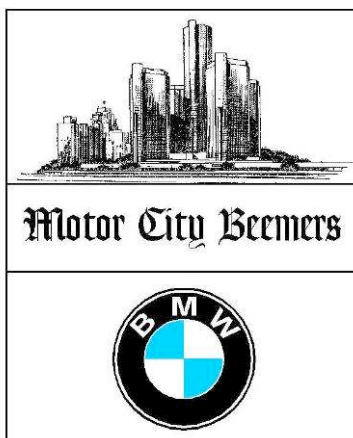




Motor City Beemers



Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

November 2007

Volume 15, Number 11

Next Meeting; Saturday November 3, 2007 @BMW of Detroit

Web site: www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers

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Treasurer – Sharon Saarinen-sssaarinen@peoplepc.com

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THE PREZ SEZ

Well it is Sunday and I just finished all the chores I didn't do on Saturday when the club ride took place. What a great day and a great ride. Congratulations to Jim Mick. The ride was great, the food was good, and the hospitality at the Mick home superb. 17 riders and 22 people in all – our biggest ride this year.

We rode to first Peck, Michigan for all the Walleye you can eat. I am told it was great. Not being a big fish eater, I went with the lasagna which was very good. We then took a little jaunt to the waters edge and a few of our group strolled out on the peer. Then on down the road to a DQ for ice cream - no ride is really complete without ice cream. Finally we arrived at the Mick home and accessory shop.

Mick-O-Pegs, invented by Jim out of necessity a few years ago has turned into a small business. During the ride I was behind Jim and noticed he had some unusual rider pegs. The pegs are spring loaded and allow the rider to straighten out his legs without just dangling them above the highway. So, when we arrived I had to see just how they work. Long story short, before I left the K1200LT now has Mick-O-Pegs installed and I fully tested them on the trip home. WOW.... These rider pegs provide and vary comfortable position and allow the rider to straighten out the legs. Jim has developed a system that allowed me to keep my J-Pegs as well. Those of you that do any distant riding know that more rider positions equal more miles in the saddle, and less aches and pains when you stop riding. I would strongly recommend these to any one who owns a K1200LT, or a Honda Goldwing. Jim also told us he has a few

prototypes out there on an 1100 and 1150 RT. You can learn more by checking Jim web site out at www.ridingiswonderful.com.

Hope to see you all at the November meeting and remember, RIDE SAFE!

Ives R. Potrafka - President - MC Beemers

OPEN HOUSE AT THE BEEMERSHIP SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2007

Come on down to the dealership for the Open House at the Beemership Saturday, October 27, 2007. The doors will open 10:00AM and the party will go 'til 4PM. There will be food, beverages, and hourly raffle for door prizes. Several Marcie tank bags will be given away to the lucky ticket holders. They've just received the new Rainier motorcycle jackets from First Gear and have added the Scorpion line of motorcycle helmets. Come on in and enjoy the food and camaraderie.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AT NOVEMBER MEETING & ELECTIONS IN DECEMBER

We will be accepting nominations for club officers at the November meeting. Elections will be held at the December meeting.

Officer positions include:

President: Chair club meetings, call officers meeting, arrange for various topics for club Meetings, and write PREZ SEZ.

Vice President: bring donuts or arrange for donuts, fill in for president, and help organize events at upcoming meetings

Treasurer: Collect dues, 50/50 proceeds, pay bills, maintain Excel spread sheet of income/expenses, maintain list of current and past members, and making sure the dealership and web-site have up to date membership applications.

Volunteers are also needed to:

Ride captains: Every month we need people to pick a lunch destination and leading the ride.

Maps or written directions in case the group needs to be split up or someone gets lost.

Organize annual trip to Frankenmuth (June): Get head count of attendees, make reservation.

Organize club picnic at Stoney Creek (September): Reserve shelter, arrange for steaks, chips, cole slaw, charcoal, chef to cook steaks and eating utensils.

