



# Motor City Beemers

## Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

June 2006

Volume 14, Number 6

President - Ives Potrafka - ives@mygreyhound.com  
Vice President - Dick Hautau - richardhautau@aol.com  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - George Yosin  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President - John Saarinen - jsaarinen@peoplepc.com  
Treasurer - Norm Ott - motorcycleman@comcast.net  
Newsletter Editor - John Saarinen - jsaarinen@peoplepc.com

### **THE PREZ SEZ**

Many thanks to Ryan Blair who at the last minute stepped in to lead us to Waldo, Ohio. It was my intention to lead the ride, but my directions and GPS never took in account all the CLOSED roads. Ryan knew the area and graciously agreed to lead all 13 of us (10 motorcycles) south. It was an enjoyable ride down and a great sandwich - and a few enjoyed some pie too. I had planned to just let the GPS take me home, but Chris had mapped a great route all the way to Toledo via back roads and I tagged along. It was even a better ride home.

As most of you know, the dealership is under new ownership. AND.... Our own Past Pres. Frank just started as General Manager - congrats to Frank and good luck.

Next months ride will be over the border to Canada. Our ride leader is Phil A. and he has promised to write a little article for the newsletter so everyone knows what to expect at customs. So look for Phil's article in the newsletter and be prepared to leave the country for the next monthly ride.

Spring has Sprung - so enjoy and RIDE SAFE!

Ives R. Potrafka  
President - MC Beemers

### **MAY MEETING**

Saturday morning, May 6<sup>th</sup> was a great day for a ride. By vote of the membership it was decided to only provide the news letter through our web site and copies at the dealership.

Ten bikes and 13 riders headed south for fried bologna sandwiches in Waldo, Ohio. I was a chilly morning when we pulled out onto Van Dyke South following Ryan Blair. Turned west on 12 Mile Road and then South on Mound. With a few twists and turns we went the back way through Highland Park and main street Hamtramck. We got onto I-75 South near the GM Pole Town Plant.

In Toledo construction again forced us to take the convoluted way over to 23 South. Trying to maneuver that many bikes through the twists and turns of the business district became a

challenge at times. When the main body of the group got ahead of the stragglers, the last bike waited at the intersection to indicate the correct route. Good team work!

The ride became more fluid when the group got onto 23 South. The scenery was good and the pace relaxing. One time we had to slow down for an accident where an oncoming vehicle hit the median strip and crashed on our right shoulder. We were no where near the scene at the time of the accident. An oncoming vehicle kept flashing it's headlights to warn us of some upcoming issue. We all thought police, didn't even think about an accident. Plenty of cars stopped to offer assistance, or gawk. No police or rescue vehicles arrived by the time we passed.

180 miles after leaving Detroit the group arrived at the G & R Tavern in Waldo. The restaurant was right where we left it last year. The food was good, the camaraderie was even better. We are going to have to teach Jason how to eat a bologna sandwich.



We broke up into smaller groups for the ride home.

### Eat to Ride, Ride to Eat

In getting ready for the riding season I found out I had 2 bald tires. I guess not riding for so long I just forgot about the basics of getting the bike ready. I stopped down at the Beemership and got a new set of shoes for the bike. This is just a friendly reminder to properly prep your bike for the season. If it involves service it is an opportunity to help support the dealership. With some dealerships going out of business it is in our best interest to support our local dealer. I've lived in locations that required a two and a half hour or 4 hour ride for service. It became a real hassle.

Just a reminder: A vote at the May Meeting confirmed unanimously that we will continue our policy to no longer send the MCBeemers Club Newsletter by snail-mail. Everyone with an e-mail address will have access via the internet. Anyone not connected via the internet can still pick up a copy at the Beemership.

Any body interested in joining the RA (Rides Association) please send Norm Ott ([motorcycleman@comcast.com](mailto:motorcycleman@comcast.com)) an e-mail with your name and membership number. Membership forms are at the Beemership next to the news letters. We need 10 members to get the clubs fee waved..

