

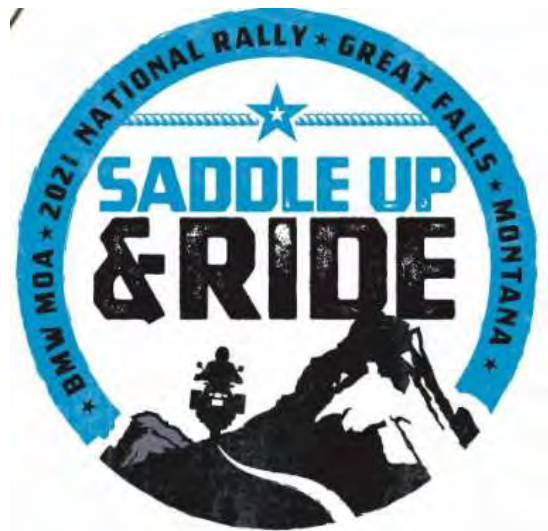
Lehigh Valley Beemers



Newsletter

BMW-MOA
Charter Club #277

July 01, 2021
Editor: Vince Kelly
LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM



**SPECIAL RALLY ISSUE!
INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE**

Club Monthly Breakfast and Ride!

President's Message

Annual BMWMOA Rally!

Recent Rides Summary - June

Upcoming Rides and Events – July/Beyond

Club Business

Club Monthly Breakfast and Ride!

NOTE: the Next LV Beemer 'Breakfast Club' meeting is at the Superior Restaurant in Emmaus, Sunday July 11. Be there at 0745 so we can get seated by 0800.

A 2-4 Ride to Follow for those Interested. Please RSVP On LV BEEMERS Meetup Group and indicate if you are doing the ride or not, and number attending. Thanks.

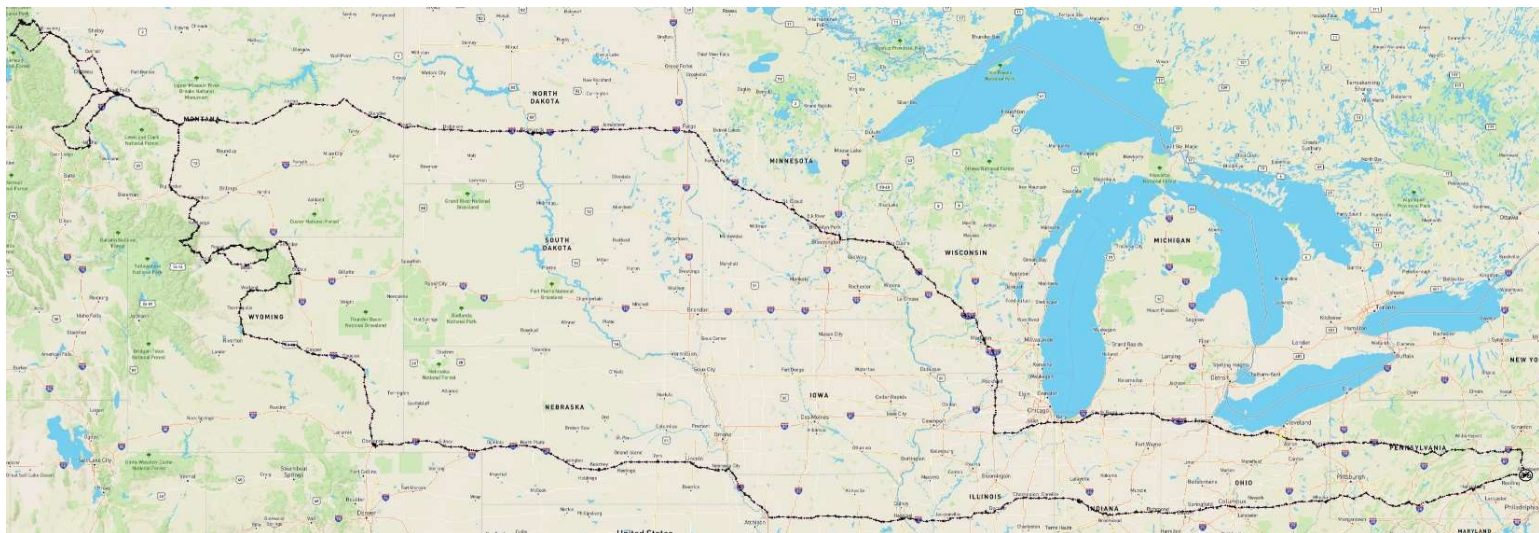
NOTES

1: RIDE DETAILS TO BE UPDATED IN MEETUP.

