

# The Call of the Road

## Newsletter

*New Logo Coming Soon..*

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BMWMOA Club #277

## November 2022

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### *Club Monthly Breakfast Meeting*

The Next LV Beemer 'Breakfast Club' meeting will be **Sunday, November 13 @ 0800-0930** at the Hometown Breakfast Bar & Grill in Breinigsville, PA. Please sign up on MEETUP by Friday November 11 so we can finalize our reservation. Post Breakfast Ride to be determined. If one is scheduled it will be placed in MEETUP as a separate event.  
Address: *8732 Hamilton Blvd, Breinigsville, PA 18031.*

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## President's Message

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Dear Fellow Lehigh Valley Beemers Club Members,

October was another great riding month. Club members engaged in six (!) Ride Opportunities during the month. This ranged from a 'back the K9 blue' benefit ride in Berks County, to Eagles Mere, to Shamokin Dam, to Belvedere NJ, to a 'Soldiers of the Law' Fall Benefit Ride, and lastly to Harvey's Lake. They all involved a breakfast or lunch (😊). Details of each can be found in MEETUP.

With regard to Membership, recall that Rob Banwart joined in early October, bringing club membership to 60! We are now at 59 members after the departure of Tom Heller. Tom attended several rides and breakfasts this past year; however life has taken him in another direction, and he decided to retire from riding. We wish you all the best Tom!

Emails started going out November 1 from BMWMOA to club members for 2023 renewal. You can tap a link in that email OR go directly to our website – [www.lehighvalleybeemers.com](http://www.lehighvalleybeemers.com). Newer members have used this process to join and know the drill. I ask that all members renew through the website and/or the email link. Your membership fee (unchanged at \$25 for 2023) is collected by BMWMOA and then electronically transferred into the Club's Bank Account at the end of each month. It saves us a lot of time by eliminating the need to handle cash and check transactions. Thanks for your support on this.

Club members were provided a summary spreadsheet of actual 2022 rides and events this year – for your information. I developed this as a template to understand what we as a club accomplished this year, and as input to the Leadership Team to develop a '2023 Ride Plan'. We will be issuing the draft 2023 Ride Plan in November to club members for review/comment/input. The target is to finalize it by Mid-December and then share it with membership. Following that we will input the rides into MEETUP. My goal is to give you all ample 'advanced notice' so you can carve out riding time into your own busy schedules. Note that this will be a Revision 0 – it will change as weather demands and as some of us have time to develop and lead rides.

Now that we are heading into November the riding season is slowing down. Yet, if we see a break in the weather don't be surprised to see a scheduled ride pop up in Meetup. Please join us if you can! Or propose a ride yourself. We do have a HERMY's event on the calendar for Saturday November 12. Not a ride per se but it's a BMW R18 Bagger Demo Day. Ron and Jim highly recommend the event (🍌)! Look in Meetup for details.

A reminder: BMWMOA 2022 end of year mileage contest sheets are due (Cutoff is 10/31/2022). I totaled 12,666 miles (9001 on my bike, 3,666 'fly and ride' miles on GS1250's in Washington State and Ireland). I'm sure a few of you beat me. Chat it up in Meetup.

Has anyone received and acted on the service letter for the drive shaft on BMW bikes? Can you provide me input on what was found and done to your bike? Thanks. I've been told by Montgomeryville CC that bikes with more than 37,000 miles will be receiving a new drive shaft.

Hope to see you at the Breakfast on Sunday November 13. The new venue comes highly recommended by Brad Moulton! Speaking of Brad – please read his excellent summary of his 'ROUND THE WAY IN USA' Trip summary in this month's newsletter. Well worth the read!

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends if I don't see you otherwise. Take care, and Ride Safe!

### Vince

Vince Kelly  
Lehigh Valley Beemers Club President  
BMWMOA Regional Coordinator (NE PA, NJ)  
LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM, 610.704.7611

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***Best Picture from the Road !***

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Anyone know what the BMW button and Arrow button do on the BMW Key Fob?  
Let me just say, they DO have a function! I learned this painfully on the ride to Belvedere NJ.

