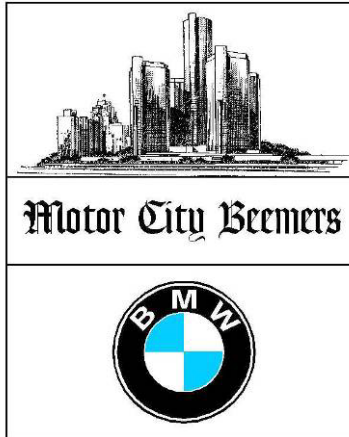




Motor City Beemers



Club Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

January 2008

Volume 16, Number 01

Next Meeting; Saturday, January 5, 2008 @BMW of Detroit

Web site: www.bizblvd.net/mcbeemers

President – John Saarinen - Jesaarinen@aol.com
Vice President –Peter Payton - rockmanpete@yahoo.com
2nd Vice President - George Yosin -
3rd Vice President – Ken Mitchell, kpsacone@comcast.net
Treasurer – Sharon Saarinen- sssaarinen@peoplepc.com
Newsletter Editor – John Hooper, jvhooper@comcast.net

THE PREZ SEZ

I hope the Christmas season brought you joy, happiness, and the opportunity to be with family and friends. This season provides the opportunity to look back and reflect on our lives. We've been blessed with family, friends, and great BMW motorcycles! What more could we ask for?

The officers met at the open house and discussed what we can do to make the meetings more informative and try to provide a service. Ives planted the idea by inviting Helen 2 Wheels to a meeting in each of the last 2 years. We want to try and expand on that idea. Jim Mick who is a Motorcycle Safety Instructor will do a presentation at our January meeting. He will tell you what motorcycle safety classes are all about and what you can expect when you take one. He will give you some insight to the advantages of taking such a course. The February and March meetings will have presentations by Helen 2 Wheels on long distance camping trips and a representative from REI on the latest available camping equipment. We are trying to put together presentations on motorcycle communications and GPS systems. We would like to hear from the members about other subjects they would like see at our future meetings. These presentations will be about 30 to 45 minutes long and will be shorter as we approach the riding season so as not to interfere with the lunch rides.

Many new people have stepped forward to help things get done. Ken Mitchell provided an article for the newsletter and has taken on the responsibility of finding volunteers to lead lunch

rides to their favorite restaurants. Jerry Pokorski provided last months what we should be thankful for and is taking the lead on organizing the Frankenmuth chicken dinner ride. George Yosin is taking the lead for the picnic in September. My wife Sharon is staying on as the treasurer. John Hooper has agreed to be our newsletter editor. Pete Payton and I will try to arrange informative talks to help with your motorcycling experiences. Please support your fellow club members by providing articles for our newsletter, volunteering to lead a ride, suggesting programs/speakers for upcoming meetings, providing support for the picnic/Frankenmuth, and coming to the meetings. Help move the club in directions that make the club more mutually beneficial to all of us.

Thank you for your help,
John Saarinen - President,
MC Beemers

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE BEEMERSHIP SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2007

We had a good turn out at the Beemership. The food was excellent and the camaraderie was great. We met a lot of new people some of whom said they will come around and check the club out. They felt the members they met were friendly and outgoing. So many people brought food that there was a ton left over. If you did not make it, we hope to see you there next year!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

John Saarinen received the Presidents Helmet. Some one long ago decided they needed the biggest size helmet they could find in case the ego developed a fat head. All the previous presidents were in attendance and signed the helmet with gold paint. The mantle of authority (it looks more like the largest globe you have ever seen) was passed on to John, our new president. The officers are as follows:

John Saarinen – President
Peter Payton – Vice President
George Yosin – Second Vice President
Ken Mitchell – Third Vice President
Sharon Saarinen – Treasurer
John Hooper – Newsletter Editor

Please help support them and the club by volunteering and attending meetings.

CLUB ROSTER

Members have requested a club roster be published to allow them to contact people for possible rides. We would like feed back from the membership as to what information they would be willing to have published to other club members. This roster would be available to club members only. Please come to the January meeting to express your opinion. We could exclude anyone wishing to have their name or other information excluded.

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

"WHO'S THE NEWBIE?"

Meet John Hooper

Early years: 'Born and reared in central Georgia, before 8 years in the USAF as an Avionics Technician - until September, '68. Masters Degree from the University of Georgia in Trade and Industrial Education. Spent some time as a high school assistant principle, principle, and associate school superintendent, then 3 years at the Georgia Dept of Education. From there he became the Director of a Vocational College of about 500 full time students and another 1200 part time students. After "living hard" for 2 years with an inherited civil rights complaint, he found a new home with GM.

Career: He credits the Lord's care for 22 great years at GM where he got to lead the training effort in a Plant on the latest state of the art controls and processes. He and his family moved to MI in June '03. His wife, Mary Ann, oldest daughter (Jennifer) and her 4 children love it here. He was a contractor to GM through 2006.