2. IDEAS FOR FUTURE MONTHLY 'BREAKFAST AND RIDE' ARE WELCOME!

President's Message

In June it was all about the 2021 Annual BMWMOA rally in Great Falls Montana. Two members of our Club attended: David Dunn and Vince Kelly. Some highlights and takeaways from the rally follow. Overall, it was a great rally, great riding, our group made it home safe. We travelled about 5700 miles round trip. The longest trip for both. Map shows the group's travel path to/from/during the rally.



Annual BMWMOA Rally!

LV BEEMERS David Dunn and Vince Kelly attended the rally. A friend of theirs - Dave Fisher – from Rochester NY joined them for the trip. The following are highlights/lowlights/takeaways from the trip.

Getting to the Rally

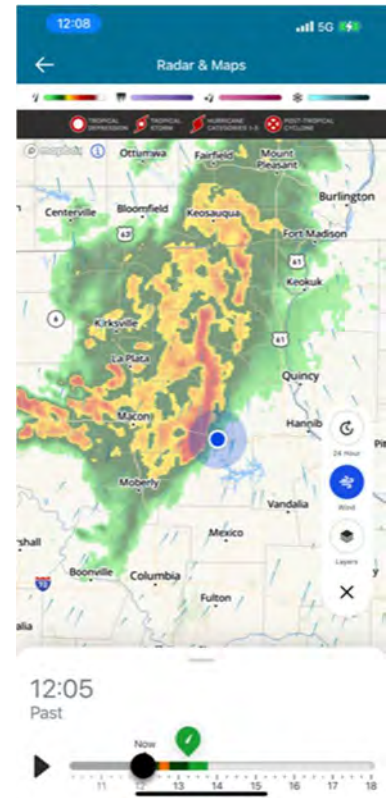
The riders allowed 5 days to get to the Rally, July 19-23. Highlights of this leg of the Journey follow.

- Slabbed it to Shoshone Wyoming. Boring other than a nasty storm in Nebraska, see the next page. Target rides in Wyoming: Wind River Canyon, The Big Horn Mountains, and Chief Joseph Highway/Dead Indian Pass. Beartooth Pass into Montana.
- Police Warning for going a *little* over the speed Limit in NE. THAT Was Fun. Let it never be said that Vince didn't take one for the team.
- In Wyoming, we laid over in a town called Worling the first night (Monday June 21). On the way we rode through Wind River Canyon. Beautiful. On Tuesday June 22, Dave and Vince headed to ride 16, 14, and 14A through the Big Horn Mountains. See next page for ride summary. David headed to Greybull to visit the gravesite of his grandparents, Floyd Vincent Dunn and Jessie McNeil Dunn, and to toast them.

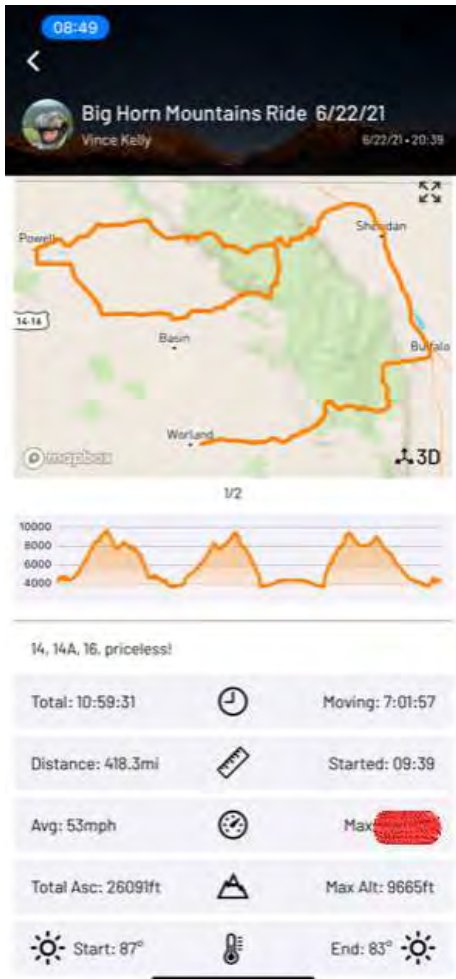
- Second night in Wyoming we wanted to stay in Cody, but no rooms were available for less than \$500-\$600! Vikki Dunn spend half the day searching for rooms for us and we ended up in Powell WY for the night. Thank you, Vikki! A Super 8 Motel for \$200 Plus a night! People are out and travelling!!!
- Heading out on Wednesday June 23, the three amigos headed for Chief Joseph Highway, Dead Indian Pass, and the Beartooth Highway to Red Lodge Montana. The map shows our path. These are top MC roads in the USA.



