



Motor City Beemers

Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

April 2017

Volume 26, Number 4

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 April 8, 2017

Following Meeting: May 13, 2017

Web site: MCBeemers.org

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Greetings Beemers! IT'S APRIL, time to ride!!! Maybe with some heated gear and possibly some rain gear too, but the temps are starting to get better and the salt is mostly washed away. Have you performed your bike inspection yet, now is a good time.

We have several events planned this year starting with a trip to Rocky's in Burton, MI (Flint) after the meeting on the 8th of April. We will stop at Puzzlers Pub for lunch on the way up to Rocky's. For those of you that don't know, Rocky's is an all things outdoors store. The part that I like best is the vintage motorcycles up on display on top of some of the product racks.

Then in May, the 20th Betty has planned a baseball game run up to Traverse City, to see the semi-pro team the Beach Bums. We are looking to reserve a suite for the game and then stay the night in the area then come home on the 21st. A few of us have room reservations at the Kingsley Motel in Kingsley, MI which is only a few miles from the ballpark. Not sure how many rooms they have left.

Sometime in May, the dealership will be holding their Open House, I would like to have a table set up for a membership drive. Depending on which weekend is chosen, I may be asking for some help manning the table.

In June we have the picnic, each year it is getting harder to reserve the pavilion at the Ft. Gratiot county park north of Port Huron. This year the picnic will be June 10th instead of the day of the meeting at the dealership. Maybe we will have a meeting at the picnic.

The 50/50's have been working out pretty well. At the last meeting, Ives won the 50/50 to help pay for his move to Arizona coming up later in the month. Well maybe it will pay for a couple cups of coffee. Ives you will be missed. For those wondering what will happen to the website, we are in the process of rebuilding it, more at the meeting.

The calendar is up on the wall at the dealership so you can see what members are up to and where they are going. If you have a location planned and want to share, go ahead and add it to the calendar. I am trying to make sure the Wednesday night dinners are up for each month as Betty gets them scheduled. If you have not been to a Wednesday night dinner, Betty chooses a restaurant (different one each week), we arrive around 6:20 to 6:30 pm sometimes earlier, sometimes later. We generally order between 6:30 and 6:45. We should be able to start riding to dinner rather than driving. These are just good times with good people and good food, what more could you ask for?

We have the Facebook page that is a great way to keep up with members and what members find out there on the internet, motorcycle related usually. Please check it out if you Facebook.

July could be a busy month, the 4th is a Tuesday this year with the BMW Riders Association Rally the 6-9th of July up in Petoskey, MI. Lots of pretty riding in that area. Lodging in the area is starting to fill up, so if you are going and not camping you should get your reservations in now. If you are camping, part of the registration is to allow camping on sight of the fairgrounds. As of now, I am planning on attending and camping.

The following weekend, 13-16th July is the BMW Motorcycle Owners Association rally out in Salt Lake City, UT. Some of our members are planning on going to the RA rally then head out to the MOA rally, so if you are interested, that is always an option too.

For those of you that are allergic to the cold weather, it is just about time to start packing to come back up to enjoy the wonders of spring, summer, and fall in Michigan. Looking forward to seeing you all again.

Well, that is about it for this month, see you on two wheels SOON!

Patrick Kelley
President, MC Beemers.

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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

<http://mcbeemers.org>

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Most months, I have to think about what to talk about here. This month, not so much.

Ives Potrafka, after running the MCBeezers website for quite some time, is moving to Arizona...and so I am now going to be taking over. Ives ran it from a little corner of a server he already had; I'll be doing much the same from a little corner of a web server I already have.

When taking over from someone else, especially someone who has done a good job, there are two usual plans of action: 1) keep things as they are. 2) Do something different. In this case, I'm going to do things a little different.

A website can be both an advertising tool and a resource.

I want to help tip it more towards being a resource for the members of the MCBeezers...and this means making it "mobile friendly" – since much of the time when we might need info on it, we might be on the road.

You can see the new website at <https://mcbeemers.org>

A few things I want to point out – for members, the most interesting links are going to be across the top of the page. The Newsletter link has all the newsletters Ives had on his website, but if we could find older newsletters, I'd LOVE to put them up, too – the ones from before 2003 are not online currently. I know at least SOME of the older newsletters DO exist in electronic form still, if you were once a newsletter editor and have old copies, I'd love to have them. If you have hard copies, and that's all we got, I'd like to scan them. You will notice I'm also listing the officers of those years to credit those who have participated in the running of the club.

The activities page is hopefully going to become our PRIMARY source for info about what is going on in the club, in the area, and BMW activities. I'm writing some scripts that will allow me to very easily update this section.

There are some things "missing". So far, I'm resisting putting a members-only area of the website, on the grounds that these days, everyone has enough passwords to remember, and as a bit of a security nut, I don't like shared group passwords. At this point, my plan is to keep any "members only" data on Facebook. IF there's reason to change this, I certainly can (one line config, one file, done), but if I can do the needed task through something other than yet another password, I'm going to.