Edit and publish monthly newsletter: Edit existing newsletter format adding PRES SEZ, articles from members/dealership, maintaining For Sale section, and getting paper copies of newsletter to dealership.

We would like to see some new members step up and help guide the club. We welcome new ideas for everything from new ride destinations to how we run the meetings. Have you been on a ride you think the rest of us would find interesting or just fun? Send an article to the newsletter editor. It will help people come up with new destinations and widen their horizons.

2008 DUES DUE

Well it's that time of year again. Please pay your dues as early as possible so we know what kind of a budget we have for the coming year. Please remember that the dues cover the majority of the expenses such as donuts, Frankenmuth chicken dinner, and the annual picnic at Stony Creek in September. Dues remain at \$10 for member and \$5 associate member (wife, husband, or significant other). Please give your renewal form and payment to Sharon Saarinen at the next meeting or mail your renewal application to:

Sharon Saarinen
6094 Whispering Oak Drive
Washington, Michigan 48094

OCTOBER 6th 2nd ANNUAL RIDE TO PECK MICHIGAN

This trip was lead by Jim Mick. He did an excellent job of planning and organizing the ride. He had reservations at the restaurant. Once we were there he even made sure the restaurant had sufficient comfortable seating for the whole group. As Ives told you earlier there were 19 motorcycles and 22 total participants. We had some good additions to the ride. Three new members joined us for this lunch ride. The group headed north up Van Dyke merging onto M-53 expressway. At 32 Mile we turned east to Armada Road, up into Armada, Memphis and north to Peck on M-19. Peck is a small town just north of Yale. Yale is the home of the world famous Bologna Festival in July each year. The ride was great. It is getting late in the riding season for some but was mighty hot for being fall. The people we met in Peck were very friendly and helpful. We parked in a gravel parking lot of a local business and ran into the owner in the restaurant. He knew we parked there and said he didn't mind in the least. In fact, he struck up a conversation with us as we waited to pay our bills. He said, "come on up to Peck, you'll always find a friendly face". The restaurant set us up at three tables, all next to each other. Everyone I talked with said the food was good and in sufficient quantities. I found the Walleye and salad bar to be very good. When I paid my bill I was pleasantly surprised at the low cost. The restaurant moved into town and added a soup and salad bar since our last visit.



The gang waiting to go for ice cream at the marina in Lexington

We headed east out of town to ride over to Lexington to walk off some of the dinner and to make room for ice cream. A group of 4 motorcyclists on Japanese crotch rockers tagged along until we got to Lexington. We parked in the marina parking lot down by the water. After walking around the marina for a while we found out the ice cream store was closed. Betty

Ward ran into the Cliff's wife and family at the marina. I am talking about Cliff that owns the Beemership. We posed for the mandatory group shot.

We headed south on M25 and stopped at Dairy Queen to fill that need for ice cream. After that I lost track of the route. They were all secondary roads and we followed the river through St Clair and Algonac. Some people dropped off and the group shrunk a little. Those of us that were left went to Jim Mick's house and got to his shop where he assembles the Mick-O-Pegs. He explained that when he was riding long distance with his Gold Wing he had a need to hang his legs down to help cover more miles between breaks. The design was born out of necessity. He drew up a design and asked his brother who has a machine shop to make the parts. After making a set for his bike he made some improvements and was going to go to a Gold Wing rally and asked his brother to make the parts for 25 sets. While at the rally he had a table set up for his book. People saw the Mick-O-Pegs on his bike and would end up asking where he got them. He sold out almost immediately. The next rally he did the same and sold out in about the same time. He then started making them and marketing them on the internet and word of mouth. Later his son Jason saw the 1200LT and fell in love with it. Jim created a design for that bike also. Ives was impressed enough to get a set on his bike and likes them. When you are comfortable...RIDINGISWONDERFUL

Web Site: www.ridingiswonderful.com/

MICHIGAN/CANADA - A QUICK TRIP - DON WEINAND AND GEORGE YOSIN

Don Weinand and I met at Tony's at the Birch Run exit at 10:15 AM for a ride to the Upper Peninsula and Canada near the SOO. Don arrived and was just seated when I rode into the parking lot. Tony's is known for their huge breakfasts and the almost one pound of bacon served when you order anything with bacon. A huge quantity of bacon is deep fried every morning to start the cooking process. Then as orders are placed they fry the partially cooked bacon to complete the cooking process.

