



Motor City Beemers

Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

January 2016

Volume 25, Number 01

All meetings are held the **SECOND** Saturday of the month at 10:30AM at BMW of Detroit

Immediately following the meeting is a Lunch Ride

We welcome owners and fans of all bikes

Our *next* meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2016

Following Meeting: February 13, 2016

Web site: www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers

President	Maury Feuerman	mauryfeuerman@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Betty Ward	bettyward27@gmail.com
2nd Vice President		
Treasurer	Jim Mick	Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com
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Happy New Year!! With a new year comes a new president. I am honored to be the new president of the MC Beemers club for 2016. I am looking forward to a great year of riding and if El Nino keeps going, maybe we will be able to begin riding a little earlier this year.

A little background on me. I have been riding since I turned 18, my first moto was a '76 Yamaha XT 500. I rode that all over the mountains of Montana. After I moved to Michigan, my next moto was a Honda Silverwing GL500 Interstate. I had that one for a few years. I started to dread riding, I was afraid of everything, dogs, sand, drivers, deer, etc... so I took about 10 years off from riding. Got the itch again in

07 and bought my first BMW in April 08, an '02 R1150R (the one in the picture). I was a bit nervous the first ride around the neighborhood but loved it. I put about 20,000 miles on that bike over the next 2 years. In June 2010, I purchased my first brand new BMW, 2009 K1200LT from Tony at the BMW Detroit dealership. I put about 17,000 miles on that one before buying the 2013 R1200GS from Tony. So far, I have about 10,000 miles on this one. I don't have any of the fears I had back in the 90's; I still have a very healthy respect for all the items I mentioned but no fear of them. I love riding a motorcycle even with all the gear. I am definitely an ATGATT rider.

Now, for the club; I may be the president but I am NOT the club. In my email message about the dealership holiday party, I mentioned that it is your club not mine. The word "only" was missing. It was supposed to say, it is your club not "only" mine. I am a member and have been since 2009. I really like this club, the members, and the activities we do. The president is a servant of the club, and is the facilitator of the club. The members are the driving force behind the club! The members decide the direction of the club, the president with the other officers make that happen.

I want to thank Maury for his guidance and leadership as the past president, Great Job; and Rhys for his longtime service to the club as one of the founders, and many times in the various officer positions, most recently as the past First Vice President. I want to also thank the other officers for once again VOLUNTEERING for another year of service. You all have done a fantastic job over the last few years and I think it says a lot that everyone thinks so too because no one else ran for any of the positions. Having said that, we do have one vacancy that needs to be filled; the First Vice President. The FVP takes the place of the President when not available for the meeting, but the most important part of the FVP is to identify and route the monthly rides with the help of the membership and other officers. This can be a very fun job, because you get to decide on the route(s) to take from the dealership to the destination. That means you get to ride a lot of the "fun" roads we have here in SE Michigan. So, at the January meeting, we will take nominations for the FVP and we will either vote then, or I will put it out to the membership over the email to vote. If you would like to self-nominate or nominate another for the position, please send me an email directly. Please do not just reply to the email string, unless you want everyone to know.

Since we do not currently have an FVP, I get to make the ride choice. The ride location for January 9th is the Great Baraboo Brewing Company at the Northwest corner of Moravian and Utica, not too far from the dealership. The address is 35905 Utica Rd. Clinton Twp.

This is getting rather long, but the next order of business, is Membership Dues. The Dues are due as of January 1st each year. We are a very inexpensive club especially when you consider what you get in return. The membership dues are \$15, if you have a spouse the associate membership dues are \$10. The Midwinter banquet is \$15 per person. Come to the meeting for more details.

I am going to close with, the meeting is Saturday, 9 January at 10:30 am. What else do you have to do on a chilly January Saturday that would be more fun than coming to the meeting, looking at shiny new motorcycles and gear, talking about motorcycles and gear, then going to lunch with good friends at the Great Baraboo Brewing Company. Sounds like a great day to me. My door (email) is always open. I plan to send out some emails to the group email list. I will be asking a few questions and I very much want feedback. I also want you to ask me questions that we, your officers can answer.

