



The Call of the Road Newsletter



BMWMOA Club #277, BMWRA Club # (tbd)

April 2022

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Club Monthly Breakfast

The April LV Beemer 'Breakfast Club' meeting will be at "The Coop" – Coopersburg Diner on Rt. 309 in Coopersburg - Sunday April 10 at 0800. Details in Meetup.

Please sign up in MEETUP so we can get a head count for the restaurant prior to Sunday. If anyone wants to do an unplanned ride after breakfast, have at it. Talk to Ron about putting something in Meetup about it.

President's Message

Dear LV Beemers Club Members,

Spring has Sprung. I am excited to get riding again after my self-imposed hiatus since November. I am sure we all are. One thing to keep in mind as we venture forth maybe for the first time in months >> ensure you ride within your abilities as you again become accustomed to riding and interaction with traffic and the road.

Speaking of safe riding, for some time I've been meaning to share info on the BRAKEFREE unit I bought last spring. The February 2022 BMWMOA Owner News has an article about it. It's an accelerometer and gyro-based super-bright braking light that you can secure to the rear of your helmet. It is so bright and annoying when you brake, I've had other riders ask me to ride sweep in a group. It makes you very visible from behind (maximum 'conspicuity' as the article states...twice) – even in bright daylight. I'm a believer that making yourself visible reduces your risk – from the front, sides, and back. Consider one. Most people I've talked to are concerned about the additional weight on the helmet (7 ounces). In my opinion – I haven't noticed the additional weight and have no neck soreness after riding a full day. And it can be swapped helmet to helmet easily with the multiple mounts provided. Here is the website. [Brake Free Helmet Brake Light – Brake Free Technologies.](#)

A warm welcome to our two newest club members who joined in March: Charlie Pantano and Tom Bruno. Charlie lives in Levittown and rides a hot 2006 Yamaha R6. Tom Bruno lives down around Coopersburg, and he is a member of the Skylands BMW Riders – in fact he is their Secretary. Tom rides a BMW S1000 XR, and a Suzuki DR650. We look forward to riding with you gents!

Kudos to Chip Richardson for volunteering to be the club's webmaster for our new website. We will learn how to update the website together with the assist of Ted Moyer of BMWMOA after it GOES LIVE. ***We still have the following leadership positions open if any new members have an interest: Secretary, Merchandising Director, and Newsletter Editor.***

In the Other Club Business section training options and links are updated. Included is a link to the MOA Foundation for application for the Paul B Rider Training Grant to contribute to the costs of motorcycle training you schedule, up to \$250 per training class per year. I'd ask club members to consider 'paying it forward' and donating at least a portion of what you receive back to the MOA Foundation to increase the SafeMiles Endowment. The Endowment was discussed in the Special MOA Foundation Issue of the February 2022 BMWMOA Owner News. The MOA Foundation uses their funds for motorcycle training Grants and other training activities. Other ways we can all donate to the SafeMiles Endowment:

- Buy Motorcycle Raffle Tickets, and
- Use 'AmazonSmile' when you buy products through Amazon. Through the AmazonSmile program, Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice – 'MOA Foundation'. See page 18 of the February MOA 'ON' for details on how to do this. I had never heard that Amazon had this program. I signed up and now the MOA Foundation will receive contributions from my Amazon purchases going forward. One hitch – you must sign up 3x per year (every 4 months) to continue the program.

Hope to see many of you at Breakfast on April 10! 'The Coop' will have us all setup in the back. Great place for breakfast!

As always, RIDE SAFE!

Regards!

Vince

Vince Kelly
Lehigh Valley Beemers Club President
BMWMOA Regional Coordinator (NE PA, NJ)
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March Recap

- Sunday March 6 - Breakfast at Chris's Restaurant in Allentown. A nice day, we had a good turn out and lots of excited talk of the upcoming riding season. 13 Members attended.

Thanks again for voluntary contributions to the Kitty. David Dunn raked in \$65 during our breakfast.

