saarinen- sssaarinen@peoplepc.com
Newsletter Editor – John Hooper, jvhooper@comcast.net
Web Master - Ives R. Potrafka, ives@bizblvd.net

THE PREZ SEZ

This year is quickly coming to a close. It has been a fantastic year for riding. Participation in our rides has been up dramatically. I want to thank you all for your participation. Having the opportunity to ride with you all and get to know a lot of you much better has shown me what a great bunch of members we have. I want to thank Ken Mitchell for his outstanding efforts in maintaining the ride schedule and arranging for additional rides that came between our monthly lunch rides. I attended as many as I could and enjoyed every ride I took with the club.

I hope we maintain this momentum in the coming year. I would like to remind everyone that nominations, or volunteers to fill the officers positions are needed at the November 1st meeting. It would be nice to have new blood that could bring new ideas to the club. Please give it serious thought. This is your club, please help make it all that it can be.

Ride Safe,
John Saarinen

RIDING CONTEST REMINDER

Make sure you send in the form for the BMW MOA Mileage contest. Entries must be postmarked by November 12th and signed by 2 BMW MOA Members OR by a MOA Chartered Club Officer, Director, Ambassador, or BMW Dealer. Bring your form to the November 1st meeting and these folks will be all over the place to sign your form!! And you will meet the mailing deadline.

Color Tour 2008 – Ken Mitchell

I am told we had the best turnout ever for a Color Tour Ride. I don't see how the color could have been more perfect. The great summer with plenty of rain made for quite a color show. By the time we all got together at the last rally point, Wheeler's in Standish, we had 16 bikes and 18 riders. That is a long way from just the two we had last year.

It was a brisk 38° at the Clarkston rally point at kickstands up. Good thing it was a nice sunny morning. No snow, however, this year. We met 3 bikes at the Flint rest area stop as planned and proceeded up I-75 to Standish where we met up with the East Side group. They opted to take back roads all the way up and I'm sure that made for a more pleasant ride. Wheeler's is a great breakfast stop with super omelets and hot cakes.

The fun started after Standish for a mostly sunny ride for the rest of the long ride to Legs Inn at Cross Village. We continued up US 23 to Au Sable where we headed West on the Au Sable River Road. This was a treat for me since it was my first time on that road. Lots of lazy sleepers following along the river.

Since you never get to go a direct route when riding with Mitch, we meandered our way up through Chievers, to Mio mostly following along the, Au Sable basin. We didn't hear any banjos as we passed thru the four corners of Luzerne. I'm sure how many folk remember that a couple of trolls visiting Ma Dieter's for a meal disappeared when they smarted off and crossed a couple of locals. I hear'd tell that they were kilt and fed to the local's hogs. We kept our eyes wide open, kept our feet on the pegs, and kept our mouths shut as we cruised through.

From there, we had fairly straight sections through Grayling and Kalkaska's forest and farming terrain. Just outside Kalkaska, we headed north along the eastern shore of Torch Lake. There we found some nice crooked roads with a beautiful display of blazing color. The afternoon sun glinting off the lake made for a very picturesque scene. I must admit a couple of us succumbed to the allure of the twisties through the color and stretched out the group a bit.

We zigged back east at Eastport at the tip of Torch Lake to just a bit beyond Chestonia. More Z's north and east on county roads took us through East Jordan and through Boyne City. We worked our way up along another narrow, crooked, Mitch pick of the Walloon Lake east shore where we joined US 131 for the run into Petoskey. At Harbor Springs we took a slow diversion down to the waterfront to take a gander at all the some of the "Old Chicago Money" vacation homes that are mostly used only in July and August. They looked quite elegant even though "Saran Wrapped" for the shortly expected northern Michigan snows.

Adrenalin was starting to pump now as we cleared Harbor Springs and headed out of town to "The Tunnel of Trees". If you are unfamiliar with the route, it is a twisty Lake Michigan shoreline road 1 ½ lanes wide through dense wood. There is no room for mistakes here since

the trees begin where the asphalt ends. Lots of leaves blowing about, too. It is mandatory to keep a keen eye out for the deer and turkeys that own this beautiful part of the state. It was about 06:00 when we headed onto the drive. While the shadows were getting long, one nice advantage was that the traffic was almost nil. As mentioned, the road is quite narrow and crooked but sight lines are quite good through the tree trunks so those that wanted to “play” had the opportunity.

The 20 mile “Tunnel” ended at our destination for the day, Legs Inn. Four riders continued on the Mackinaw City for the night since they did not have reservations at Legs Inn, the only place to stay in the area. Legs is a great rustic country inn that has been around for ages. Their specialty is Polish cuisine. For those unaware, the timing of our Color Tours coincides with the seasonal closing of the Inn. It is interesting to watch newcomers study the menus that are passed out to select their options. This is typically provides for a chuckle since the Inn is cleaning out their refrigerators and cupboards and many items are not available. It is simply easier to ask “what do you have left”.

We had three rustic cabins 12 riders at Legs. The cabins sit on a bluff with Lake Michigan as a backdrop just around the corner and down the hill from the Inn. I was looking forward to a campfire of wood that “Crazy” and Don brought all the way with them from down state. It didn’t look like it was going to happen so I hit the sack. I found out the next morning that I missed a great campfire that lasted well into the chilly night.