Current Involvement: He lives in Shelby Township (south side of 21 Mile Road between Schoenherr and Hayes where he serves as President of the Homeowner's Association). He and his wife are active members of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church in Rochester. He is a member of the Men's Club and works in the Kitchen at the Baldwin Center Soup Kitchen in Pontiac on Mondays.

Riding Experiences: He is "new" again to riding. He rode small bikes in 2 previous lives: 1) While stationed in Japan with the USAF, '65-68. The roads and traffic in Tokyo were particularly good for bikes, but the maximum speed limit was 37 mph. 2) While attending the University of Georgia, his Honda 175 twin solved his parking problems and was fine for a 3 mile trip to campus. But was a killer on the highway at 60 mph. His neighbor and he had dreamed of riding bikes through the mountains and down the coast. His neighbor rode a blistering 100cc Honda! Needless to say, they never made a road trip, but they enjoyed dreaming.

He had always wanted a Goldwing. But then he went to the Beemership here in Warren with his youngest daughter to pick up the tag for a new BMW she and her husband purchased in the spring. He saw this used K1200LT, for what he foolishly thought was a give away price and found he could not live without it!!

Having always wanted to go on long rides on a bike that would not beat him up or tire him out, the LT is just the bike! This past summer has been a total re-learning experience for him. First, he could always man-handle the small bikes he rode in the past, but not this boy! You have to ride the LT!! You can't throw it around.

He has ridden about 4000 miles this summer and feels pretty confident on it. He still, on occasion, looks down when stopping and has been known to drop the bike in very embarrassing circumstances, like lunch at the French Laundry!! He is glad to report that he had not dropped it in quite some time until then. It just proves that he is still learning and there is a difference between manhandling a 175 bike and riding an 836 pound cruiser! Old habits are hard to brake!

His riding during the summer typically was to take a day, usually Tuesday, and ride the Thumb. By the time he returned home, he had racked up another 175 to 250 miles. Stopping to see the sites and take in the atmosphere was so much fun! He stopped at places he would never have stopped had he been in a car. The people are so friendly! The guess is they see some old geezer on a bike and take pity on him.

He did take the Riders Edge Class in June at the Harley Dealer in Port Huron and looks forward to taking a re-fresher class next spring, the Performance Based Course.

He has visions of spending a week or so in the UP next summer riding and camping in their pop-up. His wife has learned to tolerate him and his bike, but so far has not had any desire to ride with him. Maybe she will change next year, but don't bet on it!

Joyfully,
Jim Mick

The International Motorcycle Show, Novi, MI January 4 – 6, 2008

Where: Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi

When: Friday, January 4, 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Saturday, January 5, 9:30 AM – 8:00 PM

Sunday, January 6, 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Admission: \$13.00 Adult, \$6.00 Children 6 – 11, 5 and under Free
(cash only at the Ticket booth)

Parking: \$5.00 per day

Discount: Stop by the Beemership and pick up free \$2.00 Off Coupons

For more information, go to motorcycleshow.com and click on Novi, MI.

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 and do your Christmas shopping early we have a lot of new stocking stuffer ideas in stock. Come on in and and check it all out!

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.

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

2008 RIDE SCHEDULE/CAPTAINS

Please volunteer to be a ride captain and plan a ride for one of our monthly meetings. I am certain we would all like to join you on one of your favorite rides. It's not a difficult job and I am sure we can come up with a ride leader for anyone that is uncomfortable in that role. Don't forget to pick out a lunch spot! The 2008 meeting dates (first Saturday of the month) are: Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7, Jul 5, Aug 2, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, and Dec 6.

Ken Mitchell (kpsacone@comcast.net; 248-3940633) has "volunteered" to be our ride coordinator for the year. Let him know which month you will plan/lead a ride for the group.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TRAINING

The Center for Continuing Education, Macomb Community College, has published their schedule of safety

Learn to ride safely, master advanced riding skills, Become a coach/instructor, provide accident assistance, perform cycle maintenance or plan a trip.

The Motorcycle Rider and Safety Education Program is conducted with Michigan Safety Education funds from a grant administered by the Michigan Secretary of State.

Go to www.macomb.edu/cce and click on Motorcycle Safety to view schedules and other information.

For more information email motorcycle@macomb.edu.

Many Safety Experts advise Motorcyclists to take a refresher course each Spring to sharpen and re-focus their skills. If you are interested in attending a class, the best advice is to register now. All classes have a \$25 fee and fill up very fast!!

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>

WEST VIRGINIA. ANYONE?

A few people have been kicking around the idea of a week long ride to West Virginia this Spring. I have heard from a number of folk that the riding there is great. How does the 2nd or

3rd week of May sound? Let Ken (kpsacone@comcast.net; 248-3940633) know if you have any interest.

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 Hooper 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