The day started out a little rough when we both ordered corned beef hash, bacon, and eggs. Don's were fried, mine poached. The order arrived and all the eggs were fried...in fact over fried. I pointed out that my eggs were supposed to be poached. The waitress sniped back, "They are poached" and then walked away. The bacon proved to be almost tasteless, the corned beef was good and the quantities excessive. The waitress asked if I wanted a box to take the remains of breakfast with me. I decided to leave well enough alone.

We rode north up I-75 then exited onto 10 west, 129 north and then merged back onto I-75 just south of Grayling. Following this route we avoided the construction zones and the heavier traffic on I-75. Crossing the Mackinaw Bridge, we continued north on I-75 to the border crossing into SOO, Canada. We followed 17 east along the Saint Mary's River and then Lake Huron. We stopped for dinner and spent the night at a Bavarian themed motel. We stopped at this same restaurant on an earlier trip to Vermont. The food and accommodations were good.

It was overcast and misting when we left for Chapleau. We stopped for breakfast near Iron Bridge on 17. Once we turned onto 129 north there weren't any businesses to speak of. When going north on 129 from Iron Bridge you need to have full stomachs and gas tanks. The bladder is no problem as there usually is no one on the road to take offense. The road between Iron Bridge and Chapleau is constantly going up/down or turning right/left or a combination of all of the above. It is a great riding road but you have to be careful about deer,

bears, and moose that are standing in the road around the next curve or over the next hill. This is especially true at dusk and when it is dark. We noted that the road is just as long in the light as it felt in the dark the last time we covered this stretch of road. We stopped in Chapleau for lunch and fuel. My bike took on approximately half a tank of regular and spent over \$20 for the fuel. However the soup was good. Chapleau has been a sportsman's destination for a long time now. Chapleau is known for hunting, snowmobiling, fishing, and hiking.

Leaving Chapleau we headed west on 101 towards Wawa. When we got to the lake we stopped at a rest area and walked down to the beach. There were a bunch of what appeared to be high school students yelling, "Did you see the bear? Did you see the bear?" We didn't see any bear and I went back to my bike to get my camera and found the bear looking through the dumpsters for food. Unfortunately the bear stood between me and my camera. As luck would have it, when I could finally get to my bike and camera the bear was gone.

We rode south on 17 to the Canadian SOO and crossed back over the border. Don and I split up when we got to 28 west just south of Sault St. Marie in the Upper Peninsula. Don needed to get home to take care of some things and I headed west to Newberry to visit some friends and see what the fire damage looked like.

Off of 28 I turned north on 123 into Newberry and then onto 37 west and north to Pine Stump Junction. I stopped at a bar for lunch and was talking to a man that said one of the times the police came through that area to evacuate people they stopped by his house and told him to get out. He told the police he was still trying to find his last cat. The policeman said, "Forget about the damn cat the fire is almost here!" A man who was on the fire fighting team told me that they covered the homes in the area with fire fighting foam, fire suppressing powder, and in some cases water, coming back multiple times to ensure no homes were lost. They wanted a 100% save rate. Only one small cabin way back in the woods was lost. From there I headed home. It was amazing to see how many small businesses and motels were closed down and up for sale.

RIDE AROUND LAKE SUPERIOR – GEORGE YOSIN

The last week in September I rode around Lake Superior. I rode north up I-75, west on M-10, north on 129, and then back onto I-75 to the Mackinaw Bridge. The weather was cloudy but dry as I followed I-75 north up to M-28 and turned west towards Marquette. It was raining as I rode west on M-28 through the Upper Peninsula and stopped at Best Western in Ishpeming for the night. As I was unloading my bike another motorcyclist on a Harley came out of the motel. He was yelling something about they were too high priced and he was going to hit the road. He wanted to warn me that he thought the prices were too high and I should hit the road. I took the room, it was late, dark, raining, and I was tired.

