



Motor City Beemers

Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

September 2015

Volume 24, Number 09

All meetings are held the **SECOND** Saturday of the month at 10:30AM at BMW of Detroit

Immediately following the meeting is a Lunch Ride

Many months, we have a special event on the **THIRD** Saturday of the month

Our *next* meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2015

Following Meeting: September 12, 2015

Web site: www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers

Eat to ride, ride to eat!

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Boy has this last month been fun!!! I Installed a Heal-Tech quick shifter on my Ducati Multistrada that works great. The installation was a bit complicated but the people at Blue Monkey Motorsports were terrific to deal with and very helpful. It works by inserting a cable between the engine EEC processor and the fuel injectors that feed back to another engine control processor. It is triggered by a sensor on the foot shift lever. When pressure is applied it interrupts the fuel injectors for a brief period (between 60 to 85 milliseconds) which is just enough to allow the rider to perform seamless full throttle shifts without the use of the clutch. This is, of course, something that everyone needs for normal street use! And boy is it fun to do!!!

I also spent a weekend with Keith Harrison and a cousin of mine taking a road trip to the 2015 Moto GP races at the Indianapolis motor speedway. We watched riders charge down the straightaway at speeds of 360 Kilometers per hour (220+ mph) and had the opportunity to walk through the pits. I watched the world's best riders lean into corners at 160mph and lift their arms and shoulders so that they did not touch the ground and slow themselves down. Truly a remarkable thing to see up close.

As it was my birthday, for some reason a lot of ordinary people wanted to take a picture with me! →

I also had an opportunity to spend some time in Southern Ohio and West Virginia last week. I just returned from 3 days getting in about 900 miles of perfect roads with some great company and the best riding anywhere.

Special Congrats to Rhys Blair, George Domany, Keith Harrison, and Steve Penczak who completed their first Iron Butt and to Jim Van DenBerghe for organizing it. It's worth noting that a number of our other members are also members of this prestigious group.

September 19 Frankenmuth Chicken Run with details to follow later in this newsletter. Unfortunately I will be in attending my son's graduation that day and will miss the event but I am sure that it will be a great turnout! Betty thanks for making the arrangements and getting us the parking spaces, one my favorite parts.

Hope everyone is having as much fun as I am during the great summer of riding!





First of all, Paula and I, and I suspect I speak for the entire club, extend our sympathies and condolences to the Blair family for the loss of their son Duncan. Obviously, in his short life, he had a great and positive impact on a lot of people.

While a number of our members were completing the Yooper Madness Iron Butt run, Paula and I completed a little over a thousand miles on a five day vacation through the Upper Peninsula. Three of the days involved a lot of rain, the sixth day was forecast for more rain, so we gave up and went home a day early. Due to Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan both starting class, the closest we could get to our target of staying in the Keweenaw was Ishpeming (about 15 miles past Marquette, about 85

miles from Houghton). All in all, very little went according to the few plans we had. It sounds a bit like the nightmare travel stories I love to hear which keep me uninterested in International travel, but we actually had a lot of fun the two non-rainy days, and it turned out, with the right bike and the right gear, riding in the rain is nowhere near as bad as I thought it might be. It was actually a good trip.

First day's travel got us to St. Ignace (in the rain). First lesson learned: bike rain gear is great, but you still need something once you arrive at your destination, like an umbrella (oops). Second day got us to Grand Marais, H-58 ("Michigan's Tail of the Dragon"), Munising and ultimately, Ishpeming for the night. Weather was great. When we realized we would probably have difficulty finding anywhere else to stay in the Northwestern UP, we extended our Ishpeming stay an extra night. Next day we round-tripped to Copper Harbor and Brockway Mountain. We came back to Houghton for a great dinner at The Library (highly recommended – The Swiss Onion soup is to travel across the U.P. for!), and then back to Ishpeming. M28 in the Keweenaw is quite fun on the bike, as is Brockway Mountain Drive. Well, Brockway (between the top of the mountain and Copper Harbor) is more of a challenge, 'specially with a good cross wind. Narrow, twisty, bad road...one gets a workout! Upon our return to Ishpeming, weather forecast was for rain the next day, we weren't sure where else we would be able to stay, so figured we might as well start back-tracking to St. Ignace.

