



# Motor City Beemers

## Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

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January 2013

Volume 22, Number 1

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All meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:30AM at BMW of Detroit

Our *next* meeting is scheduled for January 12th

Following Meeting: February 9th

Web site: [www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers](http://www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers)

President	Betty Ward	crazybet@comcast.net
1st Vice President	Layne Stewart	laynerstewart@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	Rhys Blair	rhysb@att.net
Treasurer	Jim Mick	Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com
Newsletter Editor	Keith Harrison	theharrisonfarm@gmail.com
Web Master	Ives R. Potrafka	ives@bizblvd.net

### PREZ SEZ

Hello Members,

Welcome to 2013! Let's get ready for a new and adventurous riding season! There will be a lot to look forward to. We will be welcoming new officers, preparing for our Mid-Winter banquet, and planning new club activities.

Please be sure to get your winter banquet tickets and be ready for an authentic Polish meal!

Hope to see you all there!

Happy New Year!

Betty Ward

## **EDITOR'S CORNER**

As you may have noticed, I have taken over as Newsletter Editor. My first action is to thank our previous editor, Bob Hann, who did an excellent job over the last two years. I only hope to be able live up to Bob's high standard.

As I settle into this new assignment, I am putting out the request to the membership to submit any articles, product reviews, commentaries or whatever so that we can continue to make this newsletter worth reading. I will take all submissions large and small and find a place for them here. Lot's of photos are welcome – don't worry, I will reduce the file size on all photos to minimize the total size of this newsletter.

Lastly, I intend to distribute this to the membership by e-mail along with the normal posting on the website and hard copy at the dealership. The newsletter will be distributed by BCC so no e-mail addresses will be disclosed. The first one will go out to everyone. Should you not want to receive the e-mail version, let me know and I will remove you from the distribution list. Hopefully, this action will address some of the complaints I have heard regarding access.

Comments or complaints are always welcome. This is your newsletter. Let's try to make the best it can be.

## **CLUB RIDES**

### **CLUB LUNCH RIDES**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lunch Ride Destination</b>	<b>Ride Planner</b>
January 12	Ham Center, Warren MI	Layne Stewart
February 9	TBD	
March 9	TBD	

### **DINNER RIDES** – *Arrive between 6:30-7pm and hungry,*

*Watch for emails giving the location each week . . .*

January 2	Amores Grill and Spirits	53100 Gratiot Avenue Chesterfield MI <a href="tel:586-749-9262">586-749-9262</a>
January 9	Bangkok Cuisine	8583 26 Mile Rd. (Next to Meijer on Van Dyke) Washington Township, MI 48094 <a href="tel:586-781-9700">586-781-9700</a>
January 16	Rogers Roost	33626 Schoenherr Sterling Heights, MI <a href="tel:586-979-7550">586-979-7550</a>
January 23	Bath City Bistro	75 Macomb Place Mount Clemens, MI 48043 <a href="tel:586-469-0918">586-469-0918</a>
January 30	Gus O'Conner's	324 S Main St , Rochester , MI 48307 <a href="tel:248-608-2537">248-608-2537</a>

## The Annual Motor City Beemers Mid-Winter Bent Beemer Awards Dinner

*by Rhys Blair*

Date: Saturday, February 23rd, 2013

Where: American Polish Cultural Center, Northwest corner Maple Road and Dequindre Road, Troy

Time: 6:00 p.m. through 11:00 p.m.

Cost: \$35.00 per person

What: Family style dinner of Polish and American cuisine including soup, salad, breads, main entries, potato, vegetable, dessert and beverage. There will be a cash bar located in our private dining room.

We will also be presenting our annual Bent Beemer Awards to those deserving members. There will be door prizes, a 50/50 raffle and several gift certificates from our dealership.

Please mark this event on your calendar, and reserve your seat(s) by emailing me at [rhysb@att.net](mailto:rhysb@att.net), then most importantly mail your check to Allen Gigliotti at 32096 Rosevear, Beverly Hills, MI 48025 no later than February 1, 2013. Please make checks out to "Allen Gigliotti". Or you can pay with PayPal to [giglio@comcast.net](mailto:giglio@comcast.net). This event is open to both members and non-members.

Reservations and payment must be made no later than February 1 to confirm our final count. Questions can be directed to me at [rhysb@att.net](mailto:rhysb@att.net) so come on out to be with good friends, great prizes and really great food!

