



Motor City Beemers

Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

October 2020

Volume 29, Number 10

Meetings are held the **SECOND** Saturday of the month at 10:30AM in front of
BMW Motorcycles of Detroit
1301 S Rochester Rd, Suite B
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
Phone: (248) 402-4013

We welcome owners and fans of all bikes
“An eating club with a motorcycle problem!”

Our next meeting is: October 10

Following meeting is: November 14

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

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

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

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Greetings Beemers!

We had a great turnout – 22 people at our annual chicken dinner! The change in venue was a noticeable improvement. We had reserved bike parking once again, our own private dining room, excellent service, and decorated desserts! Even though it was 34 degrees when we left our house early that morning, 10 of us met for breakfast in Richmond. Then, 7 bikes and 1 car left together for the group ride to Frankenmuth. Several more riders joined us when we were still in the parking lot, and the larger group went in together. After dinner, 12 of us continued on

and spent the evening together in Port Austin, with our annual bonfire and stargazing. This year we got to see the International Space Station travel overhead, and that was something truly special! Paula, thank you once again for coordinating these two events for us!

Our September meeting was also well attended! We discussed the Frankenmuth events – and a possible color ride which at this writing had to be canceled due to conflicts. Our after-meeting lunch was held at Foxfire Fixin's – a unique and kitschy southern BBQ restaurant in Marine City. Our outdoor seating had an extra helping of hospitality – we were also visited by one of the neighbor's chickens who stopped by the tables looking for handouts.

One more reminder – if you've been participating in this year's Off the Beaten Path Poker Run, please get your photos to Nick so he is not overwhelmed later in the year. I have some pictures I still need to send to him. How about you?

Our October meeting will be October 10, 10:30am at the dealership. Then, weather permitting, the lunch ride will be to the Dorsey House. If you've never been, I have one word: Twisties!! If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll have lunch at Rochester Mills, on Water Street in downtown Rochester.

Till next month be safe and get out there and ride!

Stuff on the website

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

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

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

Club pictures: <https://mcbeemers.org/pictures/index.html>

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

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



It's already October...and time to start thinking about putting our bikes away for the weekend. But not yet! I suspect there will be quite a few ride-ready days yet this year.

One of the advantages(?) of driving older vehicles is ... you get to meet cool people (mechanics, tow truck drivers, police, other people who like old vehicles, etc.). Last week, I had the experience of having my old convertible break down across the street from an auto repair shop which employed a former coworker of mine as a one partial day a week helper. I had last seen Jim over 25 years ago. The sequence of events that led up to our re-uniting was pretty amazing. First, my car breaking down where it did, suggesting a new repair shop (my

previous mechanic really doesn't like working on 34 year old cars!). If it had broke down 15 minutes earlier, I would have checked it in before the store had closed for the day, and missed seeing Jim. If someone had remembered to turn on the "OPEN" sign the next morning, I would have checked it in before Jim got there. Granted, most people would look at their car breaking down as an unfortunate event, but by keeping my mind open to a little adventure...it turned out to be a rather fun event overall!

I see a lot people griping about the "disaster" the year 2020 has been, and yes, things didn't go as planned. Yes, I think most of us agree Mistakes Were Made (though we certainly don't all agree on what those mistakes were). But this is where we are – not only should we be looking for the good that is there, we should also be prepared to MAKE a little good out of what life has dealt us. Closely related is something I saw recently, which unfortunately I didn't see long enough to commit the precise wording to memory or to remember who to credit, but it was along the lines of, "Don't ask why bad things happen, if you don't also ask why good things happen". I'm not happy about a major virus-caused pandemic. I'm not happy about people's reaction to it or the economic devastation it has caused and the people it has hurt. But ... it has also resulted in some good things in my life, too. Overall, sure, I wish we weren't living in fear of a killer virus, but I'm going to try not to forget the good things, too.

Oh yeah, motorcycles. This is supposed to be about motorcycles. We had lots of fun at the Frankenmuth and Port Austin event, even if we did take (as Norm calls it) the Quadra-Glide. The Blue Spruce, as usual, provided us a great place to stay, have a bonfire, and swap stories. And yes, whether it be due to the location or the year, Zehnder's was a great place to eat together, they took great care of us at the dinner, but also checking up on us before and touching base after.

Happy Riding!



New Member: James Uhls

We invite new members to share some info and pictures with us to introduce themselves to us. Unfortunately, people don't often take us up on this, but James joined us last month and took us up on our request!

My name is James Uhls. I am 50 years old. just got married to my wife Debbie three years ago this month. I have worked at Chrysler engineering for 26 years. I love old Mopar's and classic cars and BMW Motorcycles. Odd combination, I know. I will be riding this 1150 GS that I just purchased during Covid a few months ago. The bike was sitting for many years so I had a lot of maintenance and some repairs to do to it. I also just got done restoring the 1964 50/2. It's been in our family almost since new, my grandpa owned the bike. This is my first motorcycle restoration, as usually I am restoring some car. I look forward to going on rides with this group and learning about their motorcycles and what not. I bought my first Bmw Motorcycle in 1997 at BMW Detroit so I am no stranger to the dealership. My father was in your group years ago when he had a 1200LT and is still riding but riding a different brand. Hope to meet you all at the next dealership meeting.



Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



Check book balance for the end of September	\$2305.41
Check book balance for the end of August	\$2912.55
Balance one year ago	\$2587.55
Balance end of March	\$2699.55
Balance end of June	\$2749.55
PayPal balance for the end of September	\$212.37
PayPal balance for the end of August	\$212.37

44 Members for 2020

1 has renewed for 2021, and 1 lifetime membership

15 prepaid for Picnic – The club decided at July meeting to not have this year.

I will refund your payment if you desire, otherwise I'll carry

forward to next year's picnic.
12 attended Frankenmuth

At the club meeting, Mike M. paid \$5 for Frankenmuth and also won the 50/50, \$23 to the club.

9/19/20 At Frankenmuth, Dick H. paid \$20 to renew his membership and pay for Frankenmuth. Robb & Joan S. paid \$20 for Joan's membership and both for Frankenmuth. The bill for 22 Frankenmuth dinners, with gratuity, was \$675.14 (\$30.69 each). By comparison: Last year on 9/21/19 we paid \$557.82 for 18 dinners (\$30.99 each).

Membership \$15.00 per calendar year

Associate Member \$10.00

Frankenmuth Dinner \$5 per member/associate

You can still send payments for any club functions using Pay Pal to 'jim@ridingiswonderful.com'. If you have a Pay Pal account (rather than using a CC/DC) and call me a "friend", neither the club nor you pay a fee. But if you use Pay Pal and a CC/DC, the club does pay a fee.

ESPECIALLY WITH THE ISOLATION... A very good way to pay is to use your Bank/CU 'Bill Pay' option. If your bank/CU charges no fee, have them send payment(s) to Jim Mick, 56750 FAIRCHILD RD, MACOMB, MI 48042. Once you input any payee name and address into their Bill Pay system, subsequent payments only require you to input the amount (and date). Please indicate in their memo for what you are paying.

MOTOR CITY BEEMERS NAME TAGS

Motor City Beemer name tags are available for purchase at Highest Honor, Inc., located at **34711**

Dequindre Road, Troy, Michigan 48083. The easiest way to get your ID tag is to send Jeff an e-mail at:

www.jeff@highesthonor.biz or call Jeff at **248-588-7845**.