

Lehigh Valley
Beemers



Newsletter

BMW-MOA
Charter Club #277

August 2021
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INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

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Club Business

Club Monthly Breakfast and Ride!

NOTE: the Next LV Beemer 'Breakfast Club' meeting is at the **East Penn Diner in Emmaus, Sunday August 8. Thought we'd change it up a bit. Be there at 0745 so we can get seated by 0800. An all-day ride to follow for those Interested to either the National Toy Train Museum in Ronks, PA, OR you can sign up for a 'back the blue' ride with Ron. Please RSVP On LV BEEMERS Meetup Group for breakfast and indicate if you are doing the ride or not, and number attending. Thanks.**

President's Message

As I mentioned in my 'P.S.' section in last month's newsletter, ride leaders please provide a brief few sentences about a ride you lead in the previous month along with a photo or two of attendees and their bikes, for inclusion in the newsletter. Not looking to write a book here, just share with those unable to attend the rides. Description of route or picture of route from Rever, East/Sleep/Ride or other ride maps would be useful.

Also, I requested a "Call for Club Equipment Inventory: I've been told the club owns various pieces of equipment including a tire changer, tire balancer, and a goPro type camera. Craig and Geli said they have the tire changer. Is there any other equipment out there that the club 'owns' that we can make visible to all for sharing? Please let me know (lvbeemers@gmail.com) and I'll keep the list in the newsletter along with who currently has it.

We are working to schedule more rides going forward to give everyone choices on joining a ride. If you have ideas for a ride destination or route, please let me know and we can get a group ride set up.

I'd like to recognize Roger Sposili for agreeing to become a ride coordinator in the MEETUP App. Roger has significant riding and long trip experience and leads rides well as reported by Ron on a recent ride. Anyone else interested in being a ride leader please let Ron or me know.

Lastly – still seeking a Club VP, secretary, newsletter editor as listed below. Please consider signing up and helping lead the club!

Thanks! RIDE SAFE!

Vince Kelly
Club President and Newsletter Editor
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P.S. Feedback on the newsletter is welcomed.

Recent Rides Summary - July

- July 10: While not a scheduled ride per se, Vince placed an event in meetup for the East Bangor Trolley Shops 'Cruisers Night' where his band played July 10. Several club members and their wives came out to enjoy classic cars and classic rock.
- July 11: Breakfast at Superior Restaurant in Emmaus. Before and during breakfast the skies opened up so there was no scheduled ride, but I want to recognize the following hardcore riders who came out to ride in the rain: Anthony Friendly, Harry Foster, Ron Washburn, and Terry Grube! Apologies if I missed someone.

- July 12~ July 22: Vince and a friend rode south to run the Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway in their entirety, with Layover in 'Little Switzerland' along the parkway, key Smokey Mountains rides (Tail, Cherahola, Foothills Parkway, Moonshiner 28), Chattahoochee Mountains Georgia (Warwoman road, Routes 76, 180, 60 with a necessary stopover at 'two wheels of suches' – a great motorcycle stop in Suches GA), The Barber Motorcycle Museum and Track (Birmingham Alabama), and the Natchez Trace Parkway (Port Gibson Mississippi to Nashville Tennessee with layover in Nashville), to Allentown. 3500 miles in all. My Learnings: I will schedule an annual trip down to the Switzerland Inn, a long weekend. Great place to stay and great riding all around on and off the Parkway; Barber Motorsports Museum is a MUST VISIT location: 1100 bikes on display along with another 800 being restored, lots of race cars, and a great track you can walk out over and watch the races; Natchez Trace is not a great motorcycle road (few twisties), but a nice leisurely ride into the past – lots of history along the way. A great two-up cruise).
- Last Minute Ride – Tuesday July 27 – Anthony Friendly and Vince met up with Ron Paret and Jim Fortney at the East Penn Diner for breakfast, as a test drive for August 8. Breakfast was good! Anthony and Vince then rode up to the High Point Monument in High Point State Park in Sussex NJ, via 611 North from Easton, then crossed into NJ and rode the Old Mine Road to the Walpack Inn in Delaware Water Gap, before completing the ride to High Point on 94 and 23. About 200 miles in all. We met the owner of the Walpack inn, who invited us in (it was closed at the time) to walk thru it. We definitely need to schedule a ride here for an early dinner on a Saturday. Sit inside or out and outside they have bands playing Saturdays and Sundays. If anyone else has days off during the week, or are available to ride on weekdays, please let Vince know since some of us have a more flexible schedule (retired or semi-retired). We will schedule more weekday rides.....
- I regret to report that club member Joe Hunsberger had a mishap on his Triumph Explorer while crossing a small creek crossing near VanSant Airport. The bad news is he broke his ankle, is in a boot, and his riding season is over. The good news is it could have been much worse and he was protected by good gear. The old saying ATGATT makes sense. All the Gear – All The Time. Friends ask me why I wear my KLIM Badlands suit ALL THE TIME. For protection. Even when it's hot, just be sure to hydrate often. Thanks for being our poster boy for safety Joe. Hope you get back in the saddle quickly!
- Vince is attending and working at the BMWMOA Getaway at Skytop PA in the Poconos, last weekend in July. This newsletter was published prior to the Getaway. More details on it next month.
- Another Member Gig – not a ride – Harry Foster's band SLEEP ALL SUMMER is playing at the Saucony Creek Brewing Company on Saturday July 31. Try to get out and support a fellow club member and enjoy some great beer and food!