We had two tables at Chris's and many attendees commented the food was great and our coffee mugs were ALWAYS filled. I spoke with the owner, and he said we could make a reservation anytime (if we are out by 1000 hours – which starts his busy time). After we were done eating the group broke up into at least 3 smaller groups for passionate motorcycle conversation.



New members who we welcomed into the fold, attending their first Club breakfast were Tom Heller of Bangor, and Bryan Croke of Mountaintop. Tom and Bryan are already getting actively engaged and signing on to Club Rides.

- Sunday March 27 – the PA DMV motorcycle training course – Advanced Rider Course (ARC) was held down near the Philadelphia International Airport. No one attended as rain was scheduled the night before and the forecast for Saturday Night/Sunday Morning was 20 Degrees F – so unfortunately no feedback to provide to the club on this training session. There is another opportunity to attend the ARC training on May 28, signups open on April 13.

April – May - June Events Summary

April

- Saturday April 2 - Blue Knights Bike Blessing followed by 'Shady Maple' breakfast.
- Sunday April 3 – Bobby Brown @ Hermy's is hosting a ride that is 75% paved and 25% gravel from Lansdale to Van Sant airport (Erwinna PA). 3 Water Crossings along the way. Several Club members are signed up. Joe H says to ride safe!!!
- April 9 - Change your tires at Craig and Geli's Garage in New Tripoli. Note the date change to Saturday April 9! Sign up if you want to change some tires. You can have them shipped to Craig and Geli's. Contact Craig for his address. Vince is providing bagels and cream cheese and 'Joe'.
- April 10 – Club breakfast at THE COOP at 0800 – Coopersburg Diner. Sign up in MEETUP!
- April 22/23 – The Antique Motorcycle Club of America (AMCA) is holding its annual Perkiomen meet at Oley Fire Company Fairgrounds.
- April 24th – “The 28th Gathering of the Nortons”, at Washington Crossing is being held. Breakfast at Lori Weiniger's Newtown early-on. See details in Meetup about times and addresses.
- April 30 – Soldiers of the Law Memorial Motorcycle Ride. Meetup in Kutztown, ride to Hershey. KSU 0900. See Meetup and sign up. Talk to Ron Paret if you have any questions.

May

- May 14 – Reprise of our August 2021 Eagles Mere PA Ride, with lunch at the 1887 Inn, and personal tour of the motorcycle, auto, and air museums by bike museum mechanic extraordinaire Mr. Joel Hess. We had a great time in last year and all attendees recommended we make this an annual ride. The ride has been opened to other local BMW riding clubs. Please sign up no later than 2 weeks before as these are special arrangements – I need to advise the Hotel General Manager of the head count (they are not normally open) and Joel Hess also for the museum tours.
- May 15 – Monthly club breakfast at The Powderbourne Sportsman's Club ! – weather permitting as we will need to sit outside as we did last September if we get big numbers!
- Thursday May 19- Tuesday May 24 – Cross-PA ride on Route US 6 from Easton to Port Jervis to Presque Isle, Erie. Mapping is developed, Roger is honing it. GPX Files will be provided to riders, and uploaded to the club website (when complete!) for posterity. Includes designated lunch stops, dinner stops, and hotel layovers. We have extended the ride to 12 riders, and the ride is 'full'. Waitlisting only at this point. Note: Total round trip expected to be **1,800 miles**. Rain or Shine, within reason (i.e. Hurricane).
- Saturday May 28 - the PA DMV motorcycle training course – Advanced Rider Course (ARC) will be held again in May - down by the Philly airport. Head's Up – signups begin 6 weeks prior, or April 13. Sign up early if you want to attend!
- Tuesday May 31 – Non-Sportbike training Day sponsored by Bob Spine of the NJ Skylands Club. See Meetup for details. Get in touch with Bob if you want to attend. He has a crew of more than 20 attending this training event from Skylands alone! All seats taken. Will share feedback from Skylands riders who attend and pass it on

June

- June 12 – Sunday – Club breakfast at 0800 at (SURPRISE !!) restaurant at (LOCATION TBD!!). Graciously hosted by Liza and Randy Miller.
- June 16-18 - BMW MOA National Rally. Some Club members are heading out on June 11 to take the long path there. See meetup if interested in joining the group ride. If anyone needs a hotel room, contact Vince. He's made some reservations and will hold them til end of May.
- No other Rides Currently Scheduled. ***Who wants to plan and host a ride??***

Lehigh Valley Beemer Website GOES LIVE !!

