



# Motor City Beemers

## Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

October 2017

Volume 26, Number 10

All meetings are held the **SECOND** Saturday of the month at 10:30AM at ... um...read inside.

Immediately following the meeting is a Lunch Ride

*We welcome owners and fans of all bikes*

**Our next meeting is: October 14, 2017**

**Following Meeting: November 11, 2017**

Web site: [MCBeemers.org](http://MCBeemers.org)

President  
1st Vice President  
2nd Vice Presidents  
Treasurer  
Newsletter Editor

**Pat Kelley**  
**Betty Ward**  
**Paula Ellis & Cathy Beyers**  
**Jim Mick**  
**Nick Holland**

pakel62 @ gmail.com  
bettyward27 @ gmail.com

Jim @ RidingIsWonderful.com  
nick @ holland-consulting.net

**Inside:**

Prez Sez ... page 2  
Editor's Corner ... page 3  
Club and non-Club events ... Page 5  
Wednesday Dinners ... page 5  
Treasurer's Report ... page 6  
MCBeemers Name Tags ... page 7

BMW Logo is a registered trademark of BMW North America



Greetings Beemers! Well, the calendar says it is now fall as the Autumnal Equinox was this past Friday. It may be fall but as I am writing this we are now into some of our hottest days of the year at 92 degrees. Anyway, lots of riding still available before the temps get down to where water freezes and motorcycle tires have a hard time keeping traction.

First off, the dealership is still in the works. The most recent information can be found at the BMW Motorcycles of Detroit Facebook page. The new owner is Mr. Lincoln Phillip, he and Tony have been answering questions put on the page in the messaging or comments areas. The latest as of

about a week ago was that the dealership is still waiting on the state license before they can open. I also received an email through a very short grape vine that Don Lusk can do some service (NOT WARRANTY) if you email him to set it up. His email states "Since we talked a few days ago I got the OK to do a limited amount of BMW service here at our new location. I am the only one here at the moment so hours are limited. I can't do any Warranty, but that should change soon. I don't have a phone yet, I can be contacted by this email address." The email address is [service@bmwdetroit.com](mailto:service@bmwdetroit.com).

Next up was our Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner run, on September 16th. I don't remember the final count but I think it was around 25 or so. We had reserved parking which if you have ever been to the Bavarian Inn Restaurant, you know that parking can be quite an adventure in itself. I led a group of 8 bikes from the Teds Coney Island in Richmond by first going east in order to take the group up to the curves on M136, then north up to Yale Rd. to take the curves up there then over to Yale for some fuel and a short leg stretch. Then on to Brown City, past Rhys on Clifford Rd, on to Mayville then Vassar and over to Frankenmuth. Just about 2 1/2 hours, nice little ride. Frankenmuth had their Oktoberfest starting and a lot of people around town. After dinner several headed out on their separate ways, while about 6 bikes headed back over to Vassar then due north to M25 up to Unionville where we filled up, or overfilled up our two wheel contraptions to motivate on up through Caseville to Port Austin for our overnight stay at the Blue Spruce hotel. Bob Hann was gracious enough to host a social Saturday evening where we met his son-in-law and grandson, Scott and Mathew. They had a nice ride up on Saturday as well. After the social a few of us tried to consume even more food at the Bank restaurant. I only ordered soup and a salad but could not finish either. They have very good French onion soup with lots of cheese. Sunday morning we all headed out and ended up on the same route but in three different times. So we did see each other at different stops. Some of us stopped in St. Clair for Ice Cream where Pete Lentini caught up with us after seeing us in Port Huron. He really didn't have to work too hard to catch up and it was really great getting to talk with him for almost an hour. Then we all headed our separate ways home. Great Weekend!!

Onward! The next riding event that a number of our club members typically attend is the Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> motorcycle rally over in Port Dover, Ontario. Depending on the temperature, I would expect this to be a very large turnout as the last Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> was in January and I don't think too many bikers were out then. Not sure I am going to have the day off yet.