New Member: Peter Berg



The club newsletter I picked up at the December 19th party made for interesting reading, so here I am. My motorcycle disease started in 1974, with a blue sparkle Norton Commando. After the blue Commando I had a long hiatus. Until 1996. I spotted a 1973 Triumph Bonneville parked in a driveway with a for sale sign. A few years later I purchased a modern Triumph from Classic Cycles on Groesbeck. I purchased my R1100S from Andy Pelc's store in 2002. Don at BMW Motorcycles of Detroit has kept it in tip top condition. This year I've noticed that on the R1100S even the not very extreme forward lean to the handlebars bothers my neck. (Is this what it's like to get old?) I told Jan the

best wife ever that something with a more upright seating position would perhaps be better for me. She said OK. I think there's a GS coming.

Pete Berg

Royal Oak



Happy New Year everyone! And... on the first page of this newsletter, I just cranked the Volume number on the cover to 25, a quarter century of MCBeezers newsletters!

First of all... the Winter Banquet is coming! Details later in the newsletter from Betty, but something I wish to bring up is ... PICTURES! Part of the fun of the banquet is the slide show of member pictures of the last year.

Last year, things didn't go quite as planned (we didn't have access to the Big Screen TV to use for the slide show), so I improvised, and set up a few laptops around the room with the slide show on them.

This year, we supposedly DO have access to a big screen monitor, but I'm planning on also having a few laptops around the area running picture shows as well. Exactly how this will work will probably not be figured out until we are there, and will depend on the room, resources and the pictures you get to me, but my motto is "Stay Flexible".

The point is – whatever you have you would like to share with the group, get it to me. If you have just a few pictures, e-mail them. If you have a big collection, bring them to a meeting or Wednesday dinner on whatever electronic form you can.

And – if you haven't signed up and paid for the banquet, DO IT! It's a blast. Oh...and be thinking of nominations for Bent Beemer awards.

One thing that has come up a few times is how open the MCBeezers should be to people who own non-BMW motorcycles. I think it is safe to say we are open to ALL fun people, no matter what kind of bike they own and drive. Not only do a lot of our members have a diverse collection of bikes, many of our officers drive non-BMWs.

One thing that does bother me is the occasional perception that MCBeezers is not a welcoming group. I whole-heartedly disagree with this statement. Paula and I are relatively new members, We went from "What is this all about?" to having gained a whole new set of dear friends very quickly...and then finding myself one of the officers of the club!

I would like to encourage our membership to recruit new members. I'm not talking about knocking on doors of strangers, but one thing I've often noticed before and after our meetings is that there are often people at the dealership looking around that are NOT club members – i.e., just regular customers. And I rarely see MCBeezer members talking to them. Why not? These are people INTERESTED in motorcycles, and BMW motorcycles in particular, otherwise, why would they be there? (well maybe the donuts, but they probably didn't know those were there). I've taken the time to talk to some of these people, and NEVER had anyone give me any indication that they would have preferred that I left them alone. So, get out and say "hi" to our fellow bikers, and invite them to join us for lunch!

Stay safe and warm!

Nick.

Get your 2016 Banquet tickets now!

Betty Ward

Limited to 50 guests

Our **2016 Mid -Winter Banquet** will be held at **Louis' Chop House**, 50355 Gratiot Ave, New Baltimore, Mi 48051. We have reserved their Big Room for **Saturday, February 20th, 2016**. Room includes TV and private bar. Social hour will be at 6pm and a plate style dinner to follow at 7pm. Cash bar and dessert on your own.

It's good food, great conversation, 50/50 raffle, a slide show and drawings of donated gifts. Renew club membership for 2016 (\$15 or \$10) and make an additional \$15 reservation for the banquet by Friday, February 12, 2016 and receive \$10 back at the banquet. Our club will pick up the remainder of the dinner, tax and gratuity. That's right, \$5.00 dinners for a member or associate!

A non member will cost \$35.00 per person for the banquet dinner. Our club treasurer will accept your payment at the meetings and Pay Pal.

I am looking forward to the banquet 2016 and hope you are as well. Great times await!

Yours truly,
Betty Ward

Club events

Lunch rides take place right after the Saturday meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Most other club events take place on the THIRD Saturday of the month

Date	Event	More Info
January 9	Club Meeting – lunch at Great Baraboo Brewing Company	
February 13	Club Meeting	
February 20	Mid-Winter Banquet	See above!