David Preparing to enter the Dragon



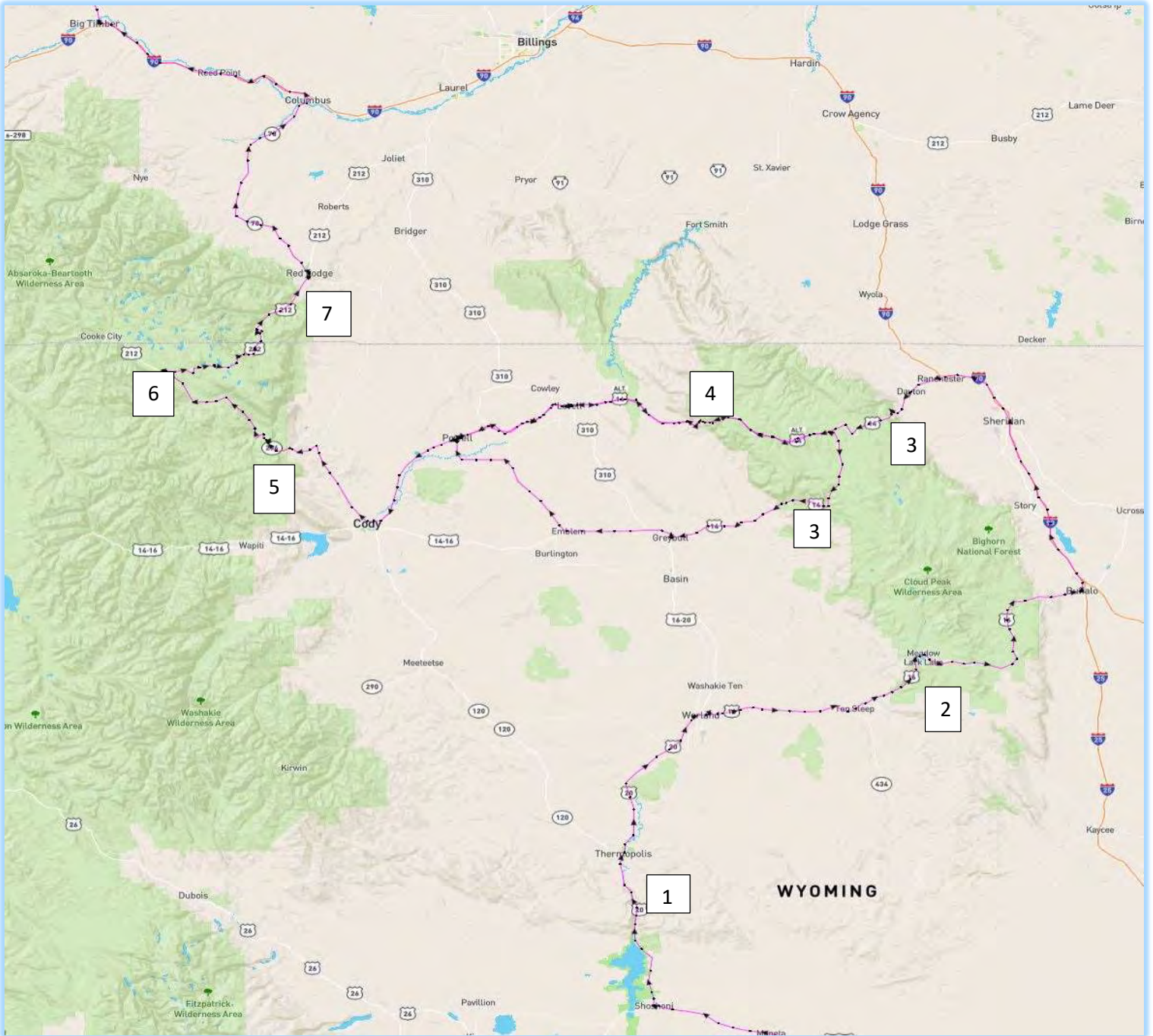
Band Stand – The Crowd enjoying Live Music



Clockwise from left: Big Horn Mountain Ride Summary June 22; David's grandparents gravesite in Greybull WY; David celebrating his grandparents by imbibing a little Macallan 12; Vince and Dave at the Dead Indian Pass on the Chief Joseph Highway, David's bike in foreground (caught a little welcomed rain on the Chief Joseph Highway, as it was HOT).



Rally Welcome at the Stage



Wyoming Rides: 418 Miles

1. Wind River Canyon (Rt 20 Between Shoshone and Thermopolis)
2. Route 16 from Worland to Buffalo
3. Route 14 from Dayton to Greybull (OMG! a MUST Road)
4. Route 14A from Burgess Junction to Cody
5. Route 296 – Chief Joseph Highway and Dead Indian Pass (MUST Road)
6. Junction of 296 and 212 – NE entrance to Yellowstone Park.
7. Route 212 – Beartooth High and Pass, and Top of the World General Store to Red Lodge Montana: Must Must Must.

a. Go to the Red Lodge Candy Emporium. A good town to stay over....

