

# Motor City Beemers

## Newsletter



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August 2021

Volume 30, Number 8

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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*

*“We got donuts!”*

Our *next* meeting is: ... **August 15**

Following meeting is: **September 11 (AS PART OF OUR PICNIC!)**

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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It's August! I'm hoping for drier weather. I have a trip to the U.P. planned for the first week of the month. I've got a few *Off the Beaten Path* photos collected already, and will be collecting a few high value pictures during this short vacation. Do you have any OTBP photos yet? I need to assemble a spreadsheet to calculate my OTBP score. Once done, I'll share it with the club if I think it would be helpful.



## July meeting minutes:

- **2021 Picnic: Saturday, September 11, at [Columbus County Park](#), in St. Clair County**, in lieu of our monthly meeting. More information below.
- **Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner: Saturday, September 18, at [Zehnder's of Frankenmuth](#)**, and an optional follow-on ride to Port Austin. More information below.
- **Upcoming rides:** The RA National Rally is coming up in Waynesville, NC August 12-15. Closer to home, on August 21 we have the club's annual "Where's Waldo?" ride to Waldo, Ohio for the G&R Tavern's famous fried baloney sandwich and their amazing pies. Per Rhys, meet up at 9:00am at the truckstop at I-75 Exit 15, immediately to your right as you come off the ramp. Kickstands up at 9:30 sharp!
- **July Lunch Ride:** We had 12 riders in two subgroups, and surprisingly all of us got through downtown Rochester together, so we were able to skip the planned regroup at the U-Haul parking lot. The ride itself had only one hiccup – a closure of Baldwin Road north of Indianwood. We turned around and detoured to M-24, and then road east to Lakeville. The lunch? Well...the Celtic Knot was wonderful... last year. Not this year. The kitchen was understaffed. If we ever return, it will only be after a member volunteers to test their Saturday service capability a month or two in advance.

**Our August Meeting – Saturday, August 14, 10:30am, 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: AugustMcbeemers.*

## August Meeting Agenda:

**2021 Picnic, September 11:** We'll cover the Picnic in more detail at the meeting. 15 of us have prepaid as of last month's Treasurer's Report, so check to see if your name is listed in this month's Report below. The cost remains the same as recent years: \$5.00/person. The club will provide the main course. Please bring a dish to pass, and also, *please bring mosquito repellent. The venue is on the banks of the Belle River, and I was under constant attack from them during a brief visit in late July.*

**Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner, September 18:** At the meeting we'll discuss the Dinner at Zehnder's, the optional breakfast and group ride to Frankenmuth, and the optional after-dinner ride to Port Austin. Briefly, we will have main dining room seating at 1:15pm, with reserved motorcycle parking. We will also discuss the optional events: a breakfast and group ride to Frankenmuth, and the follow-on ride to Port Austin. *(The Blue Spruce Motel is accepting reservations from us without a deposit at the same rate as last year - \$119. Call 989-738-8650 to reserve a room for arrival the 18th departing the 19th.)*

**Where's Waldo:** We'll remind everyone that this ride is on the calendar, and how to join the ride for the craziest, largest slice of cream pie imaginable, and how to get some sort of baloney, too.

**Lunch ride:** We try once again to ride to the White Horse Inn, Metamora. Details on the next page.

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

## August Lunch Ride

Josh Grosse

You can review the route on [Google Maps](#), you can download [this GPX file](#) for upload into your GPS, and you can print out the page and put it in your tank bag map holder or tape it to your tank.

