

Motor City Beemers

Newsletter



January 2024

Volume 33, Number 1

Meetings are held the **SECOND** Saturday of the month
at

Triumph Detroit

47488 Van Dyke Ave.
Shelby Township, MI 48317
(586) 726-7400

We welcome owners and fans of all bikes

“We got donuts!”

Our *next* meeting is: ... **January 13, 2024 10:30 am**

Following meeting is: ... **February 10, 2024 10:30am**

Web site: <https://MCBeemers.org>

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Membership info: <https://mcbeemers.org/howdoijoin.html>

Activities: <https://mcbeemers.org/activities>

Happy New Year, Beemers!



I'm sorry I missed our last meeting – as you probably heard, I had a mild COVID case, and figured it would be best to avoid other people still at the time of our last meeting.

I suspect most of us have put our motorcycles away for the season, though I have some neighbor who aren't giving up. He is still regularly riding his Harley trike, and she's running around on a street-legalized 4 wheel off-road "side-by-side". No heated cabin. No sides. They are both very fond of loud exhaust systems, so in my current "work from home" occupation, I hear what they are up to. And here I am, learning to admire the heated seat on my little electric car. I think I'm getting wimpy in my old age...

Don't forget to check your battery tenders! It seems every year, I have one get knocked out of a bike, and end up with an unexpected dead battery. Sometimes they charge back up, sometimes they don't...

Club business... Upcoming event is the Winter Banquet -- hopefully Don will have some details for us by the next meeting. We have to make a decision about continuing our membership with the MOA. Personally, I'm not in favor – the MOA hasn't done anything for us to justify the (granted, minimal) membership fee, and they do wish to control things I don't really want them trying to control. And...I do think our move to being a "less BMW" club isn't what they would support, but I think that is exactly what we need to do to survive as a motorcycle club.

It is time to start thinking about officers for the next election(/draft). If you want to help control the direction of the club, please step up to be an officer. April is when nominations should be in, May is the election. Sounds a way off, but there are only a few meetings between now and then.

Stay safe, stay warm!

Stuff on the website

Main website: <http://mcbeemers.org>

Activities page: <http://mcbeemers.org/activities>

Newsletters, current and past: <http://mcbeemers.org/mcb-nl>

Club pictures: <http://mcbeemers.org/pictures>

Club invite cards: <http://mcbeemers.org/mcb-nl/MCB-invites.pdf>

Membership info: <http://mcbeemers.org/howdoijoin.html>

Hosting Dealership: <https://www.windycitymc.com/--triumph-detroit>

We've had a mild December, with some days getting up into the 50s, but I *didn't* actually manage to get out on a bike. Not even once. Day-to-day, life just got in the way. So I hope that, unlike me, you've been able to get some riding in.

Our newest member, Jeremy Nowland, sent us an introduction which follows on page 5. Thank you, Jeremy, for a bit about your biking background, current interests, and family!

The club has a big social event coming up. Please check your calendars: our annual mid-winter banquet has usually been held on the 3rd Saturday in February; this year that will be February 17. Let's firm up our plans at the January meeting. I won't be able to make the meeting, and I'm hopeful I'll learn the outcome from Don or Nick. I'll then post the banquet plans on our Facebook page and send them to our mailing list.

As Nick mentioned in his column, the club officers would like to pass our batons to others. Please consider helping out your club, and its current crop of officers, by taking on some light duties over the course of the next year. If service to others won't sway you, then consider basking in the vast glory and absolute power that a club officer wields. Would that work?

And one last reminder: if we get any good weather and decent road conditions over the next month, don't be like me.... get out there and ride!



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New Member

Jeremy Nowland

My riding journey began relatively late in life when I took an MSF course in my mid-30's. However, I really did not start riding in earnest until my late-30's. In 2017, I bought my first motorcycle - a 2014 Royal Enfield Classic 500 – a bike I honestly wish I still had for its "old school" charms. Currently, as some of the members have seen, I ride a 2006 Ducati Multistrada - a true "beauty-in-the-eye-of-the-beholder" bike that the kids and I call "Isabella."

On Isabella, I commute to work occasionally and try to take her on weekend blasts around southeast Michigan. I also really enjoy long-distance, multi-day trips. But I am happy to keep those few-and-far between in exchange for spending time with my wife and kids; especially while they are young.

Hmm what else? I could cover my work as an attorney, but that is kinda boring. How about hobbies? As my wife likes to point out, I have too many (playing guitar, reading, writing, drawing, very amateur woodworking, etc.). Primarily, my love of riding followed a long (and long suffering) passion for motorsports. I have been a mega-follower of F1, IndyCar, and sportscar racing since I was a little tyke. I even had the opportunity to participate in a little amateur racing in my 20's.

Someday, perhaps I'll return to the track. For now, motorcycles more than scratch that itch for travel, adventure, and self-discovery. As such, for 2024, I am very appreciative of the warm-welcome to the MC Beemers. I look forward to the camaraderie and nice weekend rides the club promises to offer. P.S. - don't tell my wife, but I may also be interested in a classic BMW or Brit bike project - you know...if anyone has any leads (wink, wink, nudge, nudge).

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick

Our newest member is Jeremy Nowland. Be watching for info about him in the newsletter and make a point to introduce yourself when you see him. He brings us to...

38 Members for 2023:

Jeff A, Mike B, Cathy B, Jill B, Brian & Sheila B, Tom C, Walter D, Dennis G, Linda H, Aaron G, Josh G, Nick H, Paula E, Pat & Lynn K, Alan & Jodi K, Mike & Sharon M, Don & Gail M, Jay M, Jim & Jeri M, Jeremy N, Don & Carolynne P, Jerry & Margaret P, Eli Shapiro, Tim S, Robb S, Chris V, Jim V, Mary V, Rob Z, & Charlie Z. Mary V and Jill B are 'life-long members' of the club since they were active when their spouses passed away.



As 'the Prez' said in the May '23 newsletter: "Membership requirements, for the most part, is just "show up!". If you like what you see, we'll ask you to fill out a membership form, so you can get our newsletter, club (e)mailing, and get you on our Facebook group which lets you know what is going on. We are not collecting dues. And as we have said for a long time, your brand(s) of motorcycle is NOT a criterion."

Check book balance for the end of Nov:	\$1357.13
Check book balance for the end of Dec:	\$1338.43
Balance one year ago:	\$2011.94
Balance six mo ago:	\$1772.13
Balance three mo ago:	\$1357.13

I reimbursed myself \$18.70 for the dozen donuts. I had no idea they were so expensive!! I should REQUIRE Nick & Paula provide a bill when they pick them up so the club can reimburse them.

I have yet to receive the bill and pay \$___ for that bill in Frankenmuth.