



# Motor City Beemers

## Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

November 2015

Volume 24, Number 11

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

Many months, we have a special event on the **THIRD** Saturday of the month

Our *next* meeting is scheduled for **November 14, 2015**

Following Meeting: **December 12, 2015**

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

*Eat to ride, ride to eat!*

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Well the weather is changing and I hope that everyone in the club is wrapping up a great summer of riding! It's time to think about limited winter riding for those of us who don't head south to continue summer.

Before putting the bikes away it's a great time to think about maintenance. Every year I wait until spring and then find it difficult to get things done in time for the first ride. This year I am getting everything done now so that I will be ready come the first track day of spring.

In the interim there are lots of things to do to keep us entertained with motorcycles and it looks like we may still have some great opportunities to ride before the snow falls.

I know that a number of us are planning on attending the showing of "Hitting the Apex" (the inside story of the fastest Moto GP motorcycle racers) at the AMC Lavonia 20 on the 17th. I understand that this showing is already sold out. If you were not lucky enough to get a ticket on time there is another showing in Dearborn. Go to <https://www.tugg.com/events/72362> for more information.

We also may get lucky for our November meeting with a great opportunity to get one more good ride in for the year! Come prepared!

Although there is no motorcycle show for our area this year the Chicago Motorcycle Show at the Donald E. Stephens convention center in Rosmont, Illinois is coming up the weekend of February 12th <http://www.motorcycleshows.com/city/chicago>. This is an outstanding event and one that I have attended in the past. The show is staffed with manufacturer's reps from every company and hosts more than 100 booths for buying all the things for your riding pleasure that you did not even know you needed. This is a really well organized event and lots of fun.

We also have our annual dinner and lots more happening so stay tuned.

Maury



Weather is getting colder. I've cleaned up the garage and got room now for all five(!) motorcycles for their (hopefully) short winter's nap. And at least one is easily extracted for the expected November and hoped for December riding. Yeah, I'm an optimist.

I'm rather surprised how fast modern vehicles will kill their batteries when not driven for a few weeks. Even my '85 K100 managed to not only drain, but damage its battery when unused most of the summer due to a coolant leak I convinced myself I'd get around to fixing myself. By the time I finally got around to giving up and taking it into Don at Detroit BMW, the battery not only could not start the bike, but had difficulty taking a charge. Paula's winter car was parked just part of the summer, and when we got

around to trying to move it, the battery was so dead, it was if it wasn't even in the car. Fortunately, it responded well to a jump and a charge.

So...the thought of the week is "battery tenders". Usual recommendation is the "Battery Tender Jr" available from many sources for around \$40, Personally, I've had great luck with the \$10 Harbor Freight "float charger", which if you keep an eye on their sales, coupons and specials has often been available for around \$6. To make life easy, I added a Powerlet plug (at twice the price of the charger), so I don't have to dig my way to the battery on my BMWs. If you go that route, make sure your Powerlet socket is connected to the battery when the bike is off. For example, my LT's front Powerlet socket is always connected to the battery (good for charging), the one for the passenger is only connected when the key is in certain positions (bad for charging!).

The alternative to a battery tender (or float charger) is to disconnect the battery – or even better, remove the battery to keep it warm in the house. But that's a lot of work, especially on some BMWs, and in the case of some BMWs (and many cars), you will have some things to reset when the battery is reconnected.

Unless you really have an obsessive streak, get one per vehicle you are putting in storage. I've heard people tell me they will move the tender from vehicle to vehicle. Maybe some people will, but I never would. And if you happen to have a lucky "perfect day for riding" in January, don't forget to reconnect your tender after, or you may have a dead battery in March (voice of experience!).

I have been informed that a certain Pete we all miss actually reads the newsletter, so, "Hi, Pete!" (and for that matter..."hi!" to all the other people who actually read it!)

Nick.

## **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
November 14	Club meeting	

## **Non-club events**

December 5-6 Gibraltar Trade Center Motorcycle Swap Meet and Expo (Expect absolutely no BMW specific anything, but there is a fair amount of generic stuff we can use...and sometimes some interesting stuff to look at)

Please send events to me at [nick@holland-consulting.net](mailto:nick@holland-consulting.net) !

## **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](http://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!

