

Motor City Beemers

Newsletter



April 2021

Volume 30, Number 4

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

BMW Motorcycles of Detroit

1301 S Rochester Rd - Suite B
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 402-4010

We welcome owners and fans of all bikes

“An eating club with a motorcycle addiction!”

Our next meeting is: ... **April 10**

Following meeting is: **May 8**

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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Happy April, Everyone!

I've been taking advantage of some of the warm weather days we've had in March to do a little riding. The good days can be fleeting. Warm spring days transition quickly to freezing rain or snow in Michigan.

- **April Meeting - brand alignment vote:** At our March meeting, we discussed BMW's new requirement to conform to their revised logo, fonts, and colors, and the burden this puts on the club to design changes and obtain approvals. We also discussed the annual renewal burden the club has to retain our charters with the MOA and RA national clubs. The attendees reached unanimous consensus to proceed with Nick's proposal to drop our brand alignment, while retaining our "Motor City Beemers" name, and we will vote on the proposal at the April meeting – online or in person as weather permits.
- **April Meeting – Dealership parking lot, weather permitting:** If the weather is inclement we'll meet online as a fall-back option. *To meet online, be sure to use the smartphone app called "Jitsi Meet" or use a laptop or desktop browser and connect to <https://meet.jit.si> – type in our meeting name: **AprilMcbeemers**.*

If it's at least 50F, Jeff will lead a ride to Rocky's Great Outdoors in Burton. He has chosen a route which passes several restaurants, including Puzzler's Pub and Bullfrogs (inside seating only) and Culvers' (inside or outside seating). Everyone will have different social distancing comfort levels and we can discuss lunch options at the meeting.

- Below are the rides we discussed at the March planning meeting. This week, Jim received notice of the MOA Wailin Wayne Weekend Rally September 8-12 in Nelsonville, OH. And we also have the new *Off The Beaten Path* riding competition, too!

Ride	Destination or Base	Schedule	Club contact
Sunrise / Sunset	Manistee, MI	June 26	Brian B
MOA Lake Superior Big Lake Beemer Blast	Wakefield, MI to Great Falls, MT	June 19 - July 2	
3 U.P. SS1Ks,	Wakefield, MI	July 10	Jim V
Where's Waldo	Waldo, OH	August 21	Rhys B (assumed)
RA Rally	Bessemer, MI	September 3 - 6	
Frankenmuth / Port Austin	Frankenmuth, MI, and optional Port Austin, MI	September 18	Don M
Color Tour	Irish Hills, MI	TBD	Josh G

Until next month, if you have the opportunity to ride, have fun and stay safe!!



YAY! Our next meeting will hopefully be at our friendly hosting dealership again, and we'll be getting to meet someone new there! And that reminded me to update the club website, which has been neglected due to the shutdowns.

You may have noticed a few subtle changes to the cover page of the newsletter this month, namely the removal of the BMW logos and club affiliation numbers.

As you hopefully saw in Josh's note above, and in the meeting minutes posted to both the mail list and on Facebook, BMW and the associated clubs have new requirements for fonts and logos and hoops to jump through to make sure everything is proper. Don't get me

wrong, I fully respect the idea of brand identification and how important it is to companies. However, I don't see the benefit to the MCBeemers. We don't gain new members from the owners clubs, we don't get meeting content from the clubs. Not only do we not get any support for our club from the umbrella clubs, we pay them. We are a fairly diverse club, a lot of us with multiple bikes have both BMW and other bikes. Many members, including officers, don't even own a BMW motorcycle, and that's perfectly fine by me. So, when I heard we were going to have to make changes, then submit the changes to BMW for "approval", my first thought was, "What do we get out of this?". I had no answer.

This doesn't mean we are in any way "BMW hostile" (or BMW club hostile) – we are still nominally a BMW club, but as long as I've been a member (granted, no where near as long as some of you!), MCBeemers has been about people and riding, not just a particular brand of bike. We will still plan on meeting at BMW Motorcycles of Detroit, and we will stay the "Motor City Beemers".

While I don't see any impact one way or another for us, other than a few bucks more in the bank and a few less hours a year spent by the officers, **maybe you do see a flaw in my logic**, so please think about this and be prepared to say why you think I'm wrong for our next meeting when we vote on this (or bring it up on the mail list or Facebook group before hand).

And of course, right after I say, "we don't get anything from the BMW clubs", I realized we got a notification of the "Wailin' Wayne Weekend" from the MOA. See page 6! (Wait. Five day...weekend? You retirees are rubbing it in, right?)