## **Lake St. Clair Ride, June 3, 2006**

The June ride for the Motor City Beemers around Lake St. Clair lead by Phil Aylesworth. The ride will likely take 4-5 hours including lunch, so be prepared to spend the whole afternoon with us.

We will leave BMW Motorcycles of Detroit right after the monthly meeting. Head north to Algonac, cross the ferry to Walpole Island, head through Wallaceburg (where we will take a quick coffee/bathroom break at a Tim Hortons. Then into Chatham, along the River View Road to Belle River for lunch, then through Windsor to the Ambassador Bridge. It is all secondary roads.

Since this is a cross border trip into Canada you will need some form of ID for immigration. Generally it is easier to get into Canada than into the US, so make sure your documents are in order or you might not get back! If you are a US or Canadian citizen you will need proof of citizenship. A birth certificate with a piece of photo ID like a drivers licence, or a passport. If you are not a citizen then you will need to make sure you have it right documentation to get across both border crossings. If you are in any kind of immigration limbo (such as applying for a green card or refugee status) you should not risk this trip. Immigration can get pretty nasty if you are not supposed to be there!

If you get some Canadian money before you go you will save a bit on exchange. The Canadian dollar is quite strong right now. One US dollar (USD) is worth about \$1.10 in Canadian dollars (CAD). So, you might just want to spend US dollars. They are good anywhere you want to shop, some places will give you a bit of a premium for them, too.

Tolls are per bike with one or two people on it. The ferry is \$4.00 (USD or CAD). The Ambassador Bridge is \$4.00 CAD or \$3.25 USD. So, pay for the ferry in CAD and the bridge in USD and you will save a few cents to put towards your next BMW accessory!

This article (with a map, data files, and links of interest) is available on the web (<http://sunparlourbeemers.org/stclair>). Come and join us for an international ride!

Dick Hautau also recommends getting a Canadian Insurance Card from your insurance carrier before entering Canada. Call your insurance company and ask them to send a Canadian Insurance Card, it will take 7 to 10 days to arrive. The card s free and can help you avoid problems at the border, or you can carry a copy of your policy.

### **MOTOR CITY BEEMERS ANNUAL FRANKENMUTH LUNCHEON**

**WHEN & WHERE: SATURDAY JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>. BE READY TO DEPART AT 11:30 SHARP FROM THE BEEMERSHIP. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A FULL TANK OF GAS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. THERE MAY BE ONE "SHORT" STOP ALONG THE ROUTE. ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL AT THE BAVARIAN INN RESTAURANT IS 1:15PM.**

**THIS IS A MEMBERS ONLY FUNCTION. IF YOUR SPOUSE OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER ISN'T A MEMBER, GET WITH NORM OTT BY JUNE 3RD AND SIGN THEM UP AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER (\$5).**

WE NEED A HEAD COUNT TO RESERVE SUFFICIENT TABLES AND CHAIRS FOR EVERYONE. PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE BY JUNE 3RD TO FRANK EMMERICH AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: CLUB MEETING, 586-731-6951 OR BMWFRANK@COMCAST.NET

FRANK...

### **RALLIES/OVER NIGHT RIDES**

July 7-9, 2006 RA rally in Boise, Idaho.

Dick Hautau is putting together a camping group to ride and/or meet at the rally. If you have any questions or contributions get with Dick. There are several members that are going for sure. Dick will also have information for those that prefer a motel to a tent.

MOA Rally July 20-23, 2006

April 1, 2006 registration opens for the MOA Rally in Vermont. Dorm rooms are available to those who do not wish to camp at the rally. George Yosin has volunteered to coordinate a club luncheon at the rally. This is something we have done for most of the MOA rally's in the past. This gives us a chance to get together as a group for an organized ride and have a chance to eat lunch together, share some experiences, and maybe make plans for other activities during the rally weekend. George will determine a location and time to meet. He will have a route and restaurant planned. Just in case you wondered, no George isn't buying your lunch!

October 21-22, 2006 Color tour.