Upcoming Rides and Events – August/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.

August

- August 4 – while not a scheduled ride, Ron and Vince are attending a DEL-VAL Riders Club Meeting on Wednesday night August 4 at Wheaton Motorwerks, in Downingtown PA. Owner Clayton Wheaton is a BMW mechanic that does a lot of work on airheads and other BMW bikes. He is hosting their meeting and providing a catered dinner. If anyone else is interested in attending let Vince know by August 2. Ron and I will report out to the club next month on Clayton's capabilities.
- Hermy's Event and Possible Ride – Sunday August 1. Ron is hosting this. Come to Hermy's for the BMW Heritage Bike Tour. Test Ride the R18 or other bikes, free food, T-shirts (Jim - I take an XL...).
- August 8 – Second Sunday Breakfast at East Penn Diner, and options for rides to the National Toy Train Museum (Vince Host) or 'Back the Blue' ride hosted by Ron. All dayers. Weather permitting.
- David Dunn is heading to the BMW RA "Game of Roads Rally" being held August 12-15 in Waynesville, NC. David is seeking company for the trip. He's leaving before noon on August 8 and returning to Allentown August 15. Ride plan: To the rally: All slab on Rt 81), and he's camping out while there. David is co-running the medical services at the rally. Expected turnout is over 2,000 riders. Please contact David through MEETUP or if you are not on MEETUP let Vince know and he'll connect you.
- August 28: Saturday. Vince is hosting an All-Day leisurely ride to Eagles Mere Air Museum, and then scheduling a lunch at the Eagles Mere Inn. See Meetup for details. Currently (9) club members are signed up to ride. 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

- September 19: "Ride with the Blue" – Police Benefit Ride, Bushkill Township. Also, the St. Joseph Parish (Orefield) 'Angel Ride'. Ron will add these to MEETUP.
- Will look at scheduling a ride to lunch at Walpack Inn on a Saturday during the Month. Please indicate your interest.

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.
- October 19 – "Let's Roll Ride" – honoring the victims of 9/11. PSP Hershey. Ron will add this to MEETUP.

October 9 Picnic Committee Volunteers Requested!

Reaching out for volunteers to help organize the October 9 picnic. Please volunteer for the 'Picnic Committee' so we can make the gathering an event to remember. Goal is to get to know each other better, and have fun. My Wife MaryAnn will help organize. Please let me know if you or your spouse/partner can help plan the event!! Looking for games ideas, food ideas, Entertainment will be Rustix Classic Rock. Harry – does your band want to come along too??

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 32 members who have joined. This includes 16 existing members (renewals) and 16 new club members! Last month we welcomed 11 newcomers. The 5 new members who joined in July are as follows: please reach out to welcome them to the club.

1. Stuart McLaren of Lebanon PA
2. Brad Moulton of Nazareth PA
3. Jason Peters of Wilkes Barre PA
4. Roger Sposili of Nazareth PA.
5. Tom Tibberino of Doylestown PA

I am currently chatting with 4 other riders who are considering joining the club. Will update membership information periodically.

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

Treasurer Update: David Dunn reports that as of end of July:

Opening Bank Balance 7/6/21	\$1,335.24	(includes 19 paid members plus start-up funds)
Closing Bank Balance 7/30/21	\$1,485.24	(32 members plus start-up funds)
Cleared Expenses	-	
Outstanding Uncleared Expenses:	\$ 175.00	

Total New July Members:	13	(some in Opening Balance)
Total Membership a/o 7/31/21	32	

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

- Meetup is our riding and social activity scheduling approach. Review meetup and sign up for rides. If you have ideas for additional ride destinations, please reach out to Ron Paret or Myself.

GOAL: Grow Membership Engagement/Increase Social Activities

- Continuing to grow membership through applications received via meetup and talking to riders on the BMWMOA website and riders who find us on MEETUP. 32 Members Currently.
- Montgomeryville Cycle Center (MCC) has agreed to give a BMWMOA info form and club signup sheet to anyone buying a BMW motorcycle. Vince has the action to modify the application form for use by "MCC". Vince will discuss same approach with Bobby Brown and Hermy's. The goal is to point new owners to MOA and the most appropriate club in their geographic area, not necessarily the LV Beemers if they live closer to other clubs in the area.

