



# Motor City Beemers

## Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

October 2016

Volume 25, Number 10

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

*We welcome owners and fans of all bikes*

**Our next meeting is October 8, 2016**

**Following Meeting: November 12, 2016**

Web site: [www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers](http://www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers)

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2nd Vice Presidents  
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Newsletter Editor  
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Greetings Beemers! This one is going to be short as I am on vacation about 1800 miles away and found out yesterday that I have a double pneumonia. I am on some good antibiotics and already starting to feel better.

Anyway, on with this month's installment. I will not be at the meeting on the 8th so I leave it in the capable hands of the vice presidents or the treasurer or the newsletter editor or the Web master or anyone that wants to have an audience. I am not sure who will be available because of work or vacation schedules. It will probably be the best meeting the club has ever had.

The Chicken dinner run was a success with I think 19 members attending and then we had 11 continue on to Port Austin. Two of us camped the night at Port Crescent state park. We got there in time to set up the tents and then watch the sunset over Saginaw Bay. The other 9 stayed at the Blue Nose (I think) hotel. David Fortenberry and I rode into town and had dinner with most of the crew. The next morning we took too long packing up and missed breakfast with the group. The restaurant couldn't wait for us any longer and had to kick the group out the door. But they did let Betty save a table for us. After breakfast I led a group of 7 back home around the thumb while 4 cut down the center of the thumb. Great weekend! Don't miss it next year.

My final thought for this edition is .... Don't forget about the Color Tour to Cycle Moore Campground just West of Interlochen, MI. Hopefully this will be a well attended event by all 6 BMW clubs in Michigan and possibly a few from nearby states. Again, you don't have to camp, there are hotels in the area, just come by for the bonfires Friday and Saturday nights. I will be attending this event.

That's it for now, I expect a full report on the Oct meeting. So, have fun, stay safe, watch out for the leaves that are starting to fall, and don't ignore that nagging cough at the end of a cold.

Pat



Where does the time go? I just put something about the NOVEMBER meeting date on the front cover of this newsletter...that's a bit discouraging. However, I do have every intent on still riding in November, at least a few times.

This month, we have the much anticipated second installment of Keith's article on Track Days. I've heard more comments about the first part than I have about anything else that I've put in the newsletter...obviously, he's found a topic where there is a lot of interest in the group. And it sounds like Jessica and BMW Detroit will be setting up some track days for us next year. Could be fun!

As we approach year end, we'll soon be electing – or if need be, drafting – officers for next year. Pat has said, and I agree completely, it would be great if all the officer's slots were actually contested, with actual choice for the membership, rather than the one poor sucker we found embarrassing evidence against. Speaking for myself, if someone else wants to be newsletter editor, I'd take it as someone offering to give me a break, rather than “you suck, lemme show you how it's done”, but I suspect my feelings are shared by the other officers. Remember, it's YOUR club, not ours. If you don't like how things are being run, step up and make things better or different!

Frankenmuth dinner ride was ... interesting. Weather sucked on the way there. George and I decided to tough it out, put on rain gear and ride. Lori and Paula, being the part of our relationships with brains, opted for a cage ride together, but at the last minute, Paula needed to work in the morning, so she drove separately. The ride went from bad (stuck in traffic on the way to Lori and George's) to ok (drizzle) to really bad (blinding rain. Oh, guess there's a reason they put all those zippers and seals on a rain suit, right? Well, next time I'll zip and seal them all!) to pretty reasonable. And after dinner, things were great, the weather was just fine the rest of the weekend. Of course, the Frankenmuth chicken dinner was fantastic, and a lot of fun with a lot of great people. And of course, the humor of watching *certain people* who will not be named here stuff great quantities of chicken into various cargo containers for taking home...yes, we all got our \$5 worth, a few REALLY got their money's worth (yes, we noticed!) ☺

For those wondering, my cheap automobile GPS survived the rain storm just fine.