Other events:

BMW MOA Getaway is in Fontana, North Carolina, **April 22 to April 24, 2016**. Jim M. tells us it's 9 hours by I-75, and 10 hours by I-71, and there are golf course, marina, camping and resort motel, and not far from Tail of the Dragon. More info at http://www.bmwmoa.org/events/event_details.asp?id=751007

Recruit a new member! Cut-out and carry these cards!

Hi, I couldn't help but notice you also ride a
BMW Motorcycle!
I'd like to invite you to join us, the Motor City Beemers,
on the second Saturday, monthly, 10:30am
BMW Motorcycles of Detroit
34080 Van Dyke Ave
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers

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Wednesday Dinner Gatherings



The Wednesday dinners are a long-time, though less formal, tradition with the MCBeemers, started and run by Betty Ward. She picks out a dinner location, lets us know...and we get together and eat! Food is usually ordered by 6:30pm, but some of us don't straggle in until closer to 7:00pm.

Absolutely no agenda other than Good Food and Great People!

← Dinner at Juan Miguel's, 10/28/2015. Hey, I'm even in the picture!

January 6	Camp Ticonderoga	5725 Rochester Rd Troy, MI 248.828.2825
January 13	CK Diggers Bar & Grill	2010 W Auburn rd Rochester Hills, Mi 248.853-6600
January 20	Juan Miguel's	21342 Hall Rd Clinton Township, Mi 48038 586.783.9751
January 27	Strawberry Fields	51070 S. Foster Rd Chesterfield, Mi 48047 586.949.7740
February 3	Thai Orchid	60 Cherry St Mt. Clemens, Mi 586.783.1727

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



Check book balance for the end of Nov:	\$1947.39
Check book balance for the end of Dec:	\$2516.39
Balance 3 months ago:	\$1880.39
Balance 6 months ago:	\$2319.47
PayPal balance for the end of Nov:	\$926.00
PayPal balance for the end of Dec:	\$940.26

50/50 sold \$109 of tickets at the Dec Club meeting. Pat Kelley won. Nick H. brought the donuts, but didn't give me a receipt yet... so \$54 was added to the CkBk. Bob Hann won the last 'super bag' remaining but donated it back to the club so I'll plan to bring it to our January meeting to give it to 'second draw' winner of our January 50/50 drawing.

These Members renewed their membership (mbr \$15, associate \$10) for 2016 and purchased tickets for the (Mid-Winter Banquet – mbr/associate \$15, non-member guests \$35): Cathy B 1 (1); Blair, Rhys & Jill 2 (2); Tom C 1; Allen G 1; Bob H 1; Dick & Sharon H 2 (2); Nick H & Paula E 2 (2); Pat & Lynn K 2 (2); Norm O 1 (1); Jerry & Margaret P 2; Ives & Renee P 2 (1); Dennis S 1 (1); Leonard S 1 (1); Larry T 1; Betty W 1 (1); Brandon W 1 (1).

The above membership renewals and tickets for the Mid-Winter Banquet added \$525 to the checkbook. \$50 was paid to Louis' Chop House. \$15 was paid to the RA to renew our club membership. **Expect a free RA membership to be given away at the Mid Winter Banquet – a gift from the RA.**

Peter B became our newest member on 12/27/15 using PayPal and sending his application by E-mail. Watch for an introduction from him in the Newsletter. That added \$14.26 to our PayPal account and the club paid the \$0.74 PayPal fee.

Mike & Sharon M renewed their membership using 'Bill Pay' through their bank on 12/23/15 and also paid for their reservations to the Mid-Winter Banquet which added \$55 to the checkbook.

Our 2015 membership stands at 86.
Our 2016 membership stands at 29
Mid Winter Banquet Reservations: 17

ON LINE BANKING (repeat info from previous Newsletters)

SAVE YOURSELF (and the club) some **money** and frustration – send payments to the club for Membership renewal, Picnic reservation, Frankenmuth, Mid Winter Banquet reservations by using ON LINE BANKING. Almost all Banks and Credit Unions provide this **FREE** service. You don't even have to sign up online and they don't charge you for the postage. You can ask your local branch to set it up for you. Just tell your bank or credit union **when** and **how much** to pay **whom** (including address)... write it in your checkbook - without writing a check, or posting with your mail carrier... It's very easy to do on line - if you use a computer for anything. I know of no one who has converted to online banking and then gone back to the old (check writing) way. **Have your bank or Credit Union send all MCBeemers payments to Jim Mick, 56750 Fairchild Rd, Macomb, MI 48042** any you'll see verification of your payment in the Treasurer's report in the Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS for 2016 (Repeat Info)

by Jim Mick

Membership stands at 29 for 2016 and the password for access to “Members” at the Yahoo Group will be changed soon. If you do not renew your membership by February 14, you will not receive the new password for accessing the ‘Members Only’ information on the Yahoo Group.