This is a two-day trip covering approximately 720 miles. Last year the colors, dinner, ride and camaraderie was great. We stayed at Rhys's cabin at Lake's of the North and ate dinner at Legs Inn. The food was great

### **MONTHLY CLUB RIDES**

April 1, 2006 Rhys Blair led a ride to the Dorsey House Restaurant in Port Huron.

May 6, 2006 Ryan Blair lead a ride for fried bologna sandwiches in Waldo, Ohio. The bologna and ride made the trip well worth while.

June 3, 2006 Phil Aylesworth will lead a ride into and hopefully back out of Canada.

Remember to bring 2 picture I.D.'s or a passport to speed the crossing of the border. Dick Hautau pointed out that we need the Canadian insurance card or copy of our policy to enter Canada. Contact your insurance carrier, these cards are free.

June 10, 2006 Frank Emmerich will lead the ride to Frankenmuth in his 4 wheel BMW.

Members with paid up dues will be treated to a family style chicken dinner.

July 1, 2006 Stuart Krueger will lead a ride. Destination to be announced.

August 5, 2006 Glenn Hibbert will lead a ride. Destination to be announced.

August 22, 2006 John Saarinen will lead a ride to Harsens Island.

September 9, 2006 Picnic at Stony Creek. Members with paid up dues will be treat the barbecued steaks grilled by our very own Grill Meister Rhys Blair. The only man brave enough to wear an apron!

October 7, 2006 Need ride captain to pick destination and route.

November 4, 2006 Need ride captain to pick destination and route.

December 2, 2006 Need ride captain to pick destination and route.

We need to get our 2006 ride schedule filled out for the riding season, and your dues paid. All those donuts, the Frankenmuth luncheon, and club picnic need to be funded!

## **OTHER RIDING OPPORTUNITIES**

Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Please join us for our second annual Peace Ride and Blessing of the Bikers to celebrate in the peace the Lord gives us in a country rich in freedom and blessings. We will meet June 3<sup>rd</sup> for a 10 AM service at `Peace Lutheran Church in Shelby Township (between Van Dyke and Mound on 24 Mile Road). Then we will take a ride up into Michigan's beautiful `Thumb area and meet at Lake Huron Retreat Center in Lakeport for a catered dinner. Well have music and prizes and a great time while comparing bikes and sharing in stories and fellowshiping with sister and brother motorcycle enthusiasts. Registration starts at 9 AM with refreshments and music. Early registrants (before May 18th) are guaranteed a shirt.

The price is \$30 for 1 up and \$45 with a passenger. Late registration will be \$45 for 1 up and \$60 with a passenger, and we plan to have shirts available for all. Also included is a map with directions of our route and we will have a chase vehicle available for emergencies and a partial police escort to get us started.

All proceeds will go to the Peace Scholarship Fund and Bikes for Missions. Go to [www.peaceshelby.org](http://www.peaceshelby.org) and click on the Peace Ride, or phone 586/781-3100 (this is not a political ride) for further instructions, directions and a registration form that can be downloaded for mailing. Join us for a friendly ride with friendly people who like to ride.

Sunday, July 23, 2006 - Another poker run? Ride with a bunch of Harley folks? Well let me suggest why this is a poker run you want to attend. The proceeds go to a childrens group (Clarkston Scamp) that is well established and helps kids with special needs. The money gets used for just the children.

This poker run isn't organized by a motorcycle group, but by the Lambda Chi Omega Sorority. Don't get all excited, these isn't a bunch of coeds looking to meet a bunch of motorcycle guys. The Sorority is an organization of ladies that have been together since the 20's and look for unique ways to support Clarkston Scamp. As in most poker runs there are prizes, fun, and fellowship. But the first place prize is a dinner at Schuler's Restaurant & Grill in Marshall Michigan. A dinner in Marshall? Did I mention that transportation is provided by airplane? The second place is an airplane tour of Oakland County Lakes. Very unique! I would like the Motor City Beemers to support this ride. It's for a very good cause! There are copies of the flyer in this newsletter and on the bulletin board at the Beemership. Frank...