Sounds like we might have a shortage of officers at our next meetings – Paula and I are on vacation, Pat's on vacation. Hopefully we'll find someone to run the meeting and the ride to White Horse Inn. Sorry to miss that, we enjoyed it last year, but getting vacation time has proven difficult for us this year, and as it is, we've had to cut it in half.

Time to start thinking about winterizing our bikes...which at least for me, isn't much more than putting them on the trickle chargers for the short winter's rest. Several years ago, Don at the dealership advised me to just let it sit over the winter, don't start it up unless a real ride is going to take place, as the short run does little to help a fuel injected bike other than foul the plugs.

Also coming sooner than we'd like to realize is the Winter Banquet. A destination will be decided upon soon, but even before that, start collecting your ride pictures for the slide show(s). Don't be like me and wait until the last minute to try to find your pictures and get them on a media you can hand to me!

Nick.

## A Typical First Track Day

Keith Harrison

Last month, I covered the basics of track days. OK, so you picked a track and signed up with a track day provider and prepped the motorcycle. What's next?

First, you need to decide on how you will get to the track. Do you ride your bike or trailer? Riding seems easier but you will have to do your taping and mirror removal at the track. And how will you carry the basic necessities, like a chair or shade or cooler?

So some people do ride but I think the better option is to trailer. It gives you the space to bring all of the things that make a track day enjoyable. The basic list includes: tools, pop-up canopy if available, cooler, water, chairs, gas cans, and a tire pressure gauge. These items will get you through your first day.

Next, you need to decide when to arrive at the track. In Michigan, the tracks are 3-4 hours away from Detroit. You can drive or ride up the morning of the track day but I suggest getting there the day before. If you want to camp, both MI tracks allow camping and hotels are available nearby. Get a good night's sleep and get to the track early. If you rode there, make sure that you come to the track with a full tank.

The track opens at 7:00am. There will be a line to get in and you will have to sign a release and pay a nominal gate fee. Then you can find a spot in the paddock to set up your pit area. Get settled in and wait for the announcements.

Go to the Sign Up area and get checked in. They will verify your ID and riding group (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced) and give you a wrist band of the appropriate color.

Then you get your bike to the Tech Inspection area (normally near the center of the activity) and get checked. The inspector will go over the bike to make sure you have taped all glass and have decent tires. He will check your throttle to make sure that it returns on its own and he will give an overall safety check. He will then give you a sticker for the front of your bike.

Next up will be the Riders Meeting. All riders MUST attend the Riders Meeting every day. The organizers will cover all of the flags that will be used and all of the procedures that need to be followed. At the end of the meeting, the Novice riders will be held for a separate meeting.

In the Novice Riders meeting, you will be split up into smaller groups of 3-5 depending on total group size and available Control Riders. A Control Rider is a member of the track day organization that will work with each group throughout the day. You will be asked how experienced you are. Then the smaller groups will be based on your self-described ability from slow to fast. Remember your group number!

Generally, there will be six to seven 20 minute sessions per group per day with the rotation of Advanced, Intermediate and Novice groups each hour. A one hour lunch break will occur between session 4 and 5. Riding will happen rain or shine.

Finally, the track announcement will be made: "Novice Riders – 10 minute call". You will have 10 minutes to get fully dressed and ride your bike to the Pit Out area. Pit Out is where you will enter the actual track. This will be disclosed in the Riders Meeting.

Assemble at Pit Out and wait for the Control Riders. When released, you will enter the track and follow the Control Rider. In the Novice group, the first session will be at a very slow pace with no passing allowed.

You will learn the racing line and the layout of the track. At the end of each session, you will be required to assemble in the meeting area for further instruction. Each session will be focused on improving your ability and will cover things like line choice, body position, brake markers, etc.

*(continued next page)*

As you progress, you will get faster and more comfortable. If you are faster than your group, you can be moved up and if you are feeling pressure, you can move down. The goal is to learn and have fun.

At the end of the day, you can check with the Track Photographer. You can get a CD of all the pictures they have of you on the track.

So I hope these articles have peaked your interest to get out there and ride the track. If you decide to go, let me know. It's always fun at the track!