Crossing the Mackinac bridge in a strong cross wind is exciting. I know no motorcycle has ever gone off the Mackinac bridge, and I've crossed it in some really nasty weather by car, but I did find myself chanting "no motorcycle has ever gone off the bridge, and I'm not going to be the first!". I probably should have told Paula that, too.

A word about H58: I tried to pick it up from County Road 407. Bad idea, it turned out, at least for those of us with an LT and a pillion. After 24 miles, it turns into dirt road (to be fair: there ARE signs. I just hoped they didn't quite apply to our destination. They did). Now, if we had a pair of R1200GSs and Paula riding separately, I would have kept going, but it looked like a really bad idea on a two-up LT, so we ended up back-tracking those 24 miles of 407 plus another 15 or so miles of M123. Anyone want to lend me a GS?

Paula enjoyed seeing the U.P. She's been through the U.P. many times before, but this time she (mostly) stayed awake, which is not usually the case! She did not enjoy the bridge, however.

I'm very happy with the performance of the Tourmaster rain gear Paula got me from Ron at BMW of Detroit a few years ago, and Paula was very happy with the Frogg Toggs gear she picked up from Elliot just before our trip (and the price was great!). My new First Gear boots worked out well, too – a bit warm for walking in warm weather, but great for riding in cool, wet weather.

Nick.

Remembering Duncan

Rhys and Jill Blair



Jill and I would like to take this opportunity to thank every club member that in some way paid their respects to our Duncan. To those of you that attended his funeral, or stood in the hour long line at the funeral home, or took the time to mail a card or send an email, you have our gratitude.

For those of you that knew Duncan or had met Duncan more than once you know you met the Real McCoy. Duncan had been coming to our club since that first Saturday meeting he could walk under his own steam. Once he could count he started selling 50/50 raffle tickets, when he was big enough to ride with me, he

rode with me to every meeting and every lunch ride. He did not mind at all being with his Dad around older guys as long as there were motorcycles he could touch, get on or just be near. Duncan went on to own two motorcycles and earn his motorcycle endorsement the same day he picked up his Michigan drivers license. Duncan was a motor-head, whether it had two wheels, four wheels, a seat or a saddle, stick or automatic he could drive it. If it went fast, even better. Duncan's favorite ride was his 1972 Big Orange Chevy Custom 10 pick up truck. He could be seen tooling around the Clinton Township area at the speed limit, windows down, left elbow out the window and a grin from ear to ear. No radio, just the sound of the dual exhaust resonating off the other vehicles and following him down the road.

Something you may not have known about Duncan was that he was a born again Christian who loved God and loved to serve his God. Since age 12 he has went on 5 week long missions trips from Queens New York to Guatemala. On these trips he did building construction, cooked meals, cleaned yards and buildings and most importantly ministered to young children. He loved to be around little kids and help them learn. This year he spent a week in June at the MDA camp in Lexington as a camp counselor working with handicapped youth. He was looking to go back again next summer. But his God had other plans for his future.

We'll miss Duncan, but as most of you know he and I created 17 years of fantastic memories. We did bike trips, car trips, camping trips, we taught each other patience and to challenge each other and ourselves. For that I am extremely thankful. He shared with his sister that he was going to apply at Michigan Tech, enroll in the Platoon Leaders Class in the Marine Corps and then seek employment in the world of contract security.

Thanks again to everyone that shared a kind word or sent a reassuring word.

Rhys and Jill

Frankenmuth Ride and Dinner

Betty Ward

Hello Members and Associates,

It is now time to look forward to our ride and dinner to "Michigans Little Bavaria"!

Yes reservations will be made for our club at the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn for Saturday, September 19th, 130 pm I was also able to reserve at least 10 parking spaces in there south parking lot. I will see if I can reserve a few more.

Looking forward to this club event with a lot of wonderful people. It's only \$5 for members and associates. You can pay at our meeting or Pay Pal. Guests may come, but have to pay for their meal and gratuity!