At the Rally

- Vendors, Music, Beer, Education, Chance to Win new bikes, meet old friends and make new friends, camping, riding. David camped at the fairgrounds in a tent, with the red ants. Vince and Dave camped in the Travelodge just over the Missouri River in Great Falls. With red ants that snuck into Dave's helmet / jacket at David's tent.
- On Friday, the three took a loop north and west around to Helena and back to Great Falls on Friday, to ride 141 and 15/local road along the Missouri River. Known as top roads on motorcycleroads.com. Check it out.
- On Saturday, Dave and Vince rode up to Glacier National Park to run the Going-to-the-Sun-Road while David supported MOA Foundation activities. Pictures do not do it justice.
- Rally activities included a new tire for Dave on his '18 GS Rallye, a new Seat and new Clearwater Darla Spotlights for Vince (lost one on 16 in WY) on his '15 GS ADV, great bands at night, and walking around gawking at the thousands of bikes on site. Making up our Christmas wish list.
- Vince attended the BMWMOA Regional Coordinator's meeting on Friday hosted by Ray Tubbs, BMWMOA Membership Director.
- David provided a training Seminar on the topic: Motorcycle Accidents, Handling an Accident Scene. It was very informative - based on David's EMT experience. This was a valuable session and one I will ask David to provide to the Club.



David Enjoying a Beer



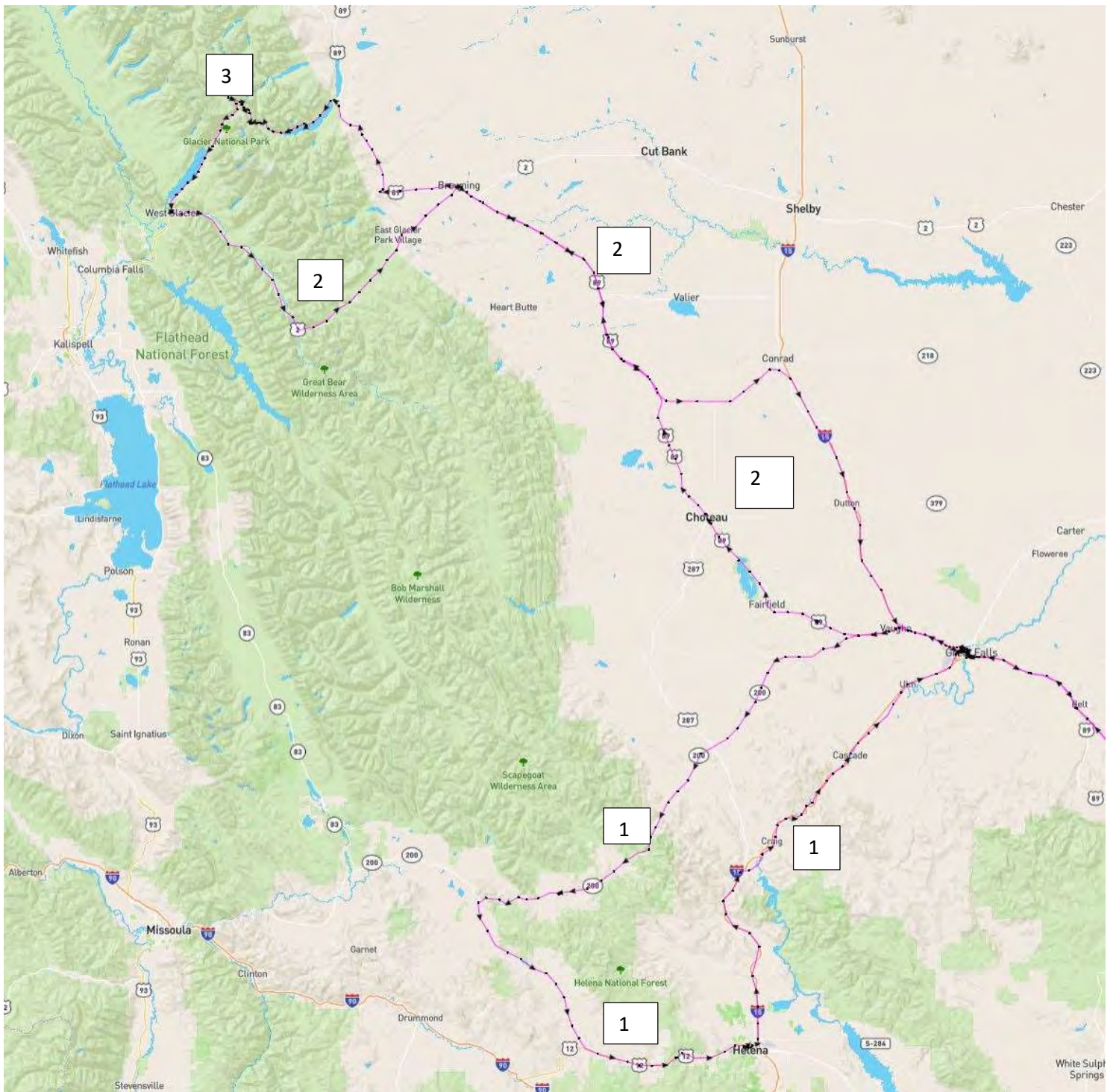
David's Seminar, Dave and Vince Attended