GOAL: Club Web Presence / Increase Club Communications Ability

- Awaiting BMWMOA support on web site creation. Ted Moyer and Ray Tubbs.

GOAL: Education / Improve Rider Skills and Safety

- More development is needed, nothing to report at this time. BMWMOA offers discounts and payments for rider safety training. Vince will have more discussions with MOA on this with David Dunn through his involvement as a MOA Foundation Director, and bring it to the club. In the meantime, if you have any connections or thoughts on this please advise Vince and David Dunn.

Volunteer for a Leadership Position!

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

Regional Coordinator Role

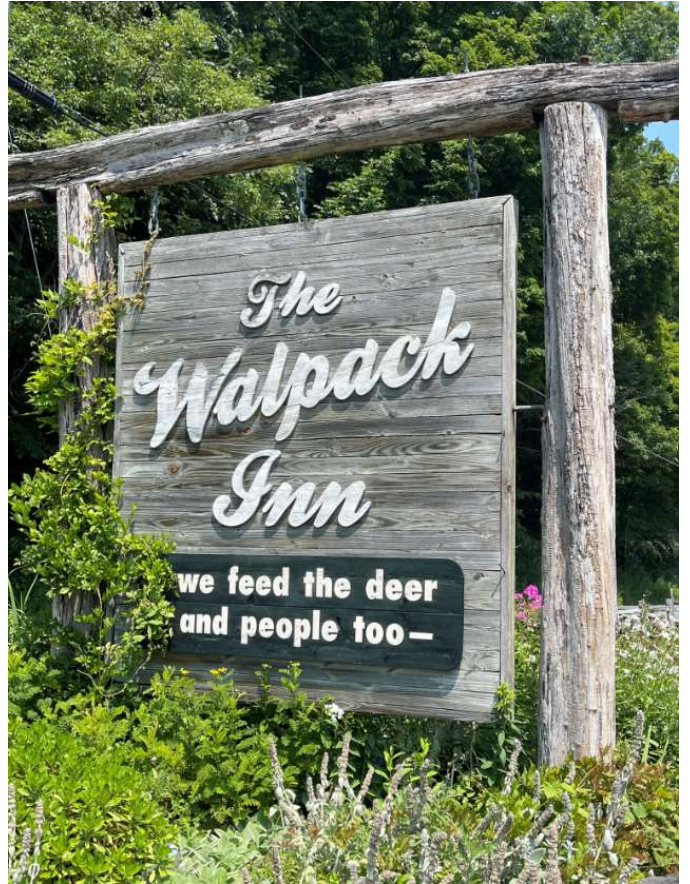
As I mentioned in last Month's newsletter, BMWMOA has asked Vince to join the BMWMOA Regional Coordinator Ranks. MOA is planning to increase the number of RC's to increase engagement with BMW dealers with the intent of trying to align every BMWMOA member to a local club. And increase club and MOA membership. As I learn more about this role and engage with BMWMOA leaders, I will update you.

I will be volunteering at the BMWMOA Getaway at Skytop weekend of July 30/31/August 1.

Club Pictures



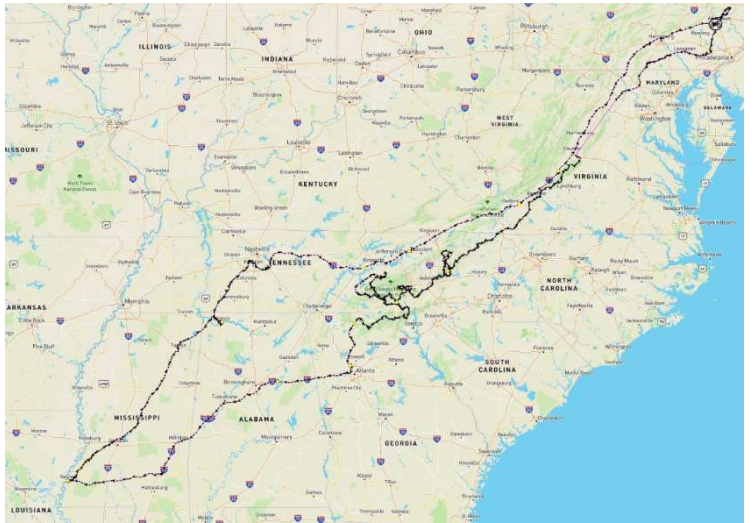
High Point NJ State Park, Anthony's and Vince's GSA's



Walpack Inn Sign on OLD MINE ROAD, Rt 94



Anthony Friendly at the Front Door of the Walpack Inn



Vince's 'Southern Cross' Trip in July