So mark your calendars, I will need a final count by our September club meeting.

Betty Ward

(Betty tells me we'll be discussing group ride starting points at the September meeting. And if you haven't paid up yet, you will need to do so by or at the Sept 12 meeting! – Nick.)

Club events

Lunch rides take place right after the Saturday meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Most other club events take place on the THIRD Saturday of the month

Date	Event	More Info
September 19	Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner	Above, this issue

Non-club events

Oct 1-4: BMW RA's 2015 rally: "Thrills in the Hills" rally in Harrison, Arkansas

Please send events to me at nick@holland-consulting.net !

Recruit a new member! Cut-out and carry these cards!

Hi, I couldn't help but notice you also ride a
BMW Motorcycle!
I'd like to invite you to join us, the Motor City Beemers,
on the second Saturday, monthly, 10:30am
BMW Motorcycles of Detroit
34080 Van Dyke Ave
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers

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Wednesday Dinner Gatherings



The Wednesday dinners are a long-time, though less formal, tradition with the MCBeemers, started and run by Betty Ward. She picks out a dinner location, lets us know...and we get together and eat! Food is usually ordered by 6:30pm, but some of us don't straggle in until closer to 7:00pm.

Absolutely no agenda other than Good Food and Great People!

← Dinner at Juan Miguel's, 8/26/2015. Paula tells me I'm getting a new picture for next month!

September 2	The Double D Bar and Grill	240 N. River Rd Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 586.231.0134
September 9	Bath City Bistro	75 Macomb Place Mt Clemens, MI 48043 586.469.0918
September 16	Amore's Grill & Spirits	53100 Gratiot Ave Chesterfield, MI 586.749.9262
September 23	Moose Preserve Bar and Grill	43034 Woodward ave Bloomfield, MI 48302 248.858.7688
September 30	Waves	24223 Jefferson Ave St Clair Shores, MI 586.773.3279

Donuts!

And now for something completely different – we need a volunteer to pick up donuts for the meetings! George Y. has been doing it for us lately (thanks, George!), but he will be unable to make meetings for a number of months here, so he has asked us to find someone else to take over for him. So, if you make most meetings and have a good maker of donuts near by, consider helping us out. The club will reimburse you!



Check book balance for the end of Jul:	\$2335.47
Check book balance for the end of Aug:	\$2326.47
Balance 3 months ago:	\$2532.70
Balance 6 months ago:	\$2132.70
PayPal balance for the end of Jul:	\$886.00
PayPal balance for the end of Aug:	\$886.00

50/50 sold \$78.00 of tickets at the Aug Club meeting. Bob Hann won \$39.00, George Yosin was reimbursed \$18.00 for 2 dozen donuts and \$21.00 was added to the CkBk. Tom Hillard won the 'second draw' (our 3rd little 2 pocket accessory bag). According to Maury, this little bag includes a tent, sleeping bag, a bike cover and comes with a 1099... If all that's true, everyone will want to purchase 50/50 tickets this month as we intend to give the remaining bag to 'second draw' winner of our 50/50.

Dick & Sharon H. placed their reservation for Frankenmuth so that added \$10.00 to the CkBk. Lew & Darlene Owen sent a check to pay their reservation for Frankenmuth so that added another \$10 to the CkBk.

\$50 was sent in memory of long-time member Duncan Blair to his church's Mission Team.

Our 2015 membership stands at 84.

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ON LINE BANKING (repeat info from previous Newsletters)

SAVE YOURSELF (and the club) some **money** and frustration – send payments to the club for Membership renewal, Picnic reservation, Frankenmuth, Mid Winter Banquet reservations by using ON LINE BANKING. Almost all Banks and Credit Unions provide this **FREE** service. You don't even have to sign up online and they don't charge you for the postage. You can ask your local branch to set it up for you. Just tell your bank or credit union **when** and **how much** to pay **whom** (including address)... write it in your checkbook - without writing a check, or posting with your mail carrier... It's very easy to do on line - if you use a computer for anything. I know of no one who has converted to online banking and then gone back to the old (check writing) way. **Have your bank or Credit Union send all MCBeemers payments to Jim Mick, 56750 Fairchild Rd, Macomb, MI 48042** any you'll see verification of your payment in the Treasurer's report in the Newsletter.