Dave on WY 14A, Looking for Cows



Dave (L) and David (R) Enjoying a Cool Drink to Celebrate another great day on the road.

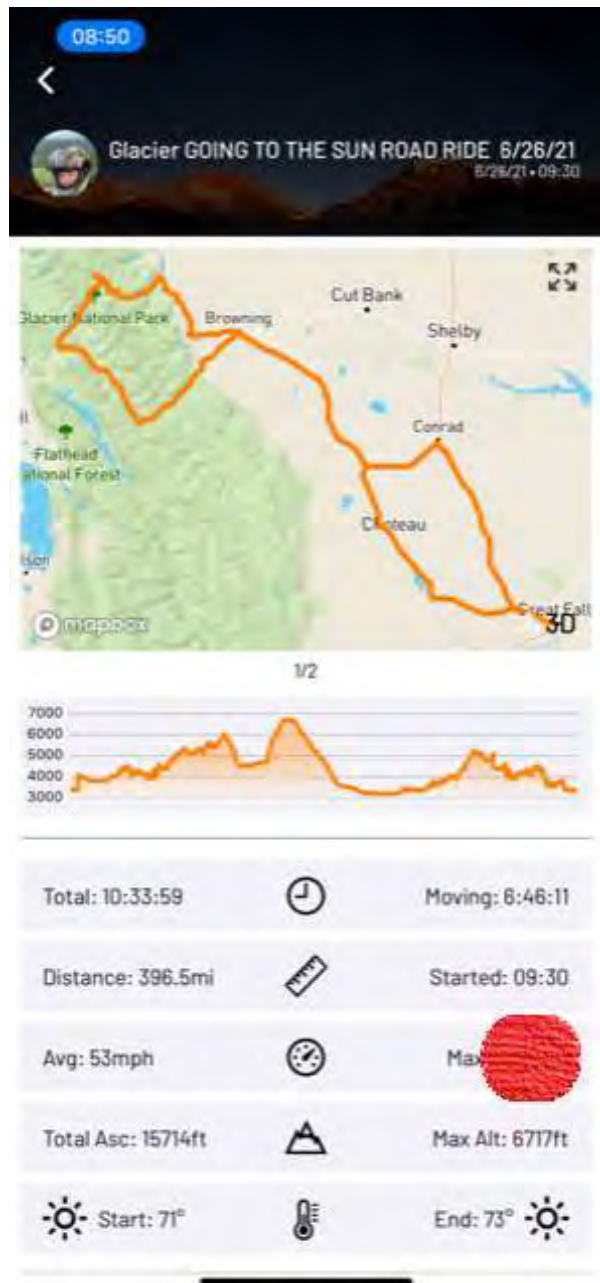


Montana Rides:

1. Great 141 and 15 Loop through Helena and along the Missouri River (Lower Loop)
2. Run up to Glacier National Park, return to Great Falls.
3. Going-To-The-Sun-Road. A MUST! About 50 miles in Length.



This guy camped with David. Never Caught His Name... 🤪



Glacier National Park Ride Summary (Rever)

Wisdom from the Road.....
.....York, Nebraska





Glacier National Park.....June 26, 2021. Wow. Taken By Vince with his I-phone



David Eying His Next Bike....

Riding Home from the Rally

- Mostly SLAB. Changed our route to go through Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin before dropping down onto Route 80 for the 'ride with the 18-wheel trucks challenge'. We survived it.
- Highlights:
 - WINDY as we crossed Montana. REAL Windy. Long day we should have made shorter.
 - Tuesday June 29 was a day of Thunderstorms. We rode through Four (4) thunderstorms that day. We were quite worn out after that day.
 - Wednesday June 30: David and Vince had great weather home to the Lehigh Valley, Dave Fisher split to Rochester NY and he didn't have such luck. He encountered several thunderstorms and made it home about the same time as David and Vince.
 - Conclusion: Great Trip, Great Rally, No Safety or significant maintenance events (David needed a little oil in his bike). Success.
 - Lessons Learned: Less Slab, More Backroads. Take more time to see the country during



the journey.