I make it a point on my travels to talk to the locals. There are a million stories to be told and a lot of these people have lived interesting lives. You really get to know the local color. On my way through the UP I had an old guy sitting on his front porch wave as I went by. I turned around and stopped at the end of his drive. He had a concerned look on his face. I opened my face plate and yelled, "Do you have an extra beer?" He paused and then held up a finger trying to say wait a minute. He came back out of the house with 2 beers. I joined him on his porch and we talked a while. Turns out he is a lonely old man and enjoyed the company. He told me a lot on interesting things about the area and life at this local.

The next morning I followed M28 to US-2 and caught 53 just outside Duluth, Minnesota. I followed that into town and stopped at Aerostitch. It is worth the time to just wander around and see all of the different accessories. There I ran into a cop from Minnesota who asked how I liked my R1200RT. I told him it was the best bike I ever owned. He said he liked his and asked how many miles I had on my bike. I told him 14,000 miles. He told me he has 38,000 miles in less than 2 years and did a few iron butt rides. He and a few friends just got back from a quick trip to Alaska.

I headed north up 61 and followed the road along Lake Superior through Grand Marais and found zero traffic. I spent the night near Grand Marais and woke up to 48 degree Fahrenheit temperatures. As I rode north following the lake it started to rain. Someone in Grand Marais told me about Gun Flint Trail. I took the road west from the lake and rode over the ridge that runs parallel to the shore line. East of the ridge were primarily pine trees. West of the ridge were the deciduous trees. The colors were at about 20%. If it hadn't been raining I would have taken another day and ridden further west, it was pretty land. But the roads were slippery and there was loose gravel adding to the slipperiness. I turned back to the lake. I stopped for breakfast in a neat German restaurant off the water. In Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada the road changed to number 11/17 and I continued to follow it into what appeared to be wilderness. As I commented earlier about the number of small businesses that were closed in the UP of Michigan this trend continued into Minnesota and Canada. There weren't that many places along this stretch of road in Canada to begin with. I stopped where ever I could find gas just to make sure I would have enough to get to the next open gas station.

Later in the day it was still raining when I stopped at a rest area to adjust my seat height. There was a swale for water run off and I misjudged the depth and fell with the bike as I tried to cross it. I wasn't going fast, just dropping down into the swale and the slipperiness that combined to bring me down. When I picked up the bike I saw my left foot peg was broken off. I rode on into Canada dangling my left leg or hooking my heel on what was left of the peg. I stopped at White River and spent the night.

The next morning I hit the road and stopped for breakfast in Wawa. The weather broke at Wawa. It was dry until I hit the first traffic light coming back into SOO, Canada. Then it started to rain hard. I crossed over the bridge separating Canada and the United States. From Sault St. Marie I rode south on Old Mackinaw Trail. It parallels I-75. I highly recommend this road if you aren't in a hurry. There was zero traffic and the road surface was in great condition. It continued to rain heavily through the UP. After crossing the bridge and riding through Mackinaw City the rain stopped and it heated up to 85 degree Fahrenheit. The trip home was hot and dry.

OCTOBER 20-21 THE BLAIR COLOR TOUR

This year we are heading up to the same approximate area but the Blair cabin is not available due to construction. It appears we are going back to the Leggs Inn restaurant. This is a very colorful and interesting restaurant. The group is staying at the Apple Tree Inn, in Cheboygan. So far we have 4 riders going to brave the last long ride up north. If you are interested in a motorcycle tour, check this out. The color has varied somewhat from year to year but it has always been pretty. Ken Mitchell researched the motels. The people that are going are sharing motel rooms to share the expense. I recommend reserving a room before going on the ride. The Inn was saying that this is the height of their color tour weekend. This is a great ride, with a great group of riders. I had great fun both years I went and you get to see another

side to your fellow club members. The group is meeting in the first rest area just north Flint on the north bound side of I-75 at 9:00am Saturday, October 20th. They will ride a few hours and stop for breakfast before continuing on to Cheboygan.