Jim's New Bike

Jim Mick

If our editor can write about his 'other bike' purchase, I wonder if he'll include this in our next Newsletter... (I guess so, since you are reading it here [*ed: like I could ever say "no" to Jim! --Nick*]).

My hips are getting worse and I have started the ball rolling with my doctor to see if it's time for a new left hip and a repair of my right hip that was replaced in the 90's. It's getting harder and harder to ride a heavy bike and I don't want to give up riding or only ride a 3 or 4 wheeler... I dropped my yellow 1800 Gold Wing in parking lots twice on our trip to the MOA in Montana in July, so it was time to make a change.

I have been looking at the Honda NT700V for a couple years (along with Bob Hann) and ALMOST had the winning bid on one about 6 months ago. On Aug 24 I finally purchased a Silver 2010 NT700V w/ABS and 16,000 miles on it. The NT is not an attention grabber in the parking lot or when passing by the gas stations, but since I rode one (two trips from Ann Arbor to Frankfort - about 1000 miles) I have often said "if I ever make a return trip to AK by motorcycle, I would like to do it on an NT700."

The previous owner lived in Chicago, he offered to meet Jay and me in MI so after discussing some options, we agreed to meet at the DMV in Benton Harbor. That Sec of State office is less than a mile off of I-94 (Exit 29) and the transfer went off without a hitch.

Before I even started the bike to leave, Jay put on my license plate from my '94 (dark teal) Gold Wing and I installed a pair of Mick-O-Pegs. When transferring a plate from an existing motorcycle, no proof of insurance is required and the transfer was only \$8. I also had to pay the sales tax and title fee.

I rode it most of the way home, but Jay rode it from a rest area to where we stopped for supper. We both agree that a pair of handlebar rises will make it more comfortable. We are used to sitting more upright and the NT had us leaning forward just a little.

The 215 mile return trip required only 3.731 gal of regular gas which is 57.63 mpg. The NT registered 65.7 mpg for the trip which is about 12% below what the bike registered. It will be interesting to see if subsequent trips remain off by 12% or if there is a way to 'correct' the on board computation. When I had our 2002 LT, I found the MPG computation to be off, but there is a way to CORRECT the LT. I was able to get the LT computer to give accurate MPG readings. I found that procedure on the BMW forum.

I am a lot more confident with the NT in a parking lot and was amazed how well it holds to the road at 70 mph. Mick-O-Pegs aren't as comfortable on the NT as on my Gold Wings or the BMW LT, but I couldn't have made the trip home without them.

Do you know anybody interested in purchasing a '94 Gold Wing with only 252,000 miles on it???

Trading Post

BMW K1200LT 62k loaded, runs great, new windshield \$4,900 for bike. Also, Unigo Trailer w/extras -- tire, wheel black powder coat, four trailer hitches. Complete \$2,000. Contact Larry Turk 313-563-0052



* * * * *

2001 Suzuki SV650S. Great shape. Repainted. Would be a great track bike for someone with that interest. Also have all the original plastic to put her back into her original shape. Any offer over \$1,600 seriously considered.

2004 Honda 150F dirt bike. Has current Off Road sticker. Well maintained. Great bike for a youngster to learn on. Asking \$1,000 or more.

We also have some assorted riding gear that is available too. Call Rhys Blair at home 586-463-8117 or cell 586-216-3455



BMW Club
Riders Association
International



8/5/2015

Latest announcements from the BMW Riders Association

Only 8 weeks until Rally Time!

- We are getting closer to Thrills in the Hills in Harrison, Arkansas, Oct 1-4th. You still have this month to pre-register and save \$15 from the gate price. If you haven't visited our website recently, you missed the announcement that Beaches Motorcycle Adventures is giving a fabulous door prize valued at \$7,800, to one lucky winner this year.
- We are awarding some additional door prizes of substantial value, along with our daily drawing door prizes donated by many of our motorcycle partners.
- Meals will be catered by Jamie's, one of Harrison's best. They will serve breakfast and dinner to those that choose to dine at the site. Call or Email them for the cost (reasonable) to make your reservations. (Listed on the rally brochure)
- We have a rally brochure posted on the Rally page of our website. It lists all the events, map, entertainment and so much more that I can't put into this newsletter. Go to bmwra.org and click on National Rally info dropdown tab under "the Club" for a link to the pdf.
- Elections for 2016 are fast approaching. See the website homepage for the announcement and process.

