



Motor City Beemers



Club Newsletter

BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

May 2005

Volume 13, Number 5

MAY MEETING

Our next meeting will be held Saturday June 4th at 10:30am.

RIDE AND EVENT SCHEDULE FOR 2005

- May 7th - Ride to G&R Tavern, Waldo Ohio - Rhys Blair
- June 4th - Ride to Frankenmuth for chicken dinner - Frank Emmerich
- July 9th - Ride to Grand Blanc Inn and Rocky's, Flint - Ives Potrafka
- August 6th - Lunch ride to be scheduled - Chris Messenger
- September 3rd - Ride to Bistro 1882 in Port Huron - Patricia Streasick & Betty Ward
- September 10th - Tentative date for picnic at Stoney Creek park
- October 1st - Lunch ride to be scheduled
- Mid October - Annual Blair color tour - Rhys and Ryan Blair
- November 5th - Lunch at Lafayette Coney Island in Detroit - Frank Emmerich
- December 3rd - No ride scheduled - Lunch somewhere

June 4th club ride - Frank Emmerich

Just a reminder that the June club ride (June 4th) is our annual freebee lunch at Frankenmuth. This outing is for members and associate members only. Make sure your dues are paid! I will need an approximate head count to know what size room to reserve. Please send me an email bmwfrank@comcast.net and let me know if you're going to join us. Frank

Branson Blitz Rally by Ives Potrafka

To follow the leader or not..

Well.... I went on my first long club ride.... Or joint club ride as we had members from both MC Beemers and BMW Touring Club. This was to be my first "Rally" and I gotta tell you as far as rallies go, this one was a disappointment. I was reminded by my co-riders that "It is all about the ride", not the rally.

AND the ride was great, our fearless ride leader Dick Hautau set the pace and we made it to Cape Girardeau, Missouri on the first day.... Day two was the best of the four days on the road. Give or take, 300 miles of some of the most beautiful county around and twisties and turns. It was truly a great day of riding. We stopped for lunch at a place called the Trout Ranch, which is famous for its trout, but the Hamburgers and Onions are pretty darn good too.

Now, onto the title of my article. Dick is a great ride leader and sets an exemplary example for all to follow. AND boy did we follow. On the first day out Dick was pushing, not riding his bike, away from the pumps and it managed to tip over, oh so gently, but tip it did. Then as we did the twisties on the second day we pulled up to wait for a couple of the riders to catch up. As we took off from a dead stop, Dick's bike stalled and tipped him off again. It was quiet a scare to watch, but only minor bumps and bruises, to his arm and pride... and we were off again.

Sorry Dick - I just had to tell the story! BigDog needed an article for the newsletter.

We arrived in Branson at the rally and as I was turning around on a very steep hill, or so I thought, and I managed to lay my LT down too. Phil also managed to lay his on its side at the corner just before the hotel. At least he didn't do it in front of a couple of hundred other riders as I did. One broken j-peg bolt later and a big bruise to my pride, and all is well. Finally, as we were leaving on Saturday morning to head home, Gary managed to lose his in the steep parking lot too and ended up flat on the ground too. I guess the ole LT's really are a bit top heavy!

All in all it was a great ride with a great bunch of riders. A good time was had by all and while the Internet Riders Branson Blitz gathering was a disappointment, the ride and food stops were not. I am looking forward to my first real rally - Lima, OH

So follow our leader we did, and did, and did... at least 4 riders total managed to lay out bikes, ever so gently, onto the pavement. Long story short, it was about 1800 miles round trip and all arrived home safely.

From the Vice Prez...

Just a couple of comments about our last club ride to Waldo, Ohio. The weather, location, and especially the fried baloney sandwich were great. Thanks to Rhys Blair for organizing the ride.

I need to offer a reminder for the experienced club members, and some info for our new club members. Whenever we ride in a group, your responsibility is to the rider directly behind you. That's it. If you make a planned or unplanned turn, make sure the rider behind you follows. If not, it is up to you to reconnect the chain. Pull over and wait a reasonable amount of time. If the other rider(s) have not shown up, you may have to retrace your route to reconnect with the lost riders. Hopefully he or she just missed the turn, but you want to make sure that rider is not down. If you stop to wait for the rider behind you, so will the rider in front of you. This provides a measure of safety for the whole group. At Saturday's ride, somehow we got disconnected going down I75 with the construction. A deviation in our planned route occurred to avoid construction. The lead group should have waited for the second group to reconnect. I apologize if any riders got lost and missed out on our lunch destination.

Another tidbit for our new club members. Normally we will split into several groups of 4 to 5 bikes. Not one long chain of 10 or more. On the open road with some traffic and passing of vehicles will occur, the small groups should stay fairly close together and try to pass "as one" when possible. This keeps the group together and prevents those at the rear for riding the accordion. It also allows other vehicles to move around us, and increases our visibility with a few bikes riding together. The lead rider should be aware of the group dynamics and pass, turn, or stop accordingly. On an open road with minimal traffic, greater distances between riders is acceptable as passing of vehicle is reduced. This just keeps us all safe and less stressed at our destinations.

Make it a point to read the article "Buddy Bashing" in the May 2005 BMW ON. The article touches on my highlights above, but goes into much greater depth on safe riding. It is very good information for you and your fellow rider.

Frank...

