

Motor City Beemers

Newsletter



May 2022

Volume 31, Number 5

Meetings are held the **SECOND** Saturday of the month
at

BMW Motorcycles of Detroit

1301 S Rochester Rd - Suite B
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 402-4010

We welcome owners and fans of all bikes

“We got donuts!”

Our *next* meeting is: ... **May 14, 2022 10:30am**

Following meeting is: ... **June 11, 2022 10:30am**

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
dfmcintyre129 @ gmail . com
2andersons1989 @ gmail . com
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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Dissolution Notice

We have no volunteers for new officers. These are: President, VP Events, VP Rides, Communications Director, and Treasurer

The club cannot operate without a Treasurer, and Jim is stepping down. Nick needs to step down also. And, Josh is not always able to preside at meetings, as his job often interferes with this primary duty.

The lack of officers was discussed this during the April meeting, and one of the options that arose was the possibility of transitioning to a club that does not manage funds and does not require formal office holders, operating as an unfunded “pay-as-you-go” social group.

An unfunded group would not collect dues, would not run 50/50 raffles, and would not require By-Laws. People could meet, go on rides, get together for dinners, and continue hosting annual events... but each participant would be directly responsible for all of their own costs.

The current officers met the week after the April meeting to discuss further. We believe there are three possible options:

- A) **Continuing:** to choose this option the club must have volunteers to be the new club Treasurer and new club President. Jim trains the new Treasurer and steps down. Josh takes over Communications so that Nick can step down, and the club continues operating.
- B) **A quick dissolution:** per Article 10 of the By-Laws, the club dissolves as soon as reasonably practical, donating all its funds to a charity. After the club’s final meeting, the members could then decide to continue operating as an unfunded social organization.
- C) **A slow dissolution:** per Article 7 of the By-Laws, the club ceases collecting any dues after the 2022 season, and also ceases collecting funds through 50/50 raffles. Jim (or a volunteer) continues on as Treasurer until the remaining funds would be insufficient to cover an annual event, at which point we dissolve the club per Article 10 as above. After the club’s final meeting, the members could then decide to continue operating as an unfunded social organization.

These options will be the first item on the agenda at the May 14 meeting. Your opinion would be very welcome, as would your volunteering to take on an officer’s duties so that we can continue with option A. The time spent on duties outside of meetings and events averages 12 hours per year per officer.

Come to the May meeting, or reach out to us via the club’s mailing list or Facebook Group.

If necessary, the club will decide between options B and C via a vote of active members to be held either by proxy or in person at the June meeting, with any dissolution to follow after a final meeting is called by the officers per Article 10 of the By-Laws.

From your officers: Jeff, Don, Nick, Jim, and Josh.

Posted to the members via the Newsletter, the mailing list, and the Facebook Group.

It's May. During April we had warm days, snow days, sunny days, and dreary days. Even on the warm days I needed a bit of heated gear to gain some comfort on early morning commutes.

The April meeting had an agenda item that has been repeating on the agenda for months: Officers.

- Without officers – in particular the office of Treasurer – we cannot govern your money: Your dues. Your deposits for annual events. Your 50/50 raffle donations.
- I have been unable to preside at many of our meetings due to conflicts with my work schedule. This is a primary duty of the office of President.

Please consider volunteering for Treasurer or President. If you have no interest in either role, then please prepare to cast your vote on dissolving the club at its final meeting, which the officers may call as early as June. Please refer to the letter to members from your officers that Nick is publishing along with this Newsletter. It describes the three choices we officers believe the club must make.



In more pleasant news, Brian B. posted a couple of pictures on the Facebook Group page from a ride he, Jay M., and Jim M. of their first stop along the 2022 Off the Beaten Path poker run, so I've republished them here in the Newsletter. They stopped in at Cook's Farm Dairy on one of the warm days in April.



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Meeting Agenda: Saturday, May 14, 2022, 10:30am, Dealership meeting room.

1. Officers. As noted above and in our letter to the membership.
2. Ride planning for the season. To date:
 - OTBP runs from April 1 through October 31.
 - Brian's ride across the state will be Saturday, June 25, with a meetup at 11am at the Junction of Hope restaurant in Chesaning, then riding across M-57 through Greenville to Muskegon with overnight lodgings arranged in Ludington. Please reach out to Brian if you would like more information.
 - MOA Rally: Springfield, MO: June 16-18.
 - 2022 RA National Rally: Waynesville NC, September 28 – October 2.
3. 2022 Membership Dues– these can be paid at the meeting if convenient. You will need to be an active member in order to vote for officers at an upcoming meeting, or for dissolution at a final meeting. See Jim's report below for more information on your membership status.
4. Post-meeting lunch, TBD.

Until I see you again, ride, have fun, and stay safe!!

Stuff on the website

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

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

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

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

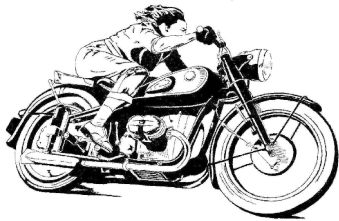
Activities page: <https://mcbeemers.org/activities>

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

Hosting Dealership: <https://bmwdetroit.com/>

Off the Beaten Path

2022 – The Year we Hunt for Ice Cream



- Score 1 point for any single photo of you and your bike, or you and your gear, at each location for a maximum of 10 possible points.
- Photos may be taken April 1 – October 31.
- Photos must be submitted to our Communications Director by January 31, 2022.
- In the event of any ties, winners (1st - 3rd place) will be drawn by lot.