The club has been working with Ted Moyer of BMWMOA to finish the design and publish the club website. Final website inputs were provided to Ted on March 20. Ted finalized the website design, and the website is now LIVE for club member use! The website URL is: www.lehighvalleybeemers.com

Expect an email from BMWMOA or Ted with a USER ID and a PASSWORD to the member only section of the website. I'll send a separate note out so that everyone knows to look for it, maybe check your junk file if you haven't received it in your inbox.

For all existing members – our membership dues are paid through 12/31/2022. Be the first to renew your club membership on our new website for the 2023 calendar year, paying via credit card on the site. The Credit Card engine used is the same one BMWMOA uses for renewing our BMWMOA memberships. It is secure and reliable.

While the website currently does not have the functionality to order and purchase club-related merchandise (Hats, shirts, etc.), we do plan on getting that in place later this year. ***What all merchandise do y'all want??!?!?***

Once the website is stood up, David Dunn will discontinue tracking club membership information in an MSACCESS database. We will be asking you to input and correct your contact information (emails and cell phone numbers for you and your partner), address, etc. and your alternate points of contact.

Other Club Business

Membership Update:

Members at Beginning of Year:	35
New Members in 2022	6
Total Membership as of 3/31/22:	41

New members in March: 2.

Club Social Media: LV Beemers Website, MEETUP, Facebook

- The Club Website can be found at www.LehighValleyBeemers.com.
- FACEBOOK: The LV Beemers Facebook page is a public space where members can post info/photos/ride summaries to friends and family since they can't 'see' our meetup app and photos we post in there. The Facebook URL is: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071203273876>. Check it Out. Save the link for future reference. Request to Join or friend it.
- MEETUP: The LV Beemers currently use the Meetup App (and website at www.meetup.com) to schedule and document our Rides and other Events. New club members can sign up for our MEETUP Group using the following link. Warning: you must first have a meetup account. Signup at www.meetup.com (create a user ID and PW – it's free). Then tap this link: www.Meetup.com/lehigh-valley-beemers

Treasurer Report

- Thanks again to everyone who voluntarily contributed \$5.00 at our March Breakfast! We collected \$65.00. Right now our bank balance is \$956.78, which includes new memberships (2) and your latest breakfast donations. We are making good progress building our reserves!

Motorcycle Safety Training

I continue to work with David Dunn, Mark Pederson, and Bob Spine of the Skylands Club to review available training courses and inform club members about them. Here's what we have so far:

a. PA DMV Offers American Motorcycle Training (AMT) Training - ARC

- Advanced Rider Courses (ARC) are 'scheduled' in Meetup for March 27 and May 28. Sign up on the PA DMV website to attend. Their website is at the following link: [AMT \(teamamtusa.com\)](https://www.teamamtusa.com)

b. BMWMOA Foundation Training Information

- David Dunn is continuing to monitor MOA Foundation activities and will provide the club a list of other motorcycle training providers locations, dates, and costs for our use as well as he receives them.
- The MOA Foundation has a \$250 'Paul B Rider Training Grant' for motorcycle training that every member can tap into to offset training costs. Club members can apply for a Paul B Grant at the following MOA web URL: [Paul B. Grants - BMW Motorcycle Owners of America \(bmwmoa.org\)](https://www.bmwmoa.org)

c. Other Training Nearby

- Locally, there is a half-day Motorman "Ride like a Pro" class on May 1 in Leesport, focusing on parking lot/low speed handling. Bob Spine of Skylands BMW Riders Club (NJ) has coordinated with Shane Eckert of Ride Like a Pro to offer this class at the Classic Harley-Davidson dealership in Leesport, PA on May 1. The Leesport location is only 11 miles south of Hermy's BMW Motorcycles, in Port Clinton, PA. The course is 4 hours in duration (9am-1PM). The cost is \$150 per person. Class size is limited to 10 people and the morning class is FULL. Shane is offering an afternoon class on 1 May that may still have openings. If May 1 doesn't work for you, other dates for this training in 2022 are as follows (follow the links):