Also on the cover page, you may note I slightly tweaked our completely unofficial logo, "An eating club with a motorcycle problem", changing it from "problem" to "addiction". This was at the suggestion of Jim, who thought it might be a better word. I'm not sure I think "addiction" is a less negative word than "problem" (at least in my family), but change is good. And I'm going to try to come up with other silly ways to summarize our club and hopefully change it up every month. Feel free to submit ideas!

Riding season is upon us...have fun!

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>

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

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

Hosting Dealership: <https://bmwdetroit.com/>

Off The Beaten Path 2021 Riding Competition



1. Ride to as many Michigan State Parks as desired between April 1 and October 31, 2021. There are 110 Parks, Scenic Sites, and Recreation Areas which qualify as “Parks” per the Michigan DNR at their website: <https://www2.dnr.state.mi.us/parksandtrails/#list>. *State Campgrounds and Trails do not qualify for this competition.*
2. Up to 10 photos of a rider with bike or with gear at a recognizable landmark of a Michigan State Park – such as a sign – may qualify that rider for points at that park. Only 1 photo per park will qualify. Photos must be submitted to Nick Holland by December 31, 2021 for acceptance.
3. If starting from southeast Michigan, points will be awarded based on the *straight line distance* in miles between BMW Motorcycles of Detroit and each Park, using the Google Maps “Measure Distance” tool to determine the distance between the Dealership and each Park, rounded to the nearest mile. Multi-day trips to multiple Parks that start from southeast Michigan use the Dealership for all distance measurements.
 - *Example: Bald Mountain State Recreation Area: 7.47 miles. 7 points.*
 - *Example: Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park: 431.90 miles. 432 points*

Yes, you create a huge points advantage when you visit a series of distant parks in a long trip from home.
5. If starting from an “up north” location – such as from a bike moved by trailer or stored at a vacation home – use your starting location instead of the dealership to measure your distance. This provides a measure of fairness for out-of-town starting locations.
6. No cheatin’. Any dispute regarding rules or qualifying photos must be resolved through Josh, whose decision will be final.

Google Map’s “Measure Distance” tool is available from the smartphone app with a long press on a location, or with a right mouse click on the <https://maps.google.com> website.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



If your name is not here, your membership has expired:

Jeff A, Cathy B, Rhys & Jill B, Brain & Sheila B, Tom C, Ron & Tanya C, Walter D, Paula E, Josh G, Nick H, Mike & Sharon M, Don & Gail M, Jim & Jeri M, Norm O, Jerry & Margaret P, Curtis U, Jim & Debbie U, Mary V, Jim V.

Check book balance for the end of March	\$2610.45
Check book balance for the end of February	\$2570.41
Balance one year ago	\$2699.55
Balance six months ago	\$2335.41
Balance three months ago	\$2440.41
PayPal balance for the end of March	\$251.34
PayPal balance for the end of February	\$227.37

22 Members for 2021 Membership is \$15.00 & Associate Member \$10.00 **per calendar year**
19 prepaid for Picnic – Active member cost \$5. The club decided to not have a picnic in 2020. Since nobody asked for a refund, I have carried forward payments to our 2021 picnic.

3/6 Received \$25.00 from Jim & Debbie U. through PPal for membership renewal.

3/10 Received \$15.00 check from Walter D. for membership renewal.

3/22 Received \$25.00 cash from Rhys & Jill B. for membership renewal. He brought the money by on his new BMW.

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**.

presented by BMW MOA... The rally will be held
September 8th-12th, 2021 in Nelsonville, Ohio.

Wailin Wayne Weekend is a 5-day adventure motorcycle rally that offers nearly a 1000 miles of hairpin twisties and scenic country roads on Ohio's Windy 9. If your members want some off-road adventure, they can ride 130 miles of challenging trails through Wayne National Forest.

Whatever style of riding, you will find it at Wailin Wayne Weekend.

OHIO'S WINDY 9

THE BEST VIEWS AND PREMIER RIDING ROUTES IN THE REGION ARE WAITING FOR YOU.

9 scenic road routes create Ohio's finest riding experience! The best views of Southeast Ohio are waiting for you at Wailin Wayne Weekend Rally on Ohio's Windy 9. Enjoy nearly 1,000 miles of the best riding routes in the state.



8th Annual Wailin Wayne Weekend
September 8th-12th
Nelsonville, Ohio

PRESENTED BY

