

Greater Cincinnati  
BMW Club, Inc.

MOA# 18  
RA# 220

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Editor: Mike LaBar  
labrew@gmail.com



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# January 2010 Newsletter

## GCBMWC Changes By-Laws A Reflection of the Times

The members have spoken. Our club has evolved with the times. The club's by-laws had three significant changes approved at the last meeting.

No longer do we need or have to own a BMW to play in our club. No need to be snobbish about what bikes we ride. The thrill of the ride and the camaraderie is really what we seek. We do love our Beemers, but with the demise of BMW of the Tri-State, owning a new BMW here

in the Greater Cincinnati area can be a hassle.

BMW has finally evolved allowing dealers to take on new lines, so it's befitting that our club allows it's riders to ride what they want.

Associate members do not have to be "Legal spouses" any more. It now reads "Spouses or significant others are eligible for Associate Memberships". I'm assuming a member should only have one Associate Membership at a time.

### Article X – Firearms STRICKEN

Who goes to club functions packing heat? Maybe you would need a firearm if you are riding to Alaska and going to be camping in the wilderness. Just leave your Ak47s at home.

These changes are welcomed. After all, we are a friendly group that just loves to ride... whatever it may be.

## New Year's Day Ride Scheduled to be Brisk

Get the long underwear and the electrics out. Friday's high looks to be a cool 27 degrees.

**Where: Perkins just off the Tylersville Exit I75**

**When: 1/1/10 10:00 am**





## Happy New Year A Letter from President Tom Ritter

The arrival of the New Year brings with it new riding opportunities and a new president for your club. I will do my best to serve the club and its members.

Although every member plays their part in making our club enjoyable and beneficial, I would like to begin 2010 by thanking two particular members for their contributions.

Bob Ulrich has served as our club president for the past three years. (Just guessing here but I suspect Bob's wife Gail has provided significant support.) And, I am told this was possibly Bob's third term as club president. Thank you Bob for your ongoing guidance and dedication!

Neil Jones served as the club's secretary the past two years, acting as the club's scribe at meetings and as the editor/publisher of the

world's greatest Greater Cincinnati BMW Club monthly newsletter. Many of you already know that Neil has recently relocated to Nashua, NH (Soon to be joined there by Marsha).

I had hoped to publicly acknowledge Neil's contributions at the Christmas Party. However, with his usual level-headed judgment, Bob Ulrich wisely chose to keep the microphone out of my hands. So, best wishes Neil (and Marsha). Thank you for your contributions. Your entertaining wit and genuine camaraderie will be sorely missed. I suspect by more than just me. I hope we continue to hear from you.

As 2009 came to a close, the members overwhelming voted to make what could prove to be a high-impact change to our club by-laws. As announced at the Christmas Party,

ownership of a BMW motorcycle is longer a condition for membership in the Greater Cincinnati BMW Motorcycle Club. Hopefully this will encourage the return of some former members who currently choose to ride other brands. And, hopefully this will encourage others to join us on our adventures. If you know any riders who share our values, and support the club's purposes, please invite them to an upcoming ride or meeting. And, although I probably need this reminder more than you, please help make any new-comers feel welcome.

Lastly, I encourage you to contact me with any thoughts on the club; e.g. rides, rallies, destinations, activities, fund raisers, gatherings, newsletter article topics, etc. Many of you have much more riding and BMW experience than me. As examples, I have never attended the

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**"Why are motorcycle dealers closed on Sundays? Because Sunday is for worship... Catholics go to church, Motorcyclists go to the track.**

*Justin Skalka*

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“Chicken Rally” in Huntsville, Alabama, or the European Riders Rally in Burkesville, KY. I have also never been to the Barber Museum in Birmingham, Alabama. (So much to see and experience, so little time.) Did you know that we have at least one member who has donated a motorcycle to the museum? We all benefit from the input of our experienced and our

not-so-experienced members and fellow riders. So, feel free to contact me.

Again, Happy New Year everyone. Let's ride.

Tom Ritter

Ps. Please consider volunteering to host one of the monthly club meetings, either at your home or other location. The months of March, April, June, July, August, September, and November are still available.