Every weekend

Group of BMW riders (primarily LT) ride every weekend and once month take longer trips. They are based out of Toledo but do ride into Michigan if that is what the group decides.

Their big trip is to the CCR Reunion over Labor Day weekend. Departing Saturday, August 26th and arriving at CCR on Monday, August 28. Leave for home Saturday, Sept 2, arriving home Sunday night the 3rd. This will be a no Interstate ride. Ride will include Deals Gap and Dragons Tail in TN and NC. Contact Fred Turner for more information at 419 420 7422.

Sunday, May 21, 2006, 9:00AM – Phil Aylesworth is trying to get a Windsor Beemer group started in Canada. Next ride to leave from the Main Street Diner on Main Street in Essex, Ontario. For details contact Phil, [purpleduck@gmail.com](mailto:purpleduck@gmail.com) or go to the groups website: <http://SunParlourBeemers.org>



**Hey Hey Hey - - NEW ITEMS:**

- Way cool, new BMW key chain – an 1 ½” diameter replica of a cast aluminum BMW wheel and tire – complete with a small BMW Roundel in the center!
- Olympia ¾ length Sentry and ATS jackets
- Surburban-Machinery peg lowering kits & bar back extensions
- Ilium Works shifter & rear brake pedal extensions
- BMW mini zippered key cases
- New BMW tank and tail bags – plus hard bag liners
- New BMW spray-on “Express Wax”
- New FirstGear gloves – Mesh Sport, Road Warrior, Air Force Gel & Reflector Gel
- Samples of the 2006 FirstGear touring jackets and pants
- Hearos “Super Soft” high filtration, foam ear plugs (with carrying case!)
- Meguiar’s Plastic Polish – both #17 coarse and #10 fine. (the author has many years of personal experience with these 2 products and they are excellent.)
- “Brake” High Intensity programmable LED taillight replacement kits for most BMW’s
- Really cool aluminum valve stem caps with the BMW roundel
- **More helmets!!!!** Nolan N42’s, Nolan N102’s and the full assortment from Arai.

*My dog Daisy (front row – 6<sup>th</sup> from left) in her graduation class photo.  
She graduated magna-bark-louda from computer school and sent me this E-mail.*



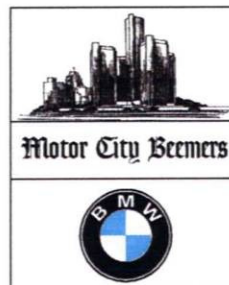
*Never a more true statement was barked.*

The Idaho state Senate has recently passed a bill which would allow motorcyclists to proceed **through a red light** if they fail to trigger the sensor for a green signal; typically buried beneath the asphalt at the crosswalk. Riders would still have to come to a complete stop, wait for the light to cycle once and then proceed with caution if sensors don't trigger a green light. The bill is now before the House. I can only imagine the chaos this one will cause.

According to a study conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, a person using a mobile phone when driving is four times more likely to experience a crash resulting in injury. Using a hands-free unit was proven to be no safer. Another study conducted by Response Insurance found 57% of American drivers **do not** signal when changing lanes. Of those 57%:

SURVEY RESULTS	AUTHORS COMMENTS
<b>42% say they simply don't have the time to signal</b>	<i>But they <b>DO</b> have time to text message a 37 word dissertation while sipping a half/caff latte with a cinnamon swizzle doing 80 mph on I-696?</i>
<b>23% admit they are too lazy to signal</b>	<i>This takes effort? I can only imagine what kind of physical shape they're in!</i>
<b>17% are afraid of forgetting to turn off the signal</b>	<i>Ah yes. These are the dim bulbs who cruise along the freeway with their turn signal flashing away throughout an entire county!</i>
<b>11% say they're too busy changing lanes to signal</b>	<i>Wait a second. Too busy changing lanes to signal they are changing lanes? Can they walk and chew gum at the same time?</i>
<b>7% say it "adds excitement to driving"</b>	<i>I got yer excitement right here, ya jerk!</i>