### Slip Grip Review

*by Maury Feuerman*

Below is a coupon for a company called "Slip Grip." They make mounts for almost any GPS, Cell Phone, Tablet, etc to allow them to be mounted on a car or motorcycle.

It does not matter how obscure or unique the device, they will find a mount for you and they are relatively inexpensive (\$20-\$30) including Ram ball mounts etc.

I called them and wanted a Ram 1 inch ball mount attached to a case for my Samsung Galaxy Note 2 that could be used with the Samsung kick stand hard case and they actually came up with one.

**SlipGripCarMounts**

SLIPGRIP PHONE MOUNT HOLDERS ARE HAND CRAFTED IN THE USA. NEW ON THE MARKET. THIS PATENT PENDING DESIGN IS WELL SUITED TO FIT MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF PHONES WITH OR WITHOUT THE PROTECTIVE CASE.

**Made in the USA • Quality Craftsmanship** *Always The Perfect Fit!*

SlipGrip for:  
WINDSHIELDS  
BIKES 1" - 1.25" - 1.3"  
RAM-HOL • RAM  
Pro-Mount  
DESKTOP • VENT  
HEADREST

**5%\* OFF**  
On Your Next Order  
Limited Time Offer.

[www.SlipGripCarMounts.com](http://www.SlipGripCarMounts.com)

\*SGC2239C - Use this code on the website to receive your 5% Off discount.

## Coping with Winter and Wind Chill

by Pete Lentini

Kinda like a chocolate lab with her snout out the window of a pick-up, Daisy never gets tired of her nose in the wind. As winter begins to invade southeastern Michigan in earnest, I feel the same way. No, I don't stick my muzzle out the window when I drive, but it sure is difficult to put the motorcycles into storage. Still got the fever. Still wanna ride.

Granted, the pace slows a bit as cold pavement and moderately warm tires do not sanction aggressive riding - but that's fine. It's more important to be comfortable and enjoy yourself. Despite not yet feeling the need to don heated clothing, I typically have no issue riding in high 30° temperatures. That is, except for my fingers. I've tried many different gloves plus combinations of liners and outer shells but still, after about 30 minutes, my arthritis plagued digits are destined for disintegration. A couple friends, thoroughly sold on the improvement handguards made to their machines, encouraged me to consider them for my BMW.



fig. 1

As luck would have it, my buddy Dan had no use for an unused pair of guards from an older GS (figure 1) so I began work with these. No such product is designed specifically for a R1100SP so the challenge was to construct brackets to position the guards in an acceptable location while maintaining full steering travel and avoiding contact with body panels.



fig. 2

I'll spare you the infinite and tedious steps of positioning both guards with cardboard brackets in search of a suitable position. However, during this process I began to think, "If I want REALLY warm hands, why not ensure protection from the airflow as much as possible." That explains the extra parts in figure 2. These two additional deflectors direct the oncoming wind flow over the top and around the side of the open guard.



fig. 3

All four deflectors, (2) for each hand, began life as a cardboard template. The white object in figure 3 was created for the LH upper deflector. Each outline was transferred to a piece of flat, 1/8" thick ABS plastic and cut to size. Now, the parts required bending and shaping to fit the original guard and ensure adequate hand coverage.





fig. 4

Each end deflector (LH shown in figure 4) was formed over a sphere to produce a cup shape. I've heat-formed a myriad of parts over the years and typically use a small propane torch. A needle nozzle (figure 5) yields a flame for small, precise work or if you need to soften a narrow strip for a simple bend. The fan nozzle, affixed to the torch in the photo, spreads heat over a larger area for complex forming. Once soft, the part can be laid over a rigid object and/or massaged by hand with protective gloves. Figure 4 presents the back of the formed, trimmed and drilled LH end deflector ready for assembly to the guard.



fig. 5



fig. 6

Each guard also requires three new, custom fabricated metal parts; (2) brackets (figure 6) and one plate. I prefer to make these components from aluminum or stainless steel to resist corrosion and permit a high polish. The black bracket clamps around the top of the fork tube in figure 7. A 1 mm thick strip of protective vinyl lines the inside of this aluminum bracket so as not to scratch the

tube.



fig. 7

Figure 8 shows the brackets and plate for the RH side. Each longer bracket was made from 1/8" thick by 1" wide aluminum strip stock. The handguard assembly bolts directly to this bracket.



fig. 8

Figure 9 displays the inside of the left guard with both additional ABS deflectors bolted in place. The triangle shaped plate attaches directly to the plastic guard through existing holes.



fig. 9



**fig. 10**

Figure 10 explodes all the parts I needed to fabricate or obtain to complete one guard. 5 mm dome head bolts were used for a clean, smooth appearance with appropriate washers and nylock nuts - all stainless steel. This same collection of parts was duplicated for the right hand guard assembly.