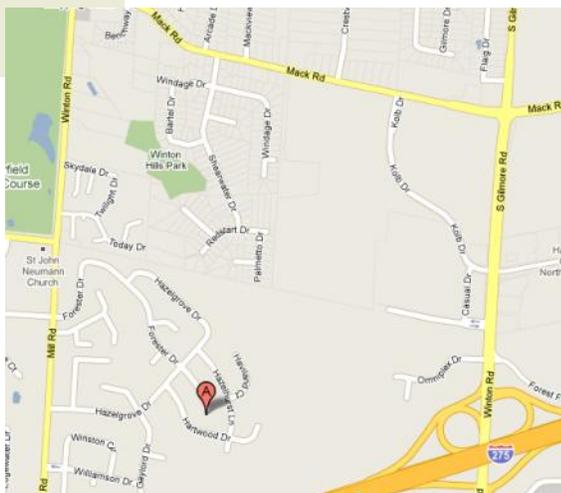
### Meeting Schedule for 2010

January.....	Joe & Chris Berry
February.....	Tom & Joni Raybuck
March.....	Open
April.....	Open
May.....	Merrill and Diane Glos
June.....	Open
July.....	Open
August.....	Larry Lovejoy & Gail Deatherage
September.....	Open
October.....	Tom & Sheryl Ritter
November.....	Open
December.....	Open



Chris and Joe Berry are hosting our January meeting. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm and is located at:

1341 Forester Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45240



Santa Raybuck took time out of his busy schedule to take pictures with his canine friends at Petsmart last December. Proceeds went to the Precious Secrets Sheltie Rescue.

(www.pssr.org).

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**“I'd rather be riding my motorcycle thinking about God than sitting in church thinking about my motorcycle.  
*Anonymous***

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If you would like to participate in the 2010 Mileage contest, just send me an email with your year, make, model, and odometer reading. Remember, it doesn't have to be a BMW to play. You can't win if you don't play. The last winner raked in the cash. You can too.

Send you info to Mike LaBar at labrew@gmail.com

## A Note from Bob Ulrich:

Just a few parting thoughts as 2009 and my latest tour of duty as club president come to a close.

Since I won't be in town for the January meeting, a formal installation of new officers won't be possible at that meeting. However, I made sure to pass the club gavel to Tom Ritter before the Holiday Party came to an end. Somehow I think you'll manage without me.



On a similar note, with Neil's big move to New Hampshire, Mike LaBar will be taking over the reins as secretary a month early and producing the first newsletter of 2010.

Speaking of Tom Ritter, and Mike, as well as Debbie, and Tom Raybuck, I'd like to thank all of them for agreeing to hold club offices. And aren't we gonna have fun with two Tom Rs in office at the same time!

Thanks are also due to the Toms (Ritter and Raybuck) for their work on updating the club's by-laws. They provided the suggested revisions that fueled the discussions. My thanks also go to all of you who participated in those discussions. Hopefully, the changes to membership requirements will keep us from losing so many good members, and dropping the firearms article makes sense considering Ohio's concealed carry laws.

Once again I'd like to thank Bill and Shelia Wright for putting on an outstanding Holiday party. And thanks also go to Larry Lovejoy and Neil Jones for their efforts in contacting everyone. We had a great turnout and a lot of fun. I can't forget to mention special guests Mike and Ann Allen of Motohio who came all the way from Columbus to join us, and brought a truck full of bikes to show off and a bunch of goodies to give away. And finally, thanks to Joni Raybuck for suggesting a gift exchange. I had no idea about the exchange circle – what a riot. You had to be there to appreciate how much fun it was.

For you old timers, I did contact Dave and Wanda Denton, Konrad and Connie Tyler, and Bob and Becky Utz. The Dentons sold their bikes a while back and have since tried a speedboat, a pop-up camper, a travel trailer, and just recently bought a 2002 motor home with five thousand miles on it. If Wanda hadn't stepped in a hole and broken her leg in late November we probably would have seen them at the holiday party. Both Connie Tyler and Becky Utz are dealing with health issues that kept them and their other halves from attending. I did manage to get Don and Sharon Stahl to come – it was great to see them.