Name	Address
Apple Knockers Ice Cream Parlor	220 W Prairie St, Vicksburg, MI 49097
Cook's Farm Dairy	2950 E Seymour Lake Rd, Ortonville, MI 48462
Grindstone General Store	3206 Copeland Rd, Port Austin, MI 48467
Hilltop Soda Shoppe	7117 South St, Benzonia, MI 49616
House Of Flavors	402 W Ludington Ave, Ludington, MI 49431
MOO-ville Creamery	5875 S, M-66, Nashville, MI 49073
Moomers Homemade Ice Cream	7263 N Long Lake Rd, Traverse City, MI 49685
Pekadill's	503 S Mears Ave, Whitehall, MI 49461
Plainwell Ice Cream Co	621 E Bridge St, Plainwell, MI 49080
Ray's Ice Cream	4233 Coolidge Hwy, Royal Oak, MI 48073





As you may have noticed, the layout of the newsletter changed a little bit this month – normally the very first thing is “Prez Sez”, but I had to figure out where to put the club dissolution notice...and I figured it should probably be First Thing. Did I get your attention?

To continue in its current form, the club needs people who can and WANT to be officers. But ... maybe that's the problem, people aren't fond of the current form.

But...that's for members to decide. Please try to make it to our May meeting so we can come up with a plan forward. This is not something that any of the existing officers take lightly.

If you wish to look at our club by-laws, it is on-line at:

<https://www.mcbeemers.org/mcb-nl/bylaws2018.html>

In other news...I think last fall, I posted that a neighbor asked me for introductory motorcycle lessons. I'm not trying to replace real MSF training, just trying to help her get to the “I've ridden before” half of the class, and out of the “how does this thing even work?” half so they can spend their time learning proper riding, not the incredibly basics. Her husband is an experienced rider, but ... well, you know, learning stuff from someone you live with is often harder than learning from someone else. And besides, she understands it is 100% ok to drop my Buell Blast, I'm pretty sure her husband would not be amused with his full dress bike going down. Well, I'm happy to report she has passed her road test! Next step will be to move her from my Blast to her Indian Scout (which, btw, is a really nice bike. Interesting merger of “docile first bike” and “very capable bike” – add a windscreen, and I'd see no problem with a very long ride on it and long term ownership. And there's a lot of fun to be had on a bike without a windshield as well, of course, something that's kinda missing in my fleet of vehicles at the moment.

We have a new member, **Chris Van Dan Elzen**, who has taken up Jim's invitation to write something to tell us about himself for the newsletter:

As many riders in the club, presumably, I have been riding for a very long time. Over 35 years. Having owned over 60 vehicles, the buy/fix/flip started with a Honda Spree when I was 13 and has gone on to many cars/trucks/motorcycles since then. Today I ride a 2016 r1200GS and have taken a few road trips with it. It is one of the most adaptable bikes I have owned with very few complaints. Taking it out of storage this weekend (April 9th) I do wish it had a seat heater like my prior k1200LT though.

I'm an engineer by training and run a large global team for a company called Veoneer, which was recently taken private. Since the late 1990's, I've been working on automating the driving task; making the cruise control button in our cars do ever more when pressed. Back then it was radar for adapting the cruise control to traffic ahead and today it is entire systems of sensors and control units for automatically stopping/going/changing lanes.

The ironic part is that, as a "car guy", my current fleet is entirely manual. The Lotus, Camaro, 53 Dodge M37, 65 Lambretta, 99 Miata, and this GS are all pure enthusiast vehicles. Ultimately, it's understanding how these things tick that makes them easier to automate later. I have to admit, there is a difference between "driving" and "commuting" with the former being where my heart lies.

Welcome Chris!

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mick

Get more 'bang for your buck' by renewing your membership for 2022 now. Membership is \$15.00 & Associate Member \$10.00 per calendar year. You will need to be an active member to vote in the election of officers.

If your name is not here, you can rejoin at any time. 33 Members for 2022.

Jeff A, Mike B, Cathy B, Brian & Sheila B, Tom C, Walter D, Dennis G, Linda H, Josh G, Nick H, Paula E, Pat & Lynn K, Alan & Jodi K, Mike & Sharon M, Don & Gail M, Jay M, Jim & Jeri M, Don & Carolynne P, Jerry & Margaret P, Tim S, Robb S, Chris V, Jim V, Mary V, Charlie Z.



Check book balance for the end of March	\$1975.75
Check book balance for the end of April	\$2003.75
Balance one year ago	\$2718.41
Balance six months ago	\$2258.75
Balance three months ago	\$2450.75
PayPal balance for the end of March	\$416.34
PayPal balance for the end of April	\$475.42

4/9 Received \$15 from Tim S for membership renewal and \$13 when Jerry P won the 50/50.

4/9 Received \$15 (less fee) through PPal from Chris Van Dan Elzen as a new member.

4/19 Received \$45 through PPal from Don & Carolynne P for membership renewal, Picnic & Frankenmuth.

HOW TO PAY: PayPal. 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, is willing, and does pay a fee.

"Bill Pay". Use your Bank/CU 'Bill Pay' option. Most banks/CUs charge no fee – not even postage. Just, 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 the memo for what you are paying.

"Cash or check". Bring to a club meeting and hope Jim is there, mail it to the address above, or give it to another officer at the meeting.