The next day is the club meeting, 14 October with our lunch destination as Anita's Riverfront Grille, 341 S.

Water St. in Marine City, MI. This will work well as I am going to hold the meeting at the St. Clair Boat Harbor again. The marina is located just south of the draw bridge in St. Clair, MI. I will try to see if the enclosed pavilion is available this time. This will be the last time there as the Marina closes the next weekend. Does anyone know of an indoor meeting location we can use for the November, and possibly December meetings. If we want to change our format a bit, we could have our meeting location at a few restaurants that have meeting rooms such as IKEs, or Juliano's which is located on Vandyke just north of 696. We could meet at the restaurant, eat there, then have a meeting and then have a route to ride afterward. For the winter months not much riding anyway. I would like some feedback on this. Please let me know if you would attend a meeting at Juliano's or Ikes for the November and December meetings. I know the restaurants don't like to reserve a room unless there is going to be about 25 in attendance.

I would like some feedback about the meetings in general. We may or may not be able to have our meetings at the dealership, once they open we will know more. Do you still want monthly meetings? Do you want meetings at a restaurant? Do you want meetings at a non-food related location so that we can then ride to a restaurant as we currently do, and if so who knows of a non-food location that we can use at basically no cost?

I am asking for club officer nominations. It is that time of year again. I do not know how many of the current officers are going to run for office again next year, but I am abdicating the throne; I mean not going run for office for next year. So, you now know that you will need a new President. I want you to provide some feedback on how you want the election to take place this year as well. We have always done the voting at the December meeting which has also become a fairly low attended meeting. I would like to see a proxy vote system that would go out to all the membership in November with return by the first of December so that the announcement of the new officers can be made at the December meeting. That is why I am asking for nominations this month up to the November meeting.

Winter Banquet is coming too!

That's enough for this time, ride safe and let's hear from you, by email, facebook, website, face to face at dinners, meetings or whenever I see you.

## Bavarian Inn Perks Card

John's Bavarian Inn card has helped reduce the cost to the club of our Frankenmuth chicken dinner for a number of years now.





We don't get to do a lot of long-distance riding like some of you do, but I do try to ride my motorcycle to work at least a few times per week, preferably most times per week during my riding season (which is defined, roughly, as "whenever I feel like it"). Unfortunately, some oddly planned and questionable construction has me "caging" much more than I'd like. Parking lot congestion and people wanting to make sudden lane changes is not something I really enjoy being on a bike for...I'm not wild about being in a car.

I think I promised an article about replacing tail lights with LED lights. Well, I think I've realized the best I can say is "try it" – the number of configurations and complications on different bike is too great for me to cover with

authority. Here's my observations and discoveries. In my case, my LT has five lights across the back:



Turn signals are messy to play with – blinkers are load dependent, if you replace a turn signal bulb with an LED, things will often work poorly. I'm not seeing a lot of point there, either, so this doesn't bother me.

Now, the three center lights on my LT were all the same kind of bulb, but the center one didn't have the bright filament attached to anything. This could be kinda slick – if you discover one of your brake lights are out, you could swap with the center running light bulb, and get back on the road with almost the same level of safety. It turned out if the CENTER bulb is swapped out with an LED bulb, the brake system computer will decide something is wrong (maybe you swapped out the bulb for one of the running/brake lights?) and flash the brake warning light at you. Note that this has nothing to do with the brakes or brake lights. So, I was only able to swap out the two running/brake lights with LEDs, but while I was there, I added a jumper between one of the brake lights and the center unused filament, so now when I hit the brakes, I have three bulbs light up – two super-fast LEDs, and one that wasn't doing anything before. I like. One thing, though – get RED LEDs, not white. The white ones will work, but going through the red filter, they'll come out a bit pink (unless that's your bike's color scheme!). While there, I added a flashing red light assembly that I picked up for about \$5 somewhere (don't ask – they don't have any more, sorry). I did a similar change to my Harley, and I'm very happy with that, as well.