Speaking of Facebook...if you aren't a member of the Facebook MCBeezers private group, please send me an e-mail (nick@holland-consulting.net) with the e-mail address you used to register with Facebook, and we'll send you an invite (any of the officers of the club can do this, too)

And back to a topic of last month – remember, you, as members of the Motor City Beemers are our primary tool to recruit new members. So ... how many people have you recruited to join MCBeezers?

Nick.

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!

The most up-to-date events list should be here: <https://mcbeemers.org/activities/index.html> Bookmark this

Date	Event
4/8/2017	MCBeemers Meeting. Lunch at Puzzler's Pub, then Rocky's in Burton, MI
5/13/2017	MCBeemers Meeting. Lunch at Metzger German restaurant 305 N Zeeb Rd. Ann Arbor, MI
5/20/2017	Betty's Beach Bum Baseball Bash in Traverse City, MI
6/10/2017	MCBeemers sorta-meeting/Picnic at Fort Gratiot County Park North of Port Huron. Meet at 11:00am. Bring a dish to pass. Steaks, chicken, or porkchop provided by the club.
6/24/2017	Beemer Blast -- Sunrise over Lake Huron, Sunset over Lake Michigan
7/8/2017	MCBeemers Meeting. Lunch TBD
8/11-13/2017	Daniel Boone Rally in Boone, NC
8/12/2017	MCB Meeting, lunch ride to Zukey Lake Tavern, Pinkney, MI
8/18-20/2017	St. Ignace run
8/26/2017	3rd Annual Observation Run
9/9/2017	Meeting, Lunch ride to Dorsey House (M136)
9/16/2017	MCBeemers Frankenmuth Chicken Dinner ride, overnight at Port Austin
10/14/2017	MCBeemers meeting, lunch ride to Anita's in Marine City
11/11/2017	MCBeemers Meeting, lunch at Great Baraboo
12/9/2017	MCBeemers Meeting. Lunch at Ham's

Wednesday Dinner Gatherings

The Wednesday dinners are a long-time, though less formal, tradition with the MCBeemers... we get together and eat, and talk about riding and eating! 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!

April 5	Juan Miguel's	21342 Hall Rd Clinton Township, MI 48038 586.783.9751
April 12	Bath City Bistro	75 Macomb Place Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 586.469.0918
April 19	Waves	24223 Jefferson Ave St Clair Shores, MI 48080 586.773.327
April 26	La Saj	13776 Southcove Dr. Sterling Heights, MI 48313 586.566.6600
May 3	Penny Black Grill & Tap	124 W 4th St Rochester, Mi 48307 248.841.1522

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



Check book balance for the end of Mar:	\$2368.07
Check book balance for the end of Feb:	\$2298.07
Balance end of Sep:	\$2144.77
Balance end of Dec:	\$2681.77
PayPal balance for the end of Mar:	\$618.78
PayPal balance for the end of Feb:	\$573.78

The deposit of \$70.00 on 3/27/17 and \$45.00 into PayPal was:

- \$15.00 received 2/27 from Michael E by PayPal for 2017 Membership.
- \$15.00 received 3/7 from Steve P by PayPal for 2017 Membership.
- \$25.00 received 3/11 from Gary & Mary V by check for 2017 Membership.

- \$25.00 received 3/11 from Rhys & Jill B by cash for 2017 Membership.
- \$20.00 received 3/11 from 50/50 at club meeting when Ives P won.
- \$15.00 received 3/20 from John J by PayPal for 2017 Membership.

Repeat Information about verification of your payments.

When you give me cash at a club meeting or Wednesday dinner, please watch me make a note on the master membership list that you paid and what for. I keep all those master lists indefinitely, but I reprint a new one every few months.

When you pay using PayPal (please indicate sending money to 'family/friend' so the club has no fee to pay), I will almost immediately receive a notice from PayPal and will send you an E-mail to confirm. When you write me a check, you'll have verification when it gets deposited.

When your bank/CU sends me a check (through their "Bill Pay"), you will receive an E-mail from me when it arrives in my mail and a little later when it gets deposited.

For all payments I receive between the 27th of each month, you can also verify your payments in the next Treasurer's Report which I send to Nick on the 27th.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS for 2017

With the sale of two bikes by the Dealership, we gained two members this past month. Active membership now stands at 56 for 2017. I ask all new members to send Nick introductions to who they are – with pictures - so we can get to know them quickly. When you see a write up in a Newsletter make the effort to welcome them and introduce yourself to them.

All renewal dues for 2017 should be paid by the end of January 2017, but we have no penalty for late renewals. We just want you back. The BEST (and cheapest) way to pay any dues, reservations, etc. to the club is to use your Bank/CU "Bill Pay" service – at no cost to you.

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. 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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"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