## **Club events**

Lunch rides take place right after the Saturday meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Other events as we can make them happen!

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Alternate local lunch</b>
October 8	Club Meeting – Lunch at White Horse Inn	El Patio
November 12	Club Meeting – Lunch at Zukey Lake Tavern, Pinkney	Malone's
December 10	Club Meeting – Lunch at Azteca	
January 14	Club Meeting – Lunch at Great Baraboo	

## **Wednesday Dinner Gatherings**

The Wednesday dinners are a long-time, though less formal, tradition with the MCBeezers... we get together and eat! Food is usually ordered around 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!

October 5	<b>Poncho and Cisco's</b>	36942 Jefferson Ave Harrison Township, MI 48045 586.465.6161
October 12	<b>Ike's Family Restaurant</b>	38550 Van Dyke Rd Sterling Hts, MI 586.979.4460
October 19	<b>Engine House</b>	309 Cass Ave Mt Clemens, MI 480432 586.468.2442
October 26	<b>O'Connor's Public House</b>	324 Main Street Rochester, MI 48307 248.608.2537
November 2	<b>P. F. Chang's</b>	17390 Hall Rd Clinton Township, MI 48038 586.263.0860

## Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



Check book balance for the end of Sep:	\$2144.77
Check book balance for the end of Aug:	\$2360.63
Balance end of Mar:	\$1678.09
Balance end of Jun:	\$2177.63
PayPal balance for the end of Sep:	\$554.52
PayPal balance for the end of Aug:	\$549.52

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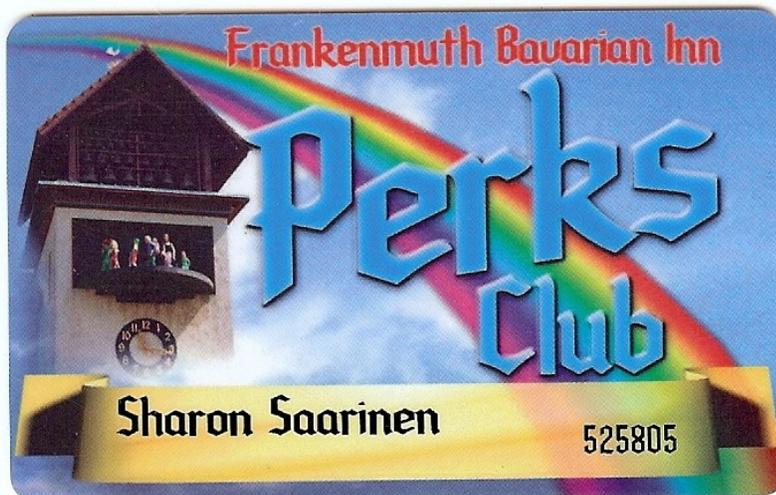
Deposited \$195.00 into the check book:

- \$45 from David F, Norm O, and Larry T for 2015 membership (now up to 4).
- \$100 from Lori (& George) D who were winners of the 50/50 and gave all to the club. On behalf of the club, THANK YOU very much.
- \$50 for Frankenmuth reservations (George & Lori D, David F, Pat K, Jim & Jeri M, Norm O, Ives P, Gary & Mary V.)
- An additional \$10 was received from Dick & Sharon H for Frankenmuth at the lunch but that will be added to the checkbook with October deposit.

Deposited \$5.00 into PayPal from Jay M for Frankenmuth reservation.

The Frankenmuth Bill for 18 Family Style Chicken Dinners was \$410.86 and paid from our check book. \$80 of "perks" were used to reduce the bill from \$490.86. When you begin to make plans to go to Frankenmuth throughout the year, please use John Saarinen's Perks Card to help save us some money again next year.

## Bavarian Inn Perks Card



John's Bavarian Inn card has helped reduce the cost to the club of our Frankenmuth chicken dinner for a number of years now.

## 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 \$9.00.

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). 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



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**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](http://www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers)  
Club eGroup Email – [mcbeemers@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com)  
AND send completed form by e-mail to: [Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com](mailto:Jim@RidingIsWonderful.com)