I was hoping to see more MC Beemers at Cliff's first Open House as owner. The showroom was packed all day. Highlights included a few customized customer bikes on display along with the "Formula BMW" spec series race car which attracted quite a bit of attention. All merchandise in the store was at least 10% 62% off! Food and refreshments were walked home with some "smokin' deals" collection of miscellaneous BMW parts. people rode in, unfortunately the rain demo rides. Maybe we can reschedule. the time to stop by and hope everyone



And finally, to all those MC Beemers who BMW HP2 dirt bike... BMW will soon offer a With smaller 17" wheels and road tires, dual front brake discs, fork protectors and other goodies, you can now have one heck of a Super Motard BMW. Please call the BeemerShip before you come by. We expect to be swamped with orders.

off with some as much as abundant and many folks from our "Garage Sale" Although about a dozen precluded conducting safe We thank those who took enjoyed themselves.

purchased the \$20,000 retro-fit kit for the street.



## A NOTE FROM FRANK EMMERICH

After many years in automotive, I decided it was time to try a different line of employment. So last week I started as the General Manager of BMW Motorcycles of Detroit. This could be good for the Motor City Beemers. Cliff Trudeau, the NEW owner and I have had several discussion about the Beemership supporting the club, and the Motor City Beemers supporting the Beemership. Cliff has taken ownership of this business with intentions of getting back to where business was good several years ago. To do that he needs the support of the Motor City Beemers. Most of you know that this dealership almost closed last Fall. I wrote an article about supporting your local dealer back then when I was still the President of the club. Yes Internet sales can be less expensive sometimes. But think how it would be without a local dealer. Without BMW Motorcycles of Detroit, you are left with a long ride to Grand Rapids, or with Erhard BMW. By the way, Erhard is also under new ownership. I guess you can only sell motorcycles at cost for so long and you will go out of business.

As the past President for most of the club's history, I was really disappointed by the lack of support at the open house Cliff funded last weekend. I saw maybe five familiar club members. BMW owners need their local dealership. Cliff needs to support the Motor City Beemers. Loyalty works both ways. I am still a club member, and now I also work at the dealership. It looks like the Motor City Beemers have "An Uncle in the Motorcycle Business". You have ideas that would benefits the club and the dealership, let's talk. But if you don't get your service, buy your motorcycles, accessories, and parts at the BMW Motorcycles of Detroit, it just won't be around.

## **FOR SALE:**

The for sale section of the newsletter is for all club members to post ANYTHING (legal) they have for sale or wanted. Take advantage of a circulation of 90+ club members. 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. There are several items that have been posted for some time now. Please let John Saarinen know if they need to be removed.

### 1995 K1100 LT

All stock (bags, trunk, radio with rear speakers, heated grips, elec. windshield, gauges, touring seat) heavy metallic gun metal gray paint, new battery, new tires and all servicing done, including spline lube.

\$5200.00 Dale & Denise 734-789-8249

### 1986 K100 RT

New Black paint, new seat, very good tires, new battery, all service done, bags.

\$3500.00 Dale & Denise 734-789-8249

I would like to buy a used low drivers seat as I am too short for comfortable riding. Bill Meier 810-987-4566 or [meierbj2@comcast.net](mailto:meierbj2@comcast.net)

K1100LT stock seat, used 1 month, in new condition. \$125. Brake pads \$10 set. John Saarinen, 586.596.4027 [jsaarinen@peoplepc.com](mailto:jsaarinen@peoplepc.com)



2000 K1200LT

48 K, Backup Back Rest, J-Pegs, AutoCom Intercom System, ZTecnik Arm Rest, ZTecnik Trunk Rack, RKA Saddle Bag Liners, HID Headlight. Dealers telling me it is worth between 8-10K, make me an offer. Ives Potrafka phone: 248.207.1575

1999 R1200C

Jens Schoening [Jens.Schoening@hna.hella.com](mailto:Jens.Schoening@hna.hella.com)

