

Motor City Beemers

Newsletter



November 2024

Volume 33, Number 11

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

Triumph Detroit

47488 Van Dyke Ave.
Shelby Township, MI 48317
(586) 726-7400

We welcome owners and fans of all bikes

“We got donuts!”

Our *next* meeting is: ... **November 9, 2024 10:30 am**

Following meeting is: ... **December 14, 2024 10:30am**

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

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Treasurer
Newsletter Editor

Nick Holland
Don McIntyre
Jeff Anderson
Jim Mick
Josh Grosse

nick @ holland-consulting . net
dfmcintyre129 @ gmail . com
2andersons1989 @ gmail . com
Jim @ RidingIsWonderful . com
Josh @ jggimi . net

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

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

Greetings, MCBeemers!

It's November, it's time to start thinking about winterizing our motorcycles, if you haven't already. Remember Triumph Detroit has a nifty program where they will store your bike for winter for a very modest price if combined with service (the numbers in my head are "free" for "\$500 service". However, I wouldn't trust any numbers that come out of my head – call Triumph Detroit and find out!). As I'm sure you know, \$500 in service adds up quickly, so that could easily be "Free Winter Storage" if you were thinking of having anything done.



This is a great time of year to get maintenance done. Lots of techs are mostly doing nothing right now. I actually had a mechanic THANK me for bringing my bike in late in the year a while back. And in the spring, when you want to run your bike in and get a two day turn-around for the riding season...don't be surprised when things don't go as you hope.

Otherwise, break out the battery float chargers and hunker down. Those of us with older bikes...keep one near the door so if the weather breaks in January, you can sneak out a "wrong time of year!" ride, if you are into such things. I know the big brand name for the float chargers has a good rep (not undeserved, I'm sure), but I've had good experience with the cheap Harbor Freight float chargers, too. There's just not much to a float charger – it has to put out somewhere between 12.8v and 13.8v, and pretty much after that, all "just happens". And if I back over a \$10 HF float charger, I don't cry much.

I do appreciate the modern fuel-injected bike. It just beats the annual, "Will it start? Will it run well?" after sitting unused for a few months that carb'd bikes put us through. One tidbit I remember Don telling me: don't be tempted to "just start" your BMW and let it run for a few minutes in the middle of winter. He told me, they just won't warm up enough, and you will end up doing more harm in plugs fouling than you will in keeping the gasoline moving around.

As you hopefully knew, our old hosting dealership, BMW Detroit, held an open house last month. I went, relatively late in the afternoon. The new facilities are very nice, very spacious. Very much what they needed to do. They now have three mechanics, a good sales space, motorcycles, gear, parts and service are all attached, no more walking across a parking lot to get to service, parts and gear. If you didn't make it for the open house, it is definitely worth a stop by to see the new facilities. And they have a fancy coffee maker, which I guess is a big deal. Got me, I'm not a coffee drinker, and I'm not sure how it is better or not as good as the one at Triumph Detroit. There are things I feel I can judge and things I feel I should not – and anything regarding coffee, I'm going to not pass judgment on. But I do know some people take it very seriously. But really, it is a very nice facility, much better than the cramped quarters they had previously. However, as a meeting place, I don't think it compares to our current host, Triumph Detroit.

While I was at the open house, I did take the opportunity to talk to a few people, and if it seemed appropriate, invited them to come to our meetings. There seemed to be a certain amount of interest in our free-form get-togethers, and I'm hoping to see them in the future.

In the last few days, Facebook's "memories" feature told me that almost exactly ten years ago, I became an officer in the Motor City Beemers. There have been lots of changes over the years. As was indicated last month, Motor City Beemers no longer has a treasury! So we have successfully transitioned to a non-monetary group, which is good and as desired. I'm quite excited for what we can evolve into going forward.

Hope to see you at the November meeting!

Stuff on the website

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

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

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

Club pictures: <http://mcbeemers.org/pictures>

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

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

Hosting Dealership: <https://www.windycitymc.com/--triumph-detroit>

First, when you reach Jim's Treasurer's Report, please note, it has a new name. It has become Jim's **Membership Report**. We have no treasury to report on any longer. My thanks to Jim for his many years of financial services to the club! Also, along with finances, Jim always handled our new member inductions, and I'm grateful for that, too.

Lots of trip reports and photos follow. I have a report from Jeff on the lunch ride to Detroit Iron:

"We had a nice group of 5 bikes leaving Triumph Detroit, 1 BMW, 2 Hondas, 1 Ducati and 1 Triumph (1 red, 2 yellow and 2 black bikes!). A ride to Detroit Iron took us out Long Lake Road into Keego Harbor, and then around the lakes to the dealership. Traffic was surprisingly light and we were lucky to catch many of the traffic lights in green.

