



Motor City Beemers

Newsletter



BMW MOA Club #231

BMW RA Club #209

February 2021

Volume 30, Number 2

Meetings are...er...were held the **SECOND** Saturday of the month

We welcome owners and fans of all bikes

“An eating club with a motorcycle problem!”

Our *next* meeting is: ... **On Line February 13**

Following meeting is: **To Be Determined.. Stay Tuned.**

Web site: <https://MCBeemers.org>

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Treasurer
Newsletter Editor

Josh Grosse
Don McIntyre
Jeff Anderson
Jim Mick
Nick Holland

Josh @ jggimi.net

Jim @ RidingIsWonderful.com
nick @ holland-consulting.net

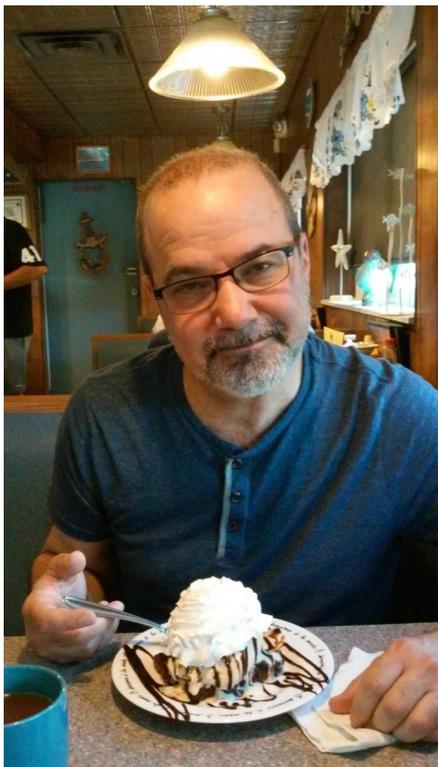
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Membership info: <https://mcbeemers.org/howdoijoin.html>

Activities: <https://mcbeemers.org/activities/>

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Happy February, everyone!

- Our new slate of officers were elected at the January on-line meeting. Jim and Nick were reelected as Treasurer and Communications Director, respectively. Don McIntyre was elected VP Events, Jeff Anderson was elected VP Rides, and I was elected President.
- At the same meeting, the unanimous consensus was to defer our Mid-Winter Banquet to next year.
- New: There is a new *Off The Beaten Path* riding competition, which will be *points-based* rather than a poker run. You'll be able to choose from more than 100 different destinations, and submit up to 10 photos to qualify for points. Please see the details published in this issue of the newsletter.
- Another on-line meeting is planned for Saturday, February 13, at 10:30am. We'll try using *Jitsi* again. Connect either with the **Jitsi Meet** smartphone app, or from a desktop/laptop browser at <https://meet.jit.si/> – and then enter our meeting name: **FebruaryMcbeemers**. I hope to see you there!

On the agenda:

- This year's OTBP competition.
- Considerations for our 2021 group rides. Planning to maintain social distance, while still having fun, when planning possible rides to discuss at our March planning meeting.
- Your winter bike projects, if any. And for our snowbirds who may joint the meeting – tell us how your “winter” riding season is progressing, so the rest of us can be properly jealous.

Until next month, if you have the opportunity to ride, have fun and stay safe!!

Stuff on the website

Main website: <https://mcbeemers.org>

Activities page: <https://mcbeemers.org/activities>

Newsletters, current and past: <https://mcbeemers.org/mcb-nl/>

Club pictures: <https://mcbeemers.org/pictures/index.html>

Club invite cards: <https://mcbeemers.org/mcb-nl/MCB-invites.pdf>

Membership info: <https://mcbeemers.org/howdoijoin.html>



For the first time in too long, we have got ourselves new officers! Thanks to Cathy B. and Paula E. for their services to our club, and staying on for an extra and difficult year.

Welcome to Don McIntyre as VP in charge of events, and Jeff Anderson as VP in charge of rides, and of course, Josh getting promoted to President. It's great to have some new blood in the leadership of the club!

Over the holidays, Paula heard from Mary V., she's getting by, it is tough, as you can imagine. She expressed interest in keeping up with our events and dinners.

I hope you have your Michigan State Park permit on your motorcycle plates! Josh has a new Off The Beaten Path contest, and this time, the person who works at it the hardest wins. One of you retirees is going to win this, I suspect.

Also related to business – see Jim's Treasurer's report. With all the oddity going on, a lot of us have not renewed for this year. I had thought I did, but after checking with Jim, found out I hadn't! Oops! Fixed!

I have little to say about motorcycles directly this month, it seems. I have had the chance to put some miles on my new-to-me small electric car. No regrets in buying it, but I'm now quite convinced that the demise of the internal combustion engine or even any mass change to electric vehicles (EV) is many years away. Sure, a lot of people may well be able to get an EV as ONE of their vehicles, but I doubt most people will be willing to put up with the issues as their ONLY vehicle. I did play with some numbers recently – my EV is about 650lbs heavier than the comparable gasoline vehicle. That is roughly 100 gallons of gas. Put that in the gas version of my car, it would be able to drive well over half-way across the United States without refilling, and it would take about 15 minutes to put all that fuel in it at any of the thousands of gas stations across the country. That 650lbs gets my EV 80 miles in good weather, and it takes longer to recharge than to drive. There will be improvements, but there is a HUGE amount to improve. EVs are a toy for those well enough off to have multiple cars. In my opinion.