*Dealership to Rochester R*

*Rochester to Avon R*

*Avon to Dequindre - gentle L*

*Dequindre to 25 Mile R*

*25 Mile to Mound L*

*Mound to 32 Mile R*

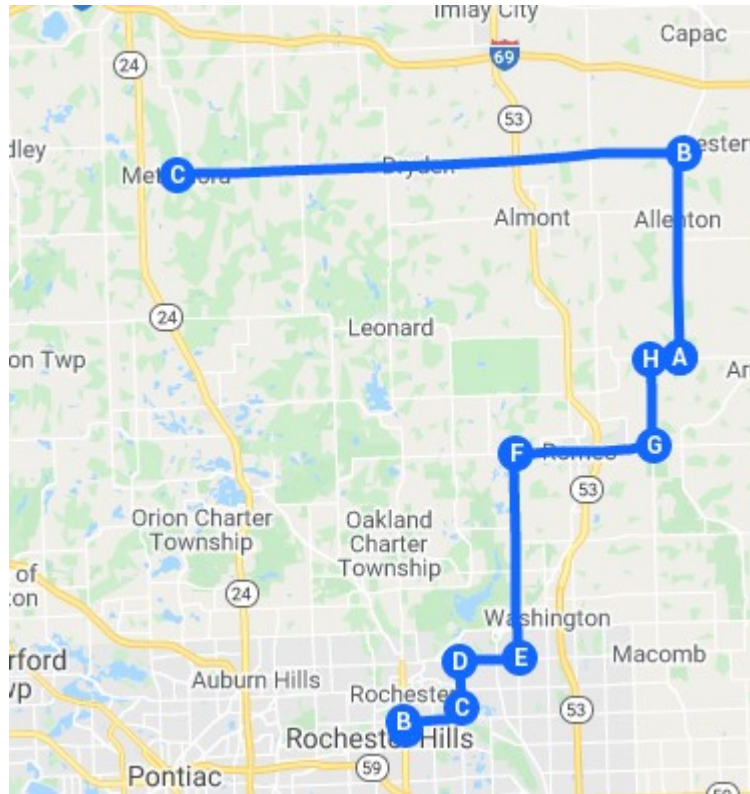
*32 Mile to Romeo Plank L*

*Romeo Plank to Armada Center R*

*Armada Center to Capac L*

*Capac to Dryden L*

*Dryden to The White Horse Inn*



## Rides and Rallies

Ride	Destination or Base	Schedule	Club contact
RA National Rally	Waynesville, NC	August 12-15	
Where's Waldo	Waldo, OH	August 21	Rhys B
Club Picnic	Columbus County Park	September 11	Don M.
Frankenmuth / Port Austin	Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner and optional breakfast group ride, optional Port Austin group ride.	September 18 (opt. September 19)	Don M, Jeff A
Color Tour	Irish Hills, MI	TBD	Josh G



Here we are already August. Which means both our Chicken Dinner ride and our much delayed Picnic are coming up. I'm happy to report my milage total for the year is up by a factor of ten from last month's report, but sad to say, it's still in the low three digits.

Yet another reminder: if you wish to spend the night in Port Austin after the Chicken Dinner ride, make sure you make reservations with the Blue Spruce.

One thing one should never say to a Rhys story is "Baloney!", but the guy knows where to get the good stuff, it's in Waldo Ohio. And he's leading a ride there, details below!

**Dinners:** I think our July dinner at Twisted Rooster was a resounding success. Great attendance from members, and really good service from the restaurant. Does this mean it is time to consider resuming Wednesday dinners? Maybe it is. I think we need to discuss as a group the nature of the dinners, though – our old formula of "weekly and different place every week" wasn't working before. Maybe we need one place? Maybe monthly? Be ready to discuss at our next meeting.

A general reminder about dining out: the world is in a strange place right now – because people are both scared and getting paid to NOT work, almost every restaurant is running short-staffed and begging for workers. A friend of mine who is well connected in the food and dining industry told me about a friend of his begging his best cook to return to work for \$40/hr (over twice his 2019 pay) – and getting turned down. So don't take your frustrations out on the few people who actually show up to serve you. Big groups create special challenges for restaurants. So be patient; if you are in a hurry, I'd suggest eating at home. And show your gratitude for the service you do receive.

A brief, personal word. At the end of June, my younger brother died of cancer. When I was young, the rule was "No motorcycles at our house!" from my parents. Honestly, I never thought to try to change that rule, it sounded absolute. My brother, however, once he realized that fast as his car might be, most motorcycles could kick his butt, wanted a bike, a fast one. He managed to get my parents to acknowledge that he was a fairly safe and reasonable kid (exposed as somewhat misleading at his memorial!). With the "permission slip" in hand, he ran out and bought a bike. A very few weeks later, I got my own, with only token objections from my parents. I'm pretty sure his intent wasn't to enable my entry into the world of motorcycles, but he definitely got me into motorcycles at least a few years earlier than I would have, and enabled me to create some wonderful memories by having my bike in the UP my first senior year of school. That lead me to an adventure with a friend of mine, who ultimately lead to my being introduced to BMW motorcycles. So in short...you never know how you might influence someone else's life.

## **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: <http://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/>



## Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick

**40 Members for 2021** Membership is \$15.00 & Associate Member \$10.00 **per calendar year**

If your name is not here, you can rejoin at any time:

Jeff A, Mike B, Cathy B, Rhys & Jill B, Brain & Sheila B, Tom C, Ron & Tanya C, Walter D, Paula E, Eric G, Josh G, Bill H, Nick H, Alan & Jodi K, Mike & Sharon M, Don & Gail M, Jim & Jeri M, Nick & Pam N, Norm O, Michael P, Don & Carolynne P, Jerry & Margaret P, Tim S, Robb & Joan S, Curtis U, Jim & Debbie U, Jim V, Mary V.