I trust by now, most of you have heard of the Holly Vintage & European Motorcycle Rally. Not that you need a reason to get the bike out and ride, this event serves as a great destination for a Sunday morning or afternoon scoot.

This spring delivered a cool and partly sunny morning. Andersonville Rd. is rather nice to cruise on; except when you come to the road construction dead end. This means I should slow down. No worries. Turn around, cut through a nice neighborhood and end up on Dixie Hwy.

At any one time, there were about 100 bikes parked along main street in downtown Holly. Although usually closed on Sundays, the restaurants, small cafe's and antique shops remain open for this event. The "Bittersweet Cafe" is a great place to grab an early breakfast before the crowd thickens.



As the morning progressed, the clouds rolled in and the temperature tumbled. I suspect many folks were discouraged by the forecast. This spring produced a smaller turnout when compared to the fall of last year. Of the bikes that did show, a high percentage were BMW's. Overcast skies and cold temps are no big deal. *There's no such thing as bad weather...just bad clothing.*



Also on hand was a good selection of various models from Triumph, Vincent, Norton, BMW, Ducati, Moto Guzzi and more. The Vintage Japanese Motorcycle Club provided a nice display of member's bikes. Fellow MotorCity Beemer R.J. Hayden was proudly showing 2 of his bikes.

I was fortunate to have the new R1200ST for the day and the latest little BMW attracted a good crowd when parked. The bike has a similar riding position as my "S", with a riders seat adjustable in 2 height positions. The latest generation Boxer motor and gearbox are significantly smoother than the older version. If you are interested in the latest from BMW in a lightweight sport-tourer, check this one out.

The Holly rally is a twice a year event - always held on the first Sunday in May and October. Make it a point to attend the fall event. With enough interest, we can even organize a club ride and arrive in style.

...and thanks to Barb Boik for the photos!

Frank sends along the following interesting photo:



Motor City Beemer Name Tags

Our Motor City Beemers name tags are available for purchase at Highest Honor, Inc. Highest Honor, Inc is located at 34777 Dequindre Road, Troy, Michigan 48083. Their shop is located on the west side of Dequindre Road, just south of 15 Mile Road. Herb and Jeff have a die set up already with our club logo on it. The cost of one name tag is just \$8.00. The Motor City Beemers picked up the cost of the die set back in August 2003.

The easiest way to get your name tag is send an email to Jeff at www.jeff@highesthonor.biz and spell out exactly what you want on the name tag and when you would like to pick it up.

You can also call the guys at the shop at 248-588-7845 ask for Jeff and give him what you want on the name tag and they'll take care of it for you and let you know when you can pick it up.

So hurry up and get your special name tag engraved with **YOUR** one of a kind moniker. There will be special attention paid to those members that show up to the club meetings with their new name tag displayed proudly on their chests.

FOR SALE:

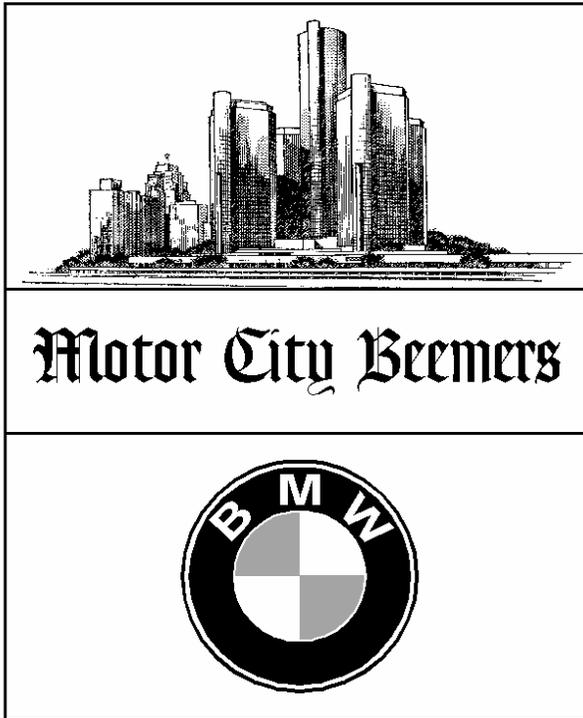
K75RT 1993, new pearl yellow paint, bags, trunk, heated grips, electric windsheild, corbin seat, rack, w/p shock, new battery, new tires, fuel and temp gauges, all fluids and servicing done including spline lube, This bike needs nothing but an owner/rider. \$ 5200.00 Dale & Denise. 734-7898249

1995 K1100 LT , all stock (bags, trunk, radio with rear speakers, heated grips, elec. windsheild, gauges, touring seat,) heavy metallic gun metal gray paint, new battery, new tires and all servicing done , including spline lube. \$ 5900.00 Dale & Denise 734-7898249

1986 K100 RT, New Black paint, new seat, very good tires, new battery, all service done, bags, \$ 3500.00 Dale & Denise 734-7898249

2004 R1150RT stock windshield for sale. Make a reasonable offer. Contact Frank at bmwfrank@comcast.net or days 586-997-6892, evening 586-731-6951.

2003 MOTO GUZZI LE MANS, 1100, fuel inj., red/black with 2300 miles, has Staintune exhaust and Power Commander III with Ferracci software also K&N filter, recent 1000 mile svc. incl. valve adj. by Detroit Eurocycles. Warranty 'til 9/05. Comes with Guzzi tank bag and service stand. \$8750 OBO Mike Nowicki 586-791-3036



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