BMW Riders Association and BMW have teamed up for a discount promotion for anyone that purchases SPECIAL URGENT NEWS for Current BMW RA Members

BMW Motorrad Purchase Program available to BMW RA Members

In appreciation of the close bond and brand loyalty between BMW Motorrad and the BMW Riders Association, BMW Motorrad USA has announced a special motorcycle purchase program for all

active BMW RA members. The program runs between August 3rd and September 30th.

Discounts range from \$750 for K & S Series, \$500 for R Series, \$350 for C & F Series and \$300 for G Series bikes. The R 1200 RS is excluded from this program – sorry about that!

The stunning new 160hp S 1000 XR is part of the program, however!

Visit your local BMW dealer and be sure to ask for the discount. You will need to provide your membership card displaying your active membership as of August 1st, 2015.

We value your membership in the BMW Riders Association and are pleased to be able to pass along this membership benefit to you.

a new BMW from their dealer.

I hope to see everyone at the Rally. A lot of work goes into these events and we rely on volunteers. Please consider helping us out again this year in registration, door prizes, security and the all important Sunday clean-up.

And again, please share this newsletter with all your club members.

Karen Jacobs

Vice President &

Charter Club Coordinator

womanridge@wi.rr.com

414-405-3524

bmwra.org (262) 409-2899

MOTOR CITY BEEMERS NAME TAGS

Motor City Beemer name tags are available for purchase at Highest Honor, Inc. Highest Honor, Inc is located at **34711 Dequindre Road, Troy, Michigan 48083**. Their shop is just south of 15 Mile Road, on the west side of Dequindre. Herb and Jeff have a die set up with the club logo and can add your name and/or nickname for a cost of only \$8.00.

The easiest way to get your ID tag is to send Jeff an e-mail at: www.jeff@highesthonor.biz. Spell out exactly what you want on your tag and when you want to pick it up. You can also call Jeff at **248-588-7845**. Tell him what you want on your tag and when you want to pick it up. You can have two lines of text, the first your name, and you can add a nick name as the second.

Join the growing number of members who proudly wear their ID tags with their one of a kind moniker. It will help us to get to know each other and sure works a lot better than "Hey you!"

"A tip of the MCBEEMER helmet . . .

. . . goes to [Viles & Associates, Inc.](#), who have volunteered print the free copies of the newsletter available at the dealership. They are also BMW riders.



to



FOR SALE
"MICK-O-Pegs"
*Expanding comfort
for more models*

Spring Loaded Highway Pegs for your K1200LT, pre-2010 R1200_, R1150_, R1100_, R1200GSA and even the new 1600GT/GTL (if equipped w/engine guards). Look at www.ridingiswonderful.com

ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP
with purchase of motorcycle from BMW MOTORCYCLES OF DETROIT

MOTOR CITY BEEMERS
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Club Web Site – www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers
Club eGroup Email – mcbeemers@yahoo.com

Annual membership dues are \$15 per year for full membership and \$10 per year for each associate member and runs from January to January. Renewal payments are requested by January 31 of each year.

Please select 1 or more: Membership (\$15) Associate (\$10) each Additional Associates (\$10)
AND select one: New Renewal Renewal following lapse of years

(Please Print)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Home: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Email: _____

National Motorcycle Club Membership Information

Please check the appropriate boxes to signify current membership in the following national motorcycle clubs:

BMW Motorcycle Owners of America No Yes #: _____

BMW Riders Association No Yes #: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail this application and payment to “Jim Mick” at:

Jim Mick
56750 Fairchild Rd
Macomb MI 48042

Dealership Use
Only

OR send funds via PayPal to: Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com
AND send completed form by e-mail to: Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com