**15 prepaid for Picnic** – Active member cost is \$5:



Cathy B, Rhys & Jill B, Paula E, Josh G, Nick H, Mike & Sharon M, Don & Gail M, Jim & Jeri M, Don & Carolynne P, Tim S.

Check book balance for the end of July	\$2807.41
Check book balance for the end of June	\$2785.41
Balance one year ago	\$2820.55
Balance six months ago	\$2545.41
Balance three months ago	\$2718.41
<b>PayPal</b> balance for the end of July	<b>\$326.34</b>
<b>PayPal</b> balance for the end of June	<b>\$326.34</b>

**5 prepaid for Frankenmuth** – Active member cost \$5

7/10 Received \$22 from the 50/50 at club meeting. [Editor's note: Paula thinks it was Jerry P who one the raffle, but none of us are sure]

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.

A very good way to pay is to use your Bank/CU 'Bill Pay' option. Most banks/CUs charge no fee, so at least you save postage. Just, 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 the 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](mailto:www.jeff@highesthonor.biz) or call Jeff at **248-588-7845**.

# Waldo Ohio Baloney Ride

Rhys Blair

Here are the details for our annual Baloney Ride.

9:30 - Depart from BP truck stop at exit 15 southbound I-75 for Ohio. This is an ideal spot to top off your fuel, make a pit stop, grab a donut and a coffee. I usually arrive at approximately 9:00 a.m. to manage these tasks.

The route is I-75 south to I-280 south to Ohio 420. 420 turns into US 20/23 for several miles. At the US 23 turnoff we'll go south on two lanes through towns like Risingsun, Carey after which we'll be on a divided highway through Upper Sandusky and Marion. Ten miles south of Marion is the Waldo exit. We go right to stop sign, then left to the G&R Tavern which is on the right at the intersection. Arrive approximately noon.

We'll dismount, gather for a group photo under the wall sign. This is a riders destination so there may be a wait to get a table or we may have to eat at two different tables. This is an all day ride, we will stop at least once after departing the BP station for a comfort stop. If you aren't up to a 180 mile ride one way, this may not be the ride for you. If you don't like fried baloney there are other choices. Their fried baloney sandwiches and 4 inch cream pies are over 40 years of eating legend in these parts. If you like to ride and enjoy a fried baloney sandwich or cream pie this is your lucky day. If not then go to the Woodward Cruise this day.

By the way, for you first timers or procrastinators know this. I am prompt and am on schedule...see you on Saturday, August 21 at exit 15 9:00 a.m.

## Poker Stops Report

Last month Jim Mick wrote about our Sunrise to Sunset trip. This year the route went as planned up until breakfast when Jim said if we drop south we can stop at Sleepy Hollow State Park. I agreed if he was willing to lead and he did. So my first Off the Beaten Path stop was Sleepy Hollow State Park. I have camped here with my Dad. I liked all the mountain bike trails they have. We drove by Ionia State Park but was raining and I did not see a safe place to turn around. My second Off the Beaten Path stop was Orchard Beach State Park. I have camped here two times. Then we stopped at Petoskey State Park. Jay likes to look for Petoskey Stones here but did not have an interest this time.



After Saturday Jay and I continued up the shoreline to Mackinaw City like we did last year. Next to the Tunnel of Trees one of my favorites routes was from Orchard Beach to Portage Lake along the shore. We stayed in Mackinaw at Americas Best Value Inn. Jay and I stayed here before in September several years ago. This hotel has a lot of potential, large indoor pool, large breakfast area and meeting area to play cards or visit for a large group. However, this visit I was a little disappointed. The Hotel needs renovation. I do not mind staying at an older place if it is clean and kept up. When we got to our room it was not done. They had another room they could give us the room was clean. In the pool area, towels were just thrown on the floor because they did not have a basket for wet towels.

Monday and Tuesday we stayed at an Airbnb in Manistique. Tuesday I went Kayaking in Munising to see the Pictured Rocks. Indian Lake and Palms Book was close to where we were staying in Manistique. Palms Book is an interesting State Park. They have a large raft on a pulley system that you can pull yourself across the lake.





My sixth Off the Beaten Path was Wilderness State Park.



The road was paved but there was a lot of pot holes to get there. It did take me down roads that I usually just drive by and we even found a small beach not far from Mackinaw.

Well that is my update on Off the Beaten Path Stops so far. I look forward to hearing where others have seen and still need to calculate the straight line mileage.

Brian Boers