Sunday morning, one of our group was out for an early walk and found that a local church was having an “all you can eat” pancake breakfast. I had originally planned on riding for about an hour to Indian River for breakfast but the pancake breakfast with fried eggs, sausage, and bottomless coffee was far too good an opportunity to pass up for most of us – all for \$4.50!. Cabin 5 (the campfire bugs) were a bit slow rising so I don’t know if they made it to the breakfast or not. I dropped off our cabin keys at the back door of the Inn on our way to breakfast. After rapping on the kitchen door, a round little Polish lady accepted our keys. Now I know why what was left of the menu was still so delicious.

We somehow were able to mount our trusty steeds (with considerable difficulty) after a great breakfast at the church. We could not resist one more run back down “The Tunnel” on our way out of “town”. Our late departure meant much more traffic in the Tunnel than we encountered Saturday evening. Surprisingly, most 4 wheelers pulled over as far as they could to give us room to pass. There is really no shoulder but some even stopped with their right side wheels just off the pavement. How nice of them to let us have our fun.

Our route home took us through Indian River, Onaway, Mio, and Rose City. We kept losing a bike or two here and there on the way down state as folk decided to pursue their own interests, routes, and schedules to make their way home. The Mick family could not resist another opportunity to visit “The Turkey Roost” we passed on our way through Bay City. They quickly decided to flip a U and fill up one more time. Jerry, Ives, and I continued on down M 15 through Vassar, Millington, Davison, and Ortonville to the conclusion of our planned route.

As always, Ride Safe.

NOVEMBER 1st LUNCH RIDE to PECK – Jim Mick, Leader

An earlier report from a friend said that one of our favorite restaurants was closed (in Peck) so Jeri and I started looking for another place to take the Club on Nov 1st. But on a trip back from the north this Summer, I discovered that THEY ARE OPEN. I even went back in early October to see if their fish was as good as I remembered, and it was!! "All you can eat Walleye" for \$7.95 with choice of potato and cole slaw. You can add the salad bar for \$2.50. They also have a wide variety of menu items, but the fish is wonderful - lightly breaded, they start with 3 fillets at first and then resupply you with more hot fillets - a few at a time so you can always have hot fish to eat.

Since ice cream was hard to find last year (in Oct), we'll make a more direct return trip to RIW, Inc. for desert... so save room.

Joyfully,
Jim

OFFICERS FOR 2009:

It's that time of year when we ask for nominees for officers of our club. We would like to nominate candidates at our November meeting. If we have more than one person interested in a position we can have elections in December. These positions will take effect at the January meeting. Please consider filling one of these positions. We believe that having new people will bring fresh ideas to our club and make it more fun for everyone. We currently have the following positions:

President - chairs our monthly meetings, calls officers meetings, arrangers for speakers or programs (winter meetings), helps coordinate club activities, writes Prez Sez for Newsletter and is signer on checking account.

First Vice President - brings or arranges for donuts at monthly meetings, helps arrange winter programs or speakers at monthly meetings, and acts as back up to president to chair monthly meetings.

Second Vice President - Arranges club picnic in September and Frankenmuth chicken dinner in June.

Third Vice President - Gets volunteers to lead monthly rides, organizes off meeting rides (day and extended), and updates ride schedule for our web site.

Treasurer - Handless all club finances which include: signer on checking account, maintains Excel spread sheet showing cash flow, 50/50 raffle money, collects dues, maintains updated membership list, and sends invites for new members to join e-group mail list.

Newsletter Editor - publishes newsletter every month using Word and submits PDF formatted to Ives Potrafka for posting on our web site.

NEWS FROM THE BEEMERSHIP

The Open House was a great success! "Many Thanks" to all who supported it with food, attendance and other help. A family atmosphere was present qall day.

The Beemership has several 2007 Bikes at below Invoice and some 2008 at Invoice if you are looking for a new Bike. Come by and take a test ride.

New Hours:

Sunday & Monday	Closed
Tuesday thru Friday	9:30 to 6:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 to 4:00 PM

Is your Bike winterized? Get ready with battery chargers, and other items at the Beemership. The coffee is always hot, the atmosphere warm and the conversation is even better. Who knows, you might find some winter gear that will keep you riding longer than you planned!

Bill V.
General Manager,
BMW of Detroit

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. 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!"

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>

PICTURES ON THE WEB SITE

The pictures made during meetings have been placed on the web site for all to see. Take a look; some of them are fairly good.

The idea is to make this a common practice each meeting. The pictures may add to the flavor of the Club and be something we all enjoy. Take a look and let the President know your thoughts.

Some of these pictures are also posted on the Snap Fish web site in full 4 meg a pixel quality. If you would like access to the Snap Fish Albums, please send John Hooper (Newsletter Editor) an email and he will send you an invitation to view them. You will be required to set up an account in Snap Fish, but it is free. This way, only those who have been invited to view the album of pictures have access to them, not just anyone with internet access.

Send John an e-mail at jyhooper@comcast.net and he will add you to the invitation list for these and future Motor City Beemer Albums in Snap Fish.

CLUB ROSTER IS POSTED ON THE WEB SITE

The Club Roster has been posted on the web site. It requires the password to access and available to all up to date Club Members Only names, phone numbers, town and e-mail addresses are on the Web Site. If you are a current member, you have the password and can get to the Rooster.

The hope is the Roster will help us contact each other for riding partners and bring the group closer together; making Motor City Beemers the kind of Club we all would like to see. Try it out and let President John know what you think would make it more helpful.

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

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 Jim & Jason Mick

Don't forget to check the Club Web Site as well. You might find something you can't live without!!