The cardboard mock-up phase revealed I would need a thick spacer between the inside of the guard and the end of the handlebar. I used (3) white  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick nylon washers secured with black electrical tape to easily and quickly create this shim. (Figure 11) The stock bar ends were not retained but will be re-installed in the spring when the handguards are removed.



**fig. 11**

So, was it worth the effort? Absolutely. They REALLY work! Cruising in mid-30° temps for an afternoon including about 40 freeway miles; my fingers were merely cool but not cold. I wore winter, insulated, long gauntlet riding gloves with the heated grips on low.

Of course, the SP must enter hibernation when winter arrives in full force but until then, these modified handguards have opened my comfortable riding window a little more.

Gotta go. The fever's back.





## **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](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!"

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

It is that time of the year to renew your membership in Motor City Beemers. There is a form included in the newsletter to make the job of renewing easier. The dues stayed the same at \$10 for the primary member and \$5 for the associate member. An associate member must be associated with a primary member. This allows you to attend the Chicken dinner ride to Frankenmuth and steak picnic near Port Huron. The club picks up the cost of the chicken dinner and the steaks. The dues also cover the cost of donuts at the meetings. We need members to renew as early as possible so we can figure out a budget for the year. Send renewals to Allen Gigliotti; [giglioa@comcast.net](mailto:giglioa@comcast.net)

*As mentioned at the December Club Meeting and detailed below, you might want to take advantage of this current policy before it might be changed.*

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MOTOR CITY BEEMERS BYLAWS**

At the December 2012 meeting, there was a discussion regarding an increase in dues along with the addition of a small fee for all special events. It was determined that these changes would require an amendment to the Bylaws. As defined in the current Bylaws, any such change requires must be published in the newsletter and then discussed at the next meeting before a vote can be called.

Listed below is the Proposed Amendment:

Annual dues of ~~\$10.00~~ **(\$15.00)** for an individual Regular membership shall be for the calendar year from January to January. Associate membership(s) are available for family members and significant others of regular members ~~at 50% \$10.00. of the regular membership, the current associate membership rate being \$5.~~ All dues are to be collected by January 31 of each year. Unpaid members shall not have a vote at meetings or enjoy other club benefits until such time as dues are paid.

**There will be a \$5.00 participation fee for all special events that are sponsored by the MC Beemers; these events currently included the Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner Ride and the Summer Steak Fry.**

Members have the right to one (1) vote, hold office and enjoy all other club benefits.

This proposed amendment will be reviewed and voted at the January meeting. The current Bylaws are included on the next two pages for reference.

**By-Laws**  
**of the**  
**Motor City Beemers Motorcycle Club**

**Article 1)** The Organization shall be known as the Motor City Beemers

**Article 2)** The purpose of the organization shall be to pursue, promote, and protect the interests of BMW motorcyclists. To develop better and more enthusiastic relations with the general public and the operators and riders of all motorcycles.

**Article 3)** The officers of the organization shall be a President, 1st Vice President-Events Coordinator, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President-Ride Coordinator, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster.

The duties of the President shall be:

- To preside at all meetings of the organization
- To have general supervision of the affairs of the organization
- To appoint any person of committee not otherwise ordered by the organization
- To personally represent the organization on proper occasions and business contacts
- To assist all other officers of the organization with their duties.

The duties of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Events Coordinator shall be:

- To assist the president with his duties
- To preside in the presidents absence
- Organize and coordinate activities of the club events.

The duties of the 2nd Vice President -Ride Coordinator shall be:

- To assist the president with his duties
- To preside in the Presidents & 1st Vice Presidents absence
- Encourage & work with volunteers to organize rides following the regular monthly meetings and other scheduled club rides.