However, there is a company currently promising a \$5000 electric *motorcycle* with a "range" of 80 miles and entirely highway capable (though reducing the 80 mile range quite a bit). It can fully recharge during part of a typical work-day from a conventional 110v outlet.. IF they deliver (and in the "revolutionary vehicle" world, promises are cheap and easy, delivery is rare, though this company has a track record), this could, I think, be a practical and fun commuter vehicle for many people, including myself.

Again...useless as an "only" motorcycle for the enthusiast, but a fun little run-about for those with a known path. Electric vehicle off-the-line-torque, with sufficient power to ride the freeway, and at the price point of a "toy", not a "primary vehicle", which is something I think most announced Electric Motorcycle manufacturers are missing big-time. We will see what happens here. Could be interesting.

Off The Beaten Path 2021 Riding Competition



1. Ride to as many Michigan State Parks as desired between April 1 and October 31, 2021. There are 110 Parks, Scenic Sites, and Recreation Areas which qualify as “Parks” per the Michigan DNR at their website: <https://www2.dnr.state.mi.us/parksandtrails/#list>. *State Campgrounds and Trails do not qualify for this competition.*
2. Up to 10 photos of a rider with bike or with gear at a recognizable landmark of a Michigan State Park – such as a sign – may qualify that rider for points at that park. Only 1 photo per park will qualify. Photos must be submitted to Nick Holland by December 31, 2021 for acceptance.
3. If starting from southeast Michigan, points will be awarded based on the *straight line distance* in miles between BMW Motorcycles of Detroit and each Park, using the Google Maps “Measure Distance” tool to determine the distance between the Dealership and each Park, rounded to the nearest mile. Multi-day trips to multiple Parks that start from southeast Michigan use the Dealership for all distance measurements.
 - *Example: Bald Mountain State Recreation Area: 7.47 miles. 7 points.*
 - *Example: Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park: 431.90 miles. 432 points*

Yes, you create a huge points advantage when you visit a series of distant parks in a long trip from home.
5. If starting from an “up north” location – such as from a bike moved by trailer or stored at a vacation home – use your starting location instead of the dealership to measure your distance. This provides a measure of fairness for out-of-town starting locations.
6. No cheatin’. Any dispute regarding rules or qualifying photos must be resolved through Josh, whose decision will be final.

Google Map’s “Measure Distance” tool is available from the smartphone app with a long press on a location, or with a right mouse click on the <https://maps.google.com> website.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick



If your name is not here, your membership has expired:

Jeff A, Cathy B, Brain & Sheila B, Tom C, Ron & Tanya C, Paula E, Josh G, Nick H, Mike & Sharon M, Don & Gail M, Jim & Jeri M, Norm O, Curtis U, Mary V

Check book balance for the end of January	\$2545.41
Check book balance for the end of December	\$2440.41
Balance one year ago	\$3245.55
Balance end of July	\$2749.55
Balance end of October	\$2335.41
PayPal balance for the end of January	\$212.37
PayPal balance for the end of December	\$212.37

Members for 2021 Membership is \$15.00 & Associate Member \$10.00 per calendar year prepaid for Picnic – Active member cost \$5. The club decided to not have a picnic in 2020. Since nobody asked for a refund, I have carried forward payments to our 2021 picnic.

- 12/30 Received \$15 from Tom C for renewal of membership.
- 1/7 Received \$15 from Jeff A for renewal of membership.
- 1/10 Received \$25 from Brian & Sheila B for renewal of membership.
- 1/15 Received \$25 from Nick H & Paula E for renewal of membership.
- 1/16 Received \$40 from Cathy B and Josh G for renewal of membership, & Frankenmuth.
- 1/20 Payment of \$15 to MOA for Club Charter posted.

You can still send payments for any club functions using Pay Pal to 'jim@ridingiswonderful.com'. If you have a Pay Pal account (rather than using a CC/DC) and call me a "friend", neither the club nor you pay a fee. But if you use Pay Pal and a CC/DC, the club does pay a fee.

ESPECIALLY WITH THE ISOLATION... A very good way to pay is to use your Bank/CU 'Bill Pay' option. If your bank/CU charges no fee, have them send payment(s) to Jim Mick, 56750 FAIRCHILD RD, MACOMB, MI 48042. Once you input any payee name and address into their Bill Pay system, subsequent payments only require you to input the amount (and date). Please indicate in their memo for what you are paying.

MOTOR CITY BEEMERS NAME TAGS

Motor City Beemer name tags are available for purchase at Highest Honor, Inc., located at 34711 Dequindre Road, Troy, Michigan 48083. The easiest way to get your ID tag is to send Jeff an e-mail at www.jeff@highesthonor.biz or call Jeff at 248-588-7845.