2000 VW Passat GLS Wagon - Excellent Condition, 4-cyl. 1.8 Turbo, Tiptronic Automatic Trans, 49,000 miles, white with tan interior,

Features: Air conditioning, Power windows, locks, steering & brakes, traction control. ABS brakes, alloy wheels, tilt steering wheel, cruise control, AM/FM stereo cassette, factory security alarm, heated side mirrors, dual front air bags & front side air bags, roof rack & power sunroof, Extended VW Master Guard Warranty, Warranty & road hazard coverage on Pirelli tires.

BLUE BOOK private party value = \$9,690

MAKE OFFER, call Valerie at: cell: 248-875-5536, home: 248-674-8525

GERBING Heated Electric Gloves

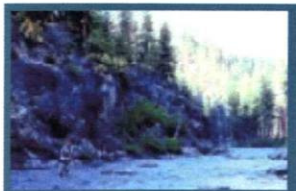
Men's small (fits about the same as the new G3, size medium), Waterproof/breathable inner membrane to protect wiring, DuPont "Thermolite Active" insulated, Less than 2 years old, Worn only 3 TIMES!, Excellent condition, \$95

[petelentini@yahoo.com](mailto:petelentini@yahoo.com) OR 586-978-3956

1996 R1100R for sale, excellent condition, for details contact Allen Gigliotti,

[giglio@comcast.net](mailto:giglio@comcast.net)

Highway pegs for LT's: [www.ridingiswonderful.com/ridingiswonderfulinc/](http://www.ridingiswonderful.com/ridingiswonderfulinc/) Jim & Jason Mick



**JOIN US IN IDAHO!**

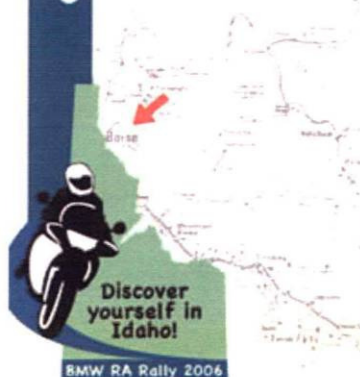


**WHERE**  
BOISE, IDAHO  
Expo Idaho

**WHAT**  
BMW RA RALLY 2006  
July 6-7-8-9, 2006

**REGISTRATION**  
\$30.00 pre-registration  
Register on line

**WEB SITE**  
[www.bmwra.org/rally](http://www.bmwra.org/rally)



## BMW Riders Association International Rally 2006 DISCOVER YOURSELF IN IDAHO!

### Hello from the Boise BMW RA Motorcycle Rally Chairs!

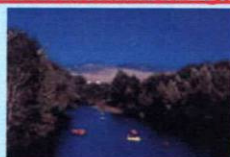
Greg and I would like to personally invite you to Boise in July for the BMW RA Rally July 6 - 9.

This rally is open to any and all BMW Riders and their guests. It's also the beginning rally of the "Peaks Of America Tour" for those planning to hit Boise, Colorado, and Vermont. See [www.bmwra.org/rally/poa.html](http://www.bmwra.org/rally/poa.html)

We are planning on a fun, safe, and hugely memorable rally. You will find Idaho is truly a rider's paradise.



We have a ton of road rides and GS rides planned. Your registration includes a great ride book just for Idaho. And the people who have the most fun!? The volunteers! Join in to help make this a great experience for yourself. See the RA site to signup at [www.bmwra.org/rally](http://www.bmwra.org/rally).



One more thing; will you help us make this a fabulous rally for others? Invite one more rider to join you on your trip to Idaho.

They'll thank you for a lifetime! We hope you also register for the BBQ dinner - it's huge and includes strawberry shortcake for dessert.



We truly hope you will be with us.

*All the best!*

*Greg and Jerome*

2006 BMW RA Co-Rally Meisters  
July 6 - 9, 2006  
Boise - Idaho

<mailto:rallychairs@rarally2006.org>