November 4	<b>Ike's Family Restaurant</b>	38550 Van Dyke Rd Sterling Hts, Mi 586.979.4460
November 11	<b>Steineys Tavern</b>	55161 Shelby Rd Shelby Charter Township , 48316 248.453.5376
November 18	<b>Bath City Bistro</b>	75 Macomb Place Mt Clemens, Mi 48043 586.469.0918
November 25	<b>Day before Thanksgiving!</b> Don't you have something more important to be doing?	Your house! 😊
December 2	<b>To Be Determined</b>	



## Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



Check book balance for the end of Sep:	\$1880.39
Check book balance for the end of Oct:	\$1892.39
Balance 3 months ago:	\$2335.47
Balance 6 months ago:	\$2467.70

PayPal balance for the end of Sep:	\$896.00
PayPal balance for the end of Oct:	\$896.00

50/50 sold \$56.00 of tickets at the Oct Club meeting. Mike Madley won. Nick Holland was reimbursed \$16.00 for donuts so \$12.00 was added to the CkBk. We have just one 'super bag' remaining and intend to give it to 'second draw' winner of our November 50/50 drawing.

As you make plans to go to Frankenmuth during the year, please call John & Sharon Saarinen (586-677-3234) to get their 'PERKS CARD'. For meals purchased, that perks card earns 'perks' that John & Sharon donate back to the club. Since last year, the club had earned \$80 – that's no small benefit for

a little extra effort on member's part during the year.

Our 2015 membership stands at 85 and we are beginning to take renewals for 2016. Please consider 'on line banking' for membership renewals and other paid for club activities – like the winter banquet that will be here before you know it.

## 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

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.

Following the February Club meeting, **Ives P. will change the Yahoo PASSWORD so those who have not renewed their membership for 2016 will lose access to 'Member Only' information and will no longer receive the monthly Newsletter.** Even more significant is that if you renew you membership later, yahoo will require us to send you an invitation again and you'll need to do a few things, indicated in the invitation, to resume your "membership" with Yahoo. It will only take you 10 minutes to renew your membership using PayPal – even if you don't have a PayPal account, but it may be even faster to use 'bill pay' at your bank/CU. Send me an E-mail ([jim@ridingiswonderful.com](mailto:jim@ridingiswonderful.com)) if you have questions on either using PayPal or 'bill pay' at your bank/CU.

## 2015 COLOR RIDE

Jim Mick (pics by Jay Mick)

Eight of us left homes with temps about 30 degrees, rode to Junction of HOPE Restaurant located NW of Flint for brunch at 10:00. Jim V and Allan G were the first two to arrive (in cages) . These long-time friends met early to have some 'catch up time'. As the rest of us arrived, Allan and Jim moved to a larger table. Jay M. was taking this pic.



For three who were not drinking coffee, HUGE MUGS of hot chocolate were enjoyed.



About an hour and a half into our ride toward Lexington Harbor we stopped at Rose Bud Café for a stretch break. Rose Bud Café is a 'LANDMARK' for the MCBeemers Club and often a gathering place, so I gave the short story about why... Established in Clifford in 2008, this very small restaurant was discovered by Rhys B. while he worked for AT&T. Rhys was in that area about meal time, discovered it, was drawn to it because "they have the best cinnamon rolls and sticky buns around". Rhys has brought some from the club here several times. We stopped for a stretch break, warm up, etc. with the intention of just stretching, but Dave F. (the club's newest member) and George D. did go inside for a cup of coffee while the rest of us waited outside.



Hannah S. was noticing very dark skies rolling in from the NW while I was checking for messages. Since two riders were wearing 'snowmobile suits', we should expect SNOW and we got some.

Leaving Rose Bud Café, we tried to not run back into the snow/rain mix that just passed over, but we ended up running out of pavement. At our next stop in Lexington, Dave F. asked the question: "Who didn't want to ride the gravel road back there?" A few of us raised our hands. Dave F. wanted to take it on his dual-purpose Yamaha (similar to the GSA), but understands when touring bike riders make U-Turns in those situations.





Third stop was in Lexington, at the harbor. There was a sign that said “restrooms closed”, but we did find two of them open and we experienced ‘the pause that refreshes’.

Down M25, around Port Huron and most of us arrived home between 3 and 4 PM. The total ride was 250-300 miles. The highest temp I saw on a bank sign was 43 degrees but we were all dressed for it – either several layers of clothes or electric gear.





## Trading Post

**2001 Suzuki SV650S.** Great shape. Repainted. Would be a great track bike for someone with that interest. Also have all the original plastic to put her back into her original shape. Any offer over \$1,600 seriously considered.

**2004 Honda 150F dirt bike.** Has current Off Road sticker. Well maintained. Great bike for a youngster to learn on. Asking \$1,000 or more.

We also have some assorted riding gear that is available too. Call Rhys Blair at home 586-463-8117 or cell 586-216-3455



**BMW K1200LT** 62k loaded, runs great, new windshield \$4,900 for bike. Also, Unigo Trailer w/extras -- tire, wheel black powder coat, four trailer hitches. Complete \$2,000. Contact Larry Turk 313-563-0052



## 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!"*

*"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](http://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](http://www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers)  
Club eGroup Email – [mcbeemers@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com)  
AND send completed form by e-mail to: [Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com](mailto:Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com)