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.

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

NEWS FROM THE BEEMERSHIP

We are having a year end blow out sale. We need to clear out the '07 bikes to make room for the '08's. Also check out our '07 GS Back country adventure tour pack special, visit the store for more details. Our 2007 apparel line is also on clearance sale. We added the Scorpion line of motorcycle helmets and the new Rainier motorcycle jackets from First Gear. Come on in to the dealership and check it all out!

Keep an eye open for details on the upcoming Christmas Party at the dealership. We will make more details available as the date approaches

Alaska Tour, July 14th -August 15th, 2008

Come in and Talk to Peter "Rockman" Payton Adventure Tour Specialist about our Alaskan Tour scheduled for July 14th thru Aug 15th summer 2008. Some highlights of this tour include: (1) MOA Rally in Gillette, Wyoming, (2) Dawson City summer music festival, (3) Halibut fishing in Valdez, Alaska with Fish Central, (4) Touring Alaska with Alaska Rider Tours, 7 days in Alaska, (5) Explore the world famous AL-CAN highway (6) Top of the world highway, (7) Kenai River, (8) The Salty Dog Saloon, Moose nuggets (9) wildlife viewing, (10) Vancouver Island, BC, (11) Seattle, Jackson Hole, (12) The Bad Lands...and more. The trip will be fully supported with a guide, mechanic, and a support rig for minor adjustments on the fly. Come in and see us for more details and trip registration. (\$1100 non refundable deposit due at registration). The Cost ~ \$8150 per person, includes registration for MOA Rally in Gillette, Wyoming, nightly hotel stay, most dinners, daily bag lunch on the fly, fishing trip, 2 banquet style meals, tour t-shirts, sticker ...and more.

This tour is limited to 20 people. We are now accepting deposits (\$1,000 non-refundable) for the remaining positions. Hurry in and reserve you space today.

Check out our Tour/trip board

Stop by the shop and talk with Peter "Rockman" Payton. Join us every Wednesday evening for a ride to a selected restaurant. We leave the Beemership at 6PM and ride to different supper clubs or restaurants in the greater Detroit area. This is a good opportunity for you to

get your significant other to join you on the bike for an evening out. Contact Peter at 586-274-4000 for more details and the restaurant selected for that evenings ride. Come join us as we check out the sites and bites.

We want to know what your summer tours were like~ we are putting together an in house display of BMW Tours ~ so if you have any pictures and a brief story to tell bring them in and we will add it to our Adventure Wall.

Watch the web page for our newly expanding apparel line coming soon!!!

Peter "Rockman" Payton
Adventure Tour Specialist
Marketing

MONTHLY CLUB RIDES

We are looking for ideas of where to go and what to do after our winter meetings. Check the web site for planned rides.

OTHER RIDING OPPORTUNITIES

Third Sunday of every month – Phil Aylesworth is trying to get a Windsor Beemer group started in Canada. For details go to the group's website: <http://SunParlourBeemers.org>

FOR SALE:

For sale section of the newsletter is for all club members to post ANYTHING (legal) that they have for sale or wanted. You don't have to limit you postings to motorcycle items. The one thing that we ask is that once your items sells, please notify us so we can remove it from the newsletter. Please let John Saarinen know if they need to be removed.

PAINT PROTECTION FILM: Protect your bike's paint from stone chips and damage from your tank bag. Kelly, 248.312.0968 or graphixwerk.com

K1200LT Champagne, 26K miles, 6CD changer, and Bailey windshield, MC BMW maintained, asking \$8900. Bill Meier 810-824-7382 or meierbj2@comcast.net

HIGHWAY PEGS FOR LT's: Gives you optional places to put your feet for those long trips. Note that this is a new web site address: www.ridingiswonderful.com Jim & Jason Mick