Hustling Cattle on Route 14 Wyoming
(Dave Found the Cows)



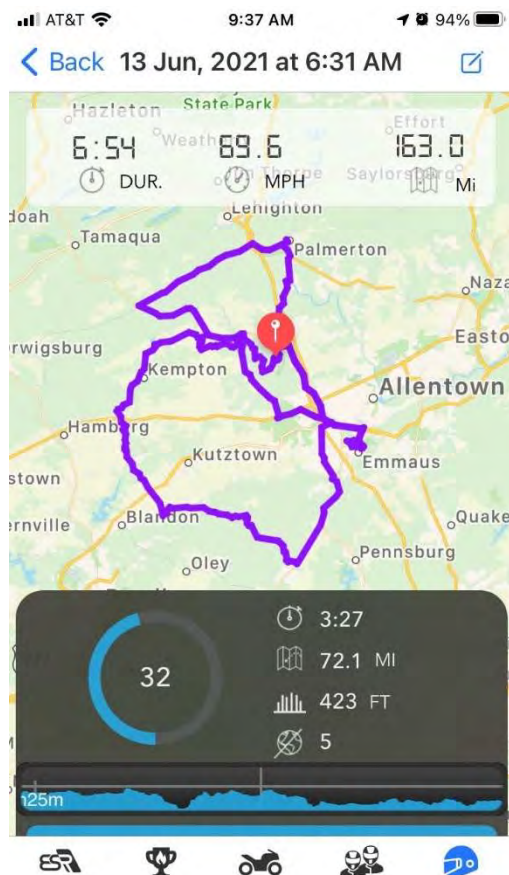
Vince @ Entrance to Glacier NP (*)

(*): Vince took a lot of still photos and short videos of the great roads they rode in Wyoming and Montana with his 'helmet cam'. These were not available to share at press time but look for future info on this either in the next newsletter or an email with video links.

Recent Rides Summary –June

Since our club is all about riding, every newsletter will have a rides section to document significant rides for the month and to share pictures with club members. Everyone is encouraged to provide a brief summary of their ride events and a couple of photos to the newsletter editor for inclusion in the monthly newsletter. Recent rides by club members and non-club friends Follows.....

- On June 11, several club members enjoyed a long ride following the breakfast at Superior. Jim Fortney led the ride which included a ride to Leaser Lake, a short stop there, and Then Joe Hunsberger took the reins to ride south. Circled around down by Longacre Ice Creamery, but it was closed. Some brave souls continued the journey and found ice cream and Potts hot dogs at Ice Cream World in front of Dorney Park.



June 13 Riders After Breakfast: From Left, Terry Grube and Ron Washburn, Jim Fortney (Ride Leader), Ron Paret, Teri Trotter, and Joe Hunsberger. Not Pictured: Mike Galiyano (new member), Vince Kelly (behind the camera). Mike had to bug out early for a prior commitment.

June 13 Ride Summary,
C/O Terry Trotter using ESR
Check it Out

Recent Rides Summary –June (Continued)

- Jim Fortney hosted the ride to the Lawn Fire Company Motorcycle Breakfast on Sunday June 20. Joining him on the ride were Joe Hunsberger and Ron Washburn and Terry Grube. No Pictures are available....what happens at Lawn Fire Company apparently stays at Lawn Fire Company!
- Ron Paret and Ben Porobenski attended The Southern Cruiser's Riding Club Rally in Williamsport the weekend of July 18-20 in Williamsport. They hit the GROTTO at Harvey's Lake on the way up (this will be a periodic ride in meetup). And they tooled around the great forest roads in middle Pennsylvania for several days. This should be an annual weekender for us going forward: Routes 44, 144, 120, 414, 872, 6, 42, St. Mary's Straub Brewery, Mountain Top Inn, Hyner View State Park, the Black Forest Inn, the list goes on.



Picture of Ben During Southern Cruiser's Riding Club Rally.

Upcoming Rides and Events – July/Beyond

These are known rides as of this writing of the club or for club members. We are looking to fill the calendar with at least 2 rides a month thru October (weekends) while also running some weekday rides for those who can make it or would want to take a day off from work to join in. Watch meetup for new ride events and sign up if you can make them. I will also be touching base with Bruce McKelvy and other BMWMOA Club Presidents (MAC-PAC, Skylands, Scranton, etc.) in the coming month or two and try to schedule inter-club rides.