As Pat said, officer elections are coming up. No question, the club is going to be going through some huge changes next year, NOTHING at this point is sacred, nor should any of our past traditions be considered sacred. Whomever we elect to lead us is going to help guide the group through some "interesting" times. As Richard Bach said, "What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the master calls a butterfly.", those that take over are going to get to design the new butterfly. I suspect no one currently running the club would be insulted by someone offering to take their role over. I'll even buy lunch for someone who takes over the newsletter editor's role (hm. I better be careful, that might be considered reverse election fraud!).

Something else worthy of thinking about is club communications. Currently, we have two mechanisms in place – the Yahoo e-mail group and the MCBeemers Facebook group. I've heard some grumbles that people don't like the Yahoo e-mail group, but some aren't too fond of Facebook. One problem is any of the "free" answers are going to have some of the same issues as Facebook and Yahoo.

Ride fun, ride safe!



## **Club events**

Lunch rides took place right after the Saturday meeting on the second Saturday of the month, and hopefully will resume soon...somewhere. Other events as we can make them happen!

The most up-to-date events list should be here: <https://mcbeemers.org/activities/index.html> Bookmark this

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
10/14/2017	MCBeemers meeting, lunch ride to Anita's in Marine City
11/11/2017	MCBeemers Meeting, lunch at Great Baraboo
12/9/2017	MCBeemers Meeting. Lunch at Ham's

## **Wednesday Dinner Gatherings**

Usually, we order about 6:30pm

October 4	<b>Little Camille's By The Bay</b>	51083 Washington St New Baltimore, MI 48047 586.725.4866
October 11	<b>Brown Iron Brewhouse</b>	57695 Vandyke Washington, MI 48094 586.687.3300
October 18	<b>P. F. Chang's</b>	17390 Hall Rd Clinton Township, MI 48038 586.263.0860
October 25	<b>Camp Ticonderoga</b>	5725 Rochester Rd Troy, Mi 248.828.2825
November 1	<b>Penne Lane</b>	44905 Morley Dr Clinton Township, MI 48036 586.741.5583

# Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



More members are using 'Bill Pay', but not this month!!

Check book balance for the end of Sept:	\$1918.45
Check book balance for the end of August:	\$2424.79
Balance end of March:	\$2368.07
Balance end of June:	\$2359.79
PayPal balance for the end of Sept:	\$693.78
PayPal balance for the end of Aug:	\$678.78

9/6 Received \$10 in PayPal for Frankenmuth from Keith & Bobi H

9/12 Received \$10 cash for Frankenmuth from Gary & Mary V

9/13 Received \$5 in PayPal for Frankenmuth from Lori D for Joey I

9/16 Received \$55 cash for membership renewals & Frankenmuth from David H & Alvro M, from Dick & Sharon H & Betty W for Frankenmuth.

9/16 Paid Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn \$581.34 for 21 family Style Chicken Dinners, 1 Child Plate and a sheetcake for desert (including gratuities).

## Repeat information concerning verification of your payments.

When you give me cash at a club meeting or Wednesday dinner, please watch me make a note on the master membership list that you paid and what for. I keep all those master lists indefinitely, but I reprint a new one every few months.

When you pay using PayPal (please indicate sending money to 'family/friend' so the club has no fee to pay), I will almost immediately receive a notice from PayPal and will send you an E-mail to confirm.

When you write me a check, you'll have verification when it gets deposited. Most money is deposited on/about the 27th of the month.

When your bank/CU sends me a check (through their "Bill Pay"), you will receive an E-mail from me when it arrives in my snail mail.

For all payments I receive before the 27th, you can also verify your payments in the next Treasurer's Report which I send to Nick on the 27th.

## 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 \$9.00.

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. 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, 1600GT/GTL (if equipped w/engine guards), and this newest BMW design for the 2014-current R1200\_ which is Model TG. Look at [www.ridingiswonderful.com](http://www.ridingiswonderful.com)