The duties of the Treasurer shall be:

- To collect dues from all members.
- To collect all other money due the organization.
- To maintain organization financial records and deliver reports.
- To pay financial obligations on a timely basis.
- To maintain E-Group membership.
- Maintain MOA & RA membership status

The duties of the Newsletter Editor shall be:

- Oversee publication of the monthly newsletter.
- To perform such other duties as generally fall to that office.

The duties of the Webmaster shall be:

- To send out electronic notices of regular or special meetings.



- To maintain club website.
- To maintain E-Group membership.
- To perform such other duties as generally fall to that office.
- Owing to the specialized skills associated with the Webmaster's duties, the Webmaster is not an elected position but rather an "exofficial" member, i.e., they are on the board because they have volunteered for the Webmaster job.

The immediate past president shall serve as advisor to the executive board.

**Article 4)** The nomination of club officers will be held at the regular club meeting in November. Nominations may be made from members in attendance or if not in attendance, members may make a nomination in writing to the person selected to act as nomination chairperson. Written nominations must be presented to the nomination chair prior to the start of the November meeting. Ballots will be mailed and must be returned to the nomination chair prior to the start of the December meeting. Ballots will be opened and tabulated by the officers at the December meeting under "New Business" and will be done so under the supervision of the membership in attendance. Except that uncontested positions maybe confirmed by show of hands. Candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to terms of office lasting one (1) year. Terms shall start and end under "New Business" at the January meeting.

**Article 5)** The club shall be operated by majority vote of the membership at regular meetings. All members in good standing shall have one (1) equal vote. All issues voted on must pass by at least 51% a majority of those present. Club officers shall act as the management and administration of the club and represent the club at formal functions.

**Article 6)** Membership is open to all persons interested in furthering the purpose of this organization. All members are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the rules and by-laws of the organization. Failure to do so could be subject to dismissal. Violations will be handled by vote of the membership at there commendation of the club officers.

**Article 7)** Annual dues of \$10.00 for an individual Regular membership shall be for the calendar year from January to January. Associate membership(s) are available for family members and significant others of regular members at 50% of the regular membership, the current associate membership rate being \$5. All dues are to be collected by January 31 of each year. Unpaid members shall not have a vote at meetings and no or enjoy other club benefits until such time as dues are paid.

Members have the right to one (1) vote, hold office and enjoy all other club benefits.

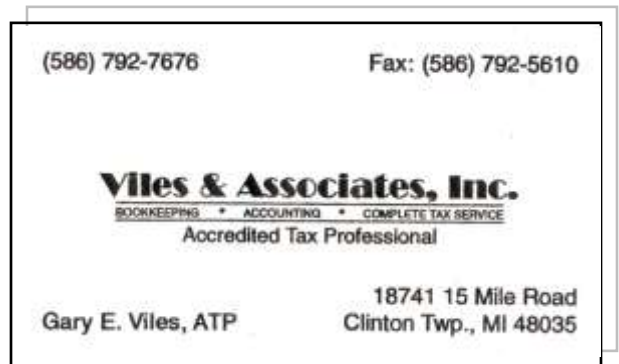
**Article 8)** Regular meetings shall be held the second Saturday of each month unless otherwise rescheduled for Holidays and other special occasions. Changes shall be noted in the club newsletter before the meeting date.

**Article 9)** Any amendment or proposal to change the By-laws shall be submitted to the president, be published in the newsletter and be discussed at a regular meeting before a vote is called.

**Article 10)** In the event of dissolution of the Motor City Beemers, all funds in the treasury will be donated to a charity selected by the majority vote of the Remaining membership of the club.

### *A tip of the MCBEEMER helmet . . .*

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



### **FOR SALE** **"MICK-O-Pegs"**

Spring Loaded Highway Pegs  
for your R1200RT or your  
K1200LT.

Look at  
[www.ridingiswonderful.com](http://www.ridingiswonderful.com) to  
find information.

BMW Logo is a registered trademark of BMW North America

### **For Sale . . .**

2-piece (comfort seat) for my 2009 R1200RT

Price?? We can talk. [crazybet@comcast.net](mailto:crazybet@comcast.net)

### **For Sale . . .**

Recently acquired Corbin front and rear seats, with front seat backrest, for a K12LT. If anyone in the group is interested, I will let you pop a squat on it before diving in, and cut a member discount if you decide you want the set. If you are interested, email me, [laynerstewart@gmail.com](mailto:laynerstewart@gmail.com) and we will set something up.