July

- While not a scheduled ride per se, Vince placed an event in meetup for the East Bangor Trolley Shops 'Cruisers Night' where his band will be playing. You can ride 2 or 4 wheels if you can make it. See Meetup App event for details. Classic Rock is the genre. Classic Cars all around.
- July 11: Breakfast at Superior Restaurant in Emmaus (see Meetup and sign up if you can make it) followed by a 2-4-hour ride with route or destination TBD.
- July 12-- July 26: Vince is heading up a ride south with an old grade school buddy – Allentown to Skyline Drive, Blue Ridge Parkway with Layover in 'Little Switzerland' along the parkway, Smokey Mountains, Chattahoochee Mountains (Georgia), Barber Motorcycle Museum and Track (Birmingham Alabama), Natchez Trace Parkway (Port Gibson Mississippi to Nashville Tennessee with layover in Nashville), to Allentown. About 3300 Miles. Over about a 2-week period. Slower Pace than Montana.....
- BMWMOA Getaway at Skytop PA in the Poconos, last weekend in July. See the BMWMOA ON for details. Vince Kelly is attending from our club. Anyone else??

August

- Vince and Dave Fisher were scheduled to travel to Ireland to rent Beemers from Paul French of Lemonrock Tours and take a self-guided Tour of the perimeter of EIRE, then boat to the Isle of Man for the TT Classic Races in the afternoons while riding the roads in the morning. And visit some of Vince's relatives. We cancelled recently since Ireland and UK are still bogged down with the Covid variant, and the TT Classic Race was cancelled. This trip is now deferred to August 2022. Some bike rentals are available in Ireland next year. Beemers. Please let Vince know of any interest.
- Vince is joining Dave Fisher, his good friend Bob Bradt (Skaneateles NY), and two or three other BMW riders for a trip down south to the Smokie Mountains to ride the usual culprits: Tail of the Dragon, Moonshiner 28, the Rattler, Cherahola Skyway, and many others. August 18-25. If you have any interest let Vince know and we'll see if we can fit you in. Experienced Riders only.
- August 28: Saturday. Vince is hosting a leisurely ride to Eagles Mere Air Museum, and then scheduling a lunch at the Eagles Mere Inn. See Meetup for details. Currently seven (7) club members are scheduled to attend. Please look at your calendars and note your intentions in the meetup app – sooner is better in order to make reservations at the Inn. Looking to Limit it to 8 bikes, but if more want to go we can split the group on the ride up.

September

- Vince Signed up for the Lancaster Motorcycle Riding and Touring Meetup Group (LMRT) scheduled ride to the Ozarks in September. Mark Finnegan, owner of the LMRT, is leading this ride and a total of 8 riders are committed. No openings currently, 8 is Mark's limit. Vince will share with the club what he learns about the Ozarks since the 2022 rally is in the Ozarks.

October

- LV Beemers Fall Picnic is scheduled for Saturday October 9 from 12 noon to 6 PM. Ben Porobenski and his wife Ronnie investigated venues and found a great deal in Coplay. I have rented the Coplay Pavilion for the event. See details in meetup and signup yourself, your better half, and your family members/children if they can make it. This is not a ride event, but you can ride to the picnic if you wish. Vince will reach out to the membership about coordinating food and other activities. Please hold the date and signup in Meetup!

There is no kitchen at the Pavilion, so we can do a combination of cookout (we need to get a couple of grills there) and potluck. Will have live music from say 1 to 4. My classic rock band will play – Rustix Classic Rock.

CLUB BUSINESS

As I mentioned in the June Newsletter, I have established several GOALS to improve club participation and increase riding opportunities. I will status these periodically to let you know how 'we' are all progressing on them. Please hold me accountable to make your/our club better! If there are other goals you would like to see the club pursue, please contact me to discuss. I am always open to new ideas.

GOAL: Grow Active Membership

Riders Solicited for membership (existing members and BMWMOA members near Lehigh Valley): Approximately 60.

Member Tally as of this writing: We currently have 25 members who have submitted the application. This includes 14 existing members (renewals) and 11 new club members! Welcome to the club! The 11 new members are as follows:

1. Matt Austin of Easton
2. Roger Bollinger of Mertztown
3. Harry Foster of Kutztown
4. Mike Galiyano of Reading
5. Joe Hunsberger of Pennsburg
6. Tim O'Toole of Quakertown (riding the MABDR this week! S to N)
7. Todd Poole of Lancaster
8. Dave Ramage, Ph.D., of Harleysville
9. Kris Skibicki of Easton
10. Mike Snyder of Lansdale
11. Ron Washburn and Terry Grube of Allentown.

Note to new members: as you become comfortable with the club, I'd ask you to consider a leadership role with the club as mentioned in the last newsletter. Reach out to me if you have any questions. Thanks. Vince

There are a number of riders 'on the fence' that will join if they see this club as active and pursuing riding. I am inviting them to Breakfasts and Rides so they can see for themselves what we are trying to create here. Welcome them and tell them where we've been and where we are heading. More members = a better club.

Dues collected to date, including previous savings by the club that Mike Hopstock Provided to me: \$1,335.xx. David Dunn, Club Treasurer, will be opening a bank account to manage club finances.