"Detroit Iron was rockin' with more than 15 really nice bikes in the show. The owner, Steve, had a certified judge reviewing the bikes and in my opinion, he did a good job. With only 3 trophies they decided to give everyone entered in the show a t-shirt, as the judge said all the bikes were nice. A large group of bikes ridden to, but not entered, added to the enjoyment of walking around. A nice lunch was provided for all. The dealership has a unique offering of bikes; Royal Enfield, Kawasaki, Benneli, Moto Guzzi and Aprilia. Our return ride was 3 bikes and a scenic ride out through Clarkston, to Oxford, to Lakeville, and back to Rochester was delightful. Fall colors were just starting to pop and traffic was again light. I had just under 100 miles for the day."

Thank you, Jeff! Brian forwarded some photos, which are included on the next page. We also have a photo from Pete, who had passed it to Jim for inclusion here. Jim writes:

"The guy in the red shirt, whom some of you may not recognize, is a former racer who gets faster the older he gets. There was another pic of him, his trophy, and his bike in the club Facebook page. Congratulations Pete. Pete was looking for a bike to replace his R1100S, test rode a Kawasaki 650 Versys at Detroit Iron Cycles, purchased one (in the correct color), became friends with the owner, visits the shop occasionally and helps out when time permits. Our newest member didn't get into the group pic, but maybe you'll see his pic and bio elsewhere in the Newsletter. Do what you can to make him know that he's welcome."

Thank you, Jim! Naresh's introduction is in this month's newsletter, below the ride pics.

Jim had more to report. On the Where's Waldo ride, he wrote, and sent me fall foliage pictures:

"Only 36 degrees when I backed the bike out of the garage, but the sun was up before 8AM so it warmed quickly between home and Monroe. 68 degrees when I left Waldo, saw a high of 72, but it was 66 when I got home at 5PM. Although most trees were not displaying fall colors, there were several that were eye-popping when the sun was shining into them from my direction.

"Only saw 2 bikes on the trip down, but counted 53 on the way home. Lots of riders evidently didn't want to dress for the cool morning temps. For my two tanks of gas, I averaged 48.8 mph, but I was just poking along at 60 mph, enjoying the day, radio, and the farms along the way."

And then, on the more recent ride to Birch Run:

"Question: What's better than a 200+ mile ride to Birch Run & back?"

"Answer: Being joined by 3 other club members when it's in the low 70's.

"Icing on the Cake: Meeting up with another club member for lunch about 40 miles into the ride.



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“Details: Mike B, Naresh B, & Jim M met Brian B just north of the Triumph Dealership about 11:30 on Wed, Oct 30 and followed Brian’s lead to Bomb Burger’s for lunch. There, in the parking lot, John J completed the group of 5 club members for lunch.

“After lunch Mike and John headed south and the other 3 headed to Birch Run.

“After accomplishing our task in Birch Run, Brian hit I-75 to make a quick run home to meet an evening obligation. Naresh and Jim rode together on M-54 until Jim hopped onto I-69.

Brian took one pic just before lunch. I seldom think of taking pictures.”

Thank you again!

Below are the photos from Jeff, Pete, and Jim. As always, when you can, get out there and ride!





New Member Introduction

Naresh B

“Here’s a few words about myself and my journey.

“I live in West Bloomfield and work as an IT Project Manager at ManpowerGroup. I started riding in India in the late 80's with mopeds. I soon graduated to a Yezdi Road King 250 2-stroke, a derivative of Jawa motorcycles in Czechoslovakia. After that it was an assortment of scooters and 100cc Japanese bikes that flooded India. My life in USA started as a student in 1995. The first experience I had with riding here was when I bought a Honda 919 (Hornet) in 2006. That motorcycle provided a lot of joy in the twisties of NC and Tennessee. After 2008, I had a long break in riding as I made my way up north to Wisconsin. I owned two Kawasakis in Wisconsin - Z900 RS and Versys 1000. I recently traded-in my Versys for a Triumph Speed Twin 1200 and have been enjoying my new experiences.”



(Thank you, Naresh, for telling us a little about yourself. I look forward to meeting you! -Josh-)

Membership Report

Jim Mick

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 28 Oct 2024

by Jim Mick

44 Members for 2024 (Including our newest member):

Life-long members of the club, since they were active when their spouses passed away.



Jeff A, Mike B, Cathy B, Naresh B, Jill B, Brian & Sheila B, Tom C, Jeff & Carrie D, Walter D, Dennis G, Bob H, Linda H, Aaron G, Josh G, Nick H, Paula E, John J, Pat & Lynn K, Alan & Jodi K, Mike & Sharon M, Don & Gail M, Jason M, Jim & Jeri M, Jeremy N, Don & Carolynne P, Jerry & Margaret P, John Saarinen, Eli S, Tim S, Robb S, Chris V, Jim V, Mary V, Rob Z, & Charlie Z.

Membership requirements, for the most part, is just “show up!”. If you like what you see, we’ll ask you to fill out a membership form, so you can get our newsletter, club (e)mailing, and get you on our Facebook group which lets you know what is going on. We are not collecting dues. And as we have said for a long time, your brand(s) of motorcycle is NOT a criterion.”

Check book balance for the end of Sep: \$0.00