In just a couple of days many of us will gather at breakfast to celebrate the new year, and if the weather cooperates, take the first ride (hopefully of many) of the new year. As a club, we have a number of activities already planned for 2010, with the potential for many more. Let's make the most of it!

Have a great 2010!aveHhhhhhhh

## New Editor New Look

...

First issue of a new newsletter from an old newsletter editor.

My last issue was in December of 2002. Bob Ulrich was president, Greg Cullers was VP, and Henry Pierce was treasurer.

I have a tough act to follow. How did Neil make such great newsletters and still ride 23,000 miles? I hope to ride half as much as Neil this year and live up to the degree of high excellence that the GCBMWC Newsletter has become.

You too can contribute to



the newsletter and website. Your content is appreciated and will make for a better publication. Send content to:

labrew@gmail.com

## Upcoming Rallies

**Feb 26-March 10, 2010**

**Daytona Bike Week**  
Daytona Beach, Florida  
Sunny and 70

**Apr. 30-May 2, 2010**

**Georgia Mountain Rally**  
Hiawassee, Georgia  
www.bmwoga.info  
Rain, guaranteed

**Apr. 30-May 2, 2010**

**The Original Mini Rally**  
Sturgis, Michigan  
Sunny and 70

**July 15-18, 2010**

**MOA International Rally**  
Redmond, Oregon  
Sunny and 70

**July 29<sup>th</sup> ? RA rally in the East?**

## January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

## Your 2010 Officers

President—**Tom Ritter**  
tritter5@cinci.rr.com

Vice President—**Tom Raybuck**  
bucksinohio@aol.com

Secretary & Webmaster —**Mike LaBar**  
labrew@gmail.com

Treasurer—**Debbie Smith**  
dasbmw@zoomtown.com

## Best holiday party yet

...My version of the Minutes

This years holiday party was a huge success. The best I've been to. As I walked in and registered, it felt like I was attending the coolest rally ever. As I register, get my door prize tickets and 50/50 tickets as well as free wax, pins and stickers, I see four brand new BMW bikes under the tree. What a great Christmas that would be to wake up to that on Christmas morning. I met Mike and Ann Allen who were so kind to bring four bikes and dozens of very nice door prizes from Motohio, their family owned and run dealership in Columbus.

After an hour of socializing and a few Dunkels a wonderful German meal was served. Was that a pickle in my meat? Tasty. The desserts from Servati's were delectable. We followed with a meeting devoid of the reading of minutes and treasurer's reports, which got things moving along.. like door prizes. Mike and Ann played Santa and Mrs. Claus and just about everyone got something.

Next, the mileage and lakes contest awards were handed out. Neil Jones took all the prize money by winning both contests. 109 lakes and 23+k miles earned Neil \$400. Congratulations Neil and enjoy the great roads in Hew Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, and New York. Neil says his place is half way to Nova Scotia, and to call before dropping in.



The president of the RA, Debbi Harbour, was also in attendance and she reported that she had returned from the northeast where the RA has two possible rally sites for 2010. Debbi remained tight-lipped about the location but that they are looking at the last weekend in July or the first weekend in August. There should be an announcement very soon.

The meeting was adjourned and the 50/50 was won by our new president, Tom Ritter. Funny how that works.

The gift exchange came next. With gifts in hand, we formed a circle and listened to a great story told by Joni Raybuck. It took a keen ear to hear every left/wright to keep up with handing off and receiving gifts. At one point I didn't have a gift. It's a good thing the group got through it because I ended up with a very cool leather-clad Santa.

This party was very well organized and very well attended. Thanks to Bill and Shelia Wright for all of their efforts in making this holiday party THE best. If we ever organize a rally I know just the rally czar. And, thanks again to Bob and Neil for their efforts as club officers.

Thanks to our friends in Columbus  
[www.motohio.com](http://www.motohio.com)

**MOTOHIO**  
european motorbikes

# 2009 Holiday Party Pictures—Germania Park Clubhouse