[Training schedule and Registration \(ridelikeapro.com\)](https://www.ridelikeapro.com)

Details of the training can be found at: [Class description and cancellation policy \(ridelikeapro.com\)](https://www.ridelikeapro.com)

d. BMWMOA Offered Training Courses

- a. BMW and the BMWMOA is offering three types of training classes – both road rider training and off-road/adventure rider training. The BMWMOA events webpage provides details of the many training events offered. Each of these training classes is offered several times in 2022. Look at the BMWMOA website events schedule for one that may interest you (d.4 below). These include:

- (1) Premier Training at BMW Performance Center (On-Road and Off-Road) – Greer SC. 2 days.
- (2) Adventure Training at Westmoto38 in Borrego Springs CA and Globe AZ and Death Valley CA. 4 days.
- (3) BMW MOA Street Fleet Smoky Mountain Tour with the BMW Performance Center! BMW Performance Center and Roads. 2.5 Days.

- (4) CHECK OUT BMWMOA-OFFERED TRAINING EVENTS AT THIS LINK:**

[When & Where - BMW Motorcycle Owners of America \(bmwmoa.org\)](https://www.bmwmoa.org)

e. Addition Training Resources

Addition training and information links: See website for other links also.....

1. General motorcycle road training and ADV Training
Australian 2021 BMW Masterclass - Full feature
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkW5uNGI1OU>
2. https://sporttouringmc.com/?page_id=68

BMW Riders Association (BMWRA)

We made formal application to the BMWRA to become a chartered club. In March Drew Alexander, BMWRA charter clubs coordinator, reached out to me and provided the Charter Club guidelines and the BMWRA Bylaws. I reviewed and accepted them. We should be receiving our BMWRA charter certificate shortly.

2022 Club Leadership

President, Newsletter Editor: Vince Kelly ~ LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM, 610.704.7611

Vice President: Stuart McLaren ~ smclaren253@gmail.com

Treasurer and Membership: David Dunn, davidvdunn@gmail.com

Ride Coordinator Lead: Ron Paret ~ reparet@aol.com

Additional Ride/Event Organizers (in Meetup): *Bryan Croke, Jim Fortney, Chip Richardson, Roger Sposili (New Assignments)*

Webmaster: *Chip Richardson (New Assignment)*

Secretary: Open.

Merchandising Coordinator: Open

Newsletter Editor: Open

From Otoole's Barn: 'The Pace'

A couple of riders in the club use 'The Pace' when riding alone or in group rides. I've used it for several years with some riding friends.

If you've not heard of The Pace, it came out of an article in Motorcyclist magazine in 1991. Nick Lenatsch and Mitch Boehm 'invented' the Pace while working at Motorcyclist Magazine. Many people have adopted it. I recommend we 'consciously' adopt it. While we learned some of these tips in 'basic training' years ago, it warrants a re-review and conscious practice with fellow rider 'peer checks' to make it 'muscle memory'.

It's about maximizing safety while still having fun on the twisties. The key is appropriate curve entry speed (with minimal braking) and forceful countersteering (not leaning your body into the turn), and then rolling onto the throttle before the apex and smoothly transitioning out of the curve at a spirited pace into the straightaway.

From the article.....*"The Pace focuses on bike control and de-emphasizes outright speed. Full-throttle acceleration and last-minute braking aren't part of the program, effectively eliminating the two most common single-bike accident scenarios in sport riding."*

Just another input to improving our riding skills. Click the link here to read the article:

<https://www.motorcyclistonline.com/pace/>