All renewal dues for 2016 should be paid by the end of January 2016, but we have no penalty for late renewals. We just want you back. The BEST (and cheapest) way to pay any dues, reservations, etc. to the club is to use your Bank/CU “Bill Pay” service – at no cost to you.

PayPal (REPEAT INFO)

by Jim Mick

As of 1/25/15, 12 members have used PayPal to pay the club for membership renewals and club events. If you have a PayPal account, the club pays no fee for any transfer of money –IF YOU CALL ME FAMILY/FRIEND rather than indicating that you are paying for product/service. You will, however pay a small fee (<\$1). The club’s PayPal account is Jim@Ridingiswonderful.com **That account is not for my personal use.**

If you don’t have a PayPal account, you can transfer/send money to the club, but the MCBmembers will be charged a small fee (>\$1), which we have been willing to pay. You will need to choose your bank account or Credit/Debit Card if you don’t have a PayPal account. We want you to have the convenience of being able to use PayPal.

For our Canadian members, it appears that there’s not much difference ... other than a built in ‘exchange rate’ at the time money is sent.

If you have an E-mail address, you can set up a free PayPal account from which you can send money and also receive money.

It’s probably a wise suggestion that you use an E-mail address that you are not going to change. The process is free, if you link your PayPal account to a Credit/Debit Card. It’s secure and if you already do some ‘online banking’, I can’t imagine that you would have any difficulty. The process will take 2-3 days but only requires about 4-8 minutes of your time (more if you study all of their ‘agreement’). Here’s the process:

1. Log on to www.PayPal.com
2. Click on “personal” in the top left
3. Click on “sign up” in the top right
4. You’ll be asked to provide personal information, then to read and agree to their agreement.
5. When done, you’ll be asked to provide Credit/Debit Card and/or bank info. Then you’ll need to wait for a couple of days.
6. You’ll be asked to check your bank statement within a few days. PayPal will make small deposits into your account. You’ll need to know those deposit amounts in order to activate your account.
7. You’ll also be asked to choose a few security questions and answers in case you forget your password.
8. From that point onward, you have a free PayPal account - touted as “The world’s favorite way to pay and get paid”.
9. There are limits to this personal, free account, but it should be sufficient for most of us.

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. You can have two lines of text, the first your name, and you can add a nick name as the second.

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

"A tip of the MCBEEMER helmet . . .

. . . goes to Viles & Associates, Inc., who have volunteered print the free copies of the newsletter available at the dealership. They are also BMW riders.



to



FOR SALE
"MICK-O-Pegs"
*Expanding comfort
for more models*

Spring Loaded Highway Pegs for your K1200LT, pre-2010 R1200_, R1150_, R1100_, R1200GSA and even the new 1600GT/GTL (if equipped w/engine guards). Look at www.ridingiswonderful.com

ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP
with purchase of motorcycle from BMW MOTORCYCLES OF DETROIT

MOTOR CITY BEEMERS
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Club Web Site – www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers
Club eGroup Email – mcbeemers@yahoo.com

Annual membership dues are \$15 per year for full membership and \$10 per year for each associate member and runs from January to January. Renewal payments are requested by January 31 of each year.

Please select 1 or more: Membership (\$15) Associate (\$10) each Additional Associates (\$10)
AND select one: New Renewal Renewal following lapse of years

(Please Print)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Home: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Email: _____

National Motorcycle Club Membership Information

Please check the appropriate boxes to signify current membership in the following national motorcycle clubs:

BMW Motorcycle Owners of America No Yes #: _____

BMW Riders Association No Yes #: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail this application and payment to “Jim Mick” at:

Jim Mick
56750 Fairchild Rd
Macomb MI 48042

Dealership Use
Only

OR send funds via PayPal to: Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com
AND send completed form by e-mail to: Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com