GOAL: INCREASE Club Ride Opportunities (Day Trips, Overnight Trips, Long Distance Trips)

Meetup is now utilized to schedule rides and events. Identified rides noted above. We will be scheduling more weekend day rides, weekday rides, etc. in the next month. If you want to join in – create a meetup account and join a ride.

GOAL: Grow Membership Engagement/Increase Social Activities

Meetup is being utilized now to engage club members and enhance communications in the Club. If you've not gotten your meetup account yet, please do so and get the benefits of this tool. Message other members or riders scheduled to attend an event.

October 9 an Annual Club Picnic is scheduled. Sign up on Meetup.

Another aspect of this goal is club members being engaged in club leadership. David Dunn, Ron Paret, and Ben Porobenski have bellied up to the bar. Please consider engaging. Call me to discuss.

GOAL: Club Web Presence / Increase Club Communications Ability

As mentioned in previous emails, the BMWMOA will develop a club private website we can use. Timeline to be determined. I am working with Ted Moyer, Ray Tubbs, and other BMWMOA employees to get this moving this year.

GOAL: Education / Improve Rider Skills and Safety

More development is needed, nothing to report at this time. Please tell me what training or other information you'd like to see. I'd like to have periodic meetings for speakers and also schedule some safety riding training (class and or riding range) going forward.

Volunteer for a Leadership Position!

- Vice-President
- Treasurer: David Dunn has volunteered (Thanks David!)
- Secretary (Vince Kelly Acting)
- Newsletter Editor (Vince Kelly Acting)
- Webmaster
- Ride Coordinators/Meetup Lead: Ron Paret. Need more!

Regional Coordinator Role

As I mentioned in last Month's newsletter, BMWMOA has asked Vince Kelly to join the BMWMOA Regional Coordinator Ranks. They are planning to increase people in this role to increase engagement with BMW dealers with the intent of trying to align every BMWMOA member to a local club.

At the Rally, I attended the annual Regional Coordinator meeting with several BMWMOA and BMWMOA directors. Bruce McKelvy, our local S.E. PA Regional Coordinator, was not able to attend the Rally. Here is a summary of key developments/information shared from the meeting:

The Regional Coordinator Mission is to:

- Create Connections between BMW Dealers, BMWMOA Members, and Chartered Clubs such as ours.
- Explain the benefits of being a MOA member. There is a cost benefit.
- Support our own club and other chartered clubs to the extent I can. For example – we may join with other clubs for rides or trips. Also, get to know the “chartered club toolkit” and utilize it for our club and other clubs.
- Work with BMW Dealers to increase BMWMOA membership when someone buys a Beemer, and increase club membership. Talked about this at the Rally.
- Personally, connect with new BMWMOA members when they sign up. My goal is to have MOA identify one or two clubs when new members join in our region for them to decide if they want to become chartered club members. (#)
- Attend and support MOA Getaways. I am attending the MOA Getaway at Skytop PA the last weekend in July.
- This is a volunteer Position. 🙋 But there are a few Bennies.

(#) I met with Bob Jones, Owner of Montgomeryville Cycle Center in Hatfield on July 6 and he agreed to provide each BMW motorcycle rider he makes a sale to a copy of our signup application and invitation to call or text me. If they are closer to Philly, or Pottstown, on New Jersey, I could refer them to the most appropriate club. But I'd like to see every BMW Bike owner be AWARE of the BMWMOA, and of local BMW rider clubs, so they can make the choice. I owned my first BMW in 2012 and wasn't aware of the LV Beemers in the Lehigh Valley until 2018 – when I joined. I didn't see it on the BMWMOA website. I am talking to BMWMOA folks to move that in the right direction.



Current Regional Coordinators around the USA

!! RIDE SAFE!!

Vince

Vince Kelly

Club President and Newsletter Editor

LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM, 610.704.7611

P.S. **Feedback welcomed on the newsletter.** Please email LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM and let me know. They won't all be this long.

Anyone leading a ride should write a brief synopsis of the ride, who attended, take a pic or two, and send it to me (or the new newsletter editor – please consider the role). Try to track it and we can turn it into a GPX file for a future ride. And Maintain a library of these.

Call for Club Equipment Inventory: I've been told the club owns various pieces of equipment including a tired changer, tire balancer, and a goPro type camera. There may be other equipment as well Please shoot me a note at LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM to tell me what you have so that we can create an inventory of the equipment, and identify who has it so that if someone wants to borrow it they may.



Top of the World Store on Route 212 Beartooth Pass. Priceless.



View from the Road.....Wyoming



Vince seems confident this pic will be a winner in the next ON News 'Postcards from the Road': Going to the Sun Road at Logan pass
David said these pics are a dime a dozen.....