Free Breakfast on Me to first Club Member to tell me!



**P.S. Anyone who received my email on this subject is not eligible for this contest!**

*P.S. P. S. if you win you need to write it up for next month's newsletter! I'll assist.*

*During the summer, club member Brad Moulton took one hell of a solo ride across the USA and Back. An 8,000-mile solo ride! He provided me with a trip summary, and I was not able to get it into a newsletter to share until now.*

*I encourage everyone who takes a day ride, or a trip, to write a BRIEF summary and share some photos with the club and I will either forward to everyone for a good read or plug it into the newsletter. Here is Brad's report out.*

*My "Round-the-Way" Trip of the United States*

*By Brad Moulton*

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I have long been a fan of motorcycle adventure novels, particularly those from the late Neil Peart—drummer from my all-time favorite band, RUSH. Neil who sadly passed away on January 7, 2020, loved to ride his BMW R1100GS, R1150GS and R1200GS motorcycles and documented his travels in several books, the most noted being Ghost Rider: Travels on the Healing Road which details his lengthy motorcycle road trip across Canada to Alaska, south through the US to Mexico and Belize and then ultimately home to Canada. It was in this vein that I long desired to ride across the United States, taking in the sights, on a motorcycle of my own. ¶

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After several years of "talking" about it to whoever would listen, I decided that 2022 would be the year. I had grown up out west in Washington State and still have several relatives still living there, along with relatives near Palm Springs, California so that was at least a couple logical destinations. In addition, MOA was having the annual rally in Springfield, Missouri in June so that also factored into my planning. The 2022 MOA Coddiwomple focused on the "Mother Road" (Route 66) which would closely intertwine with my route towards Palm Springs. Finally, I always wanted to do a "thousand in a day" (e.g., "Iron Butt") ride. Considering all the above, I settled on a quick Iron Butt ride to begin and then would meander my way towards California, following Route 66 and seeing the sights along the way. ¶

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I packed up my 2018 R1200GSA the night before I was to depart, knowing I wanted to get a decent night's sleep before the early start the next morning. ¶

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*Quiet Night before*

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At 4:02AM, I filled up my tank at a gas station just a few miles from my house to get my "starting receipt" for my Iron Butt ride. It was cool and clear for the first few hours and the riding along I-78 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike was nice. At just after 8AM, after approximately 265 miles, I stopped in New Stanton, PA for gas which was uneventful. My next stop for fuel would not be so uneventful. ¶

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After just over 500 miles, I pulled into a gas station in Enon, OH. It was beginning to warm up considerably so as I pulled into the station, I parked in front of the center pump at the aisle. Powered down, took off helmet and gloves and put them on my top case. Inserted my credit card in and got approval but as I reached for the pump handle, I noticed it was GREEN. Diesel! Damn—almost a major mistake. I quickly cancelled the transaction, but instead of getting back on the bike and riding forward to the next pump, I decided to push it forward. A fully loaded GSA. There was a slight incline, the kickstand (which was still down) caught something, my helmet and gloves went flying across the service station aisle and I almost dropped the bike. Another rider who happened to be there at the same time quickly came to my aid. Slightly embarrassed, I thanked him, gathered my helmet and gloves, quickly filled up and exited as quickly as I could. ¶



At just after 8PM (Central Time), I pulled into a gas station in Lebanon, MO to fill up and get my last receipt for mileage documentation purposes. I had traveled 1048 miles in just over 17 hours with only the forementioned incident. ¶

The next morning, I rode down to Springfield MO to attend (at least for a little while) the BMW MOA Rally. Met up with Vince and David and checked out the exhibitors. Unfortunately, I didn't win either of the two vintage BMWs! Checked out of the Rally in the early afternoon to begin my travels West along Route 66 and maybe even collect a few of the Coddiwomple Challenges. Spent the next 3.5+ days meandering my way towards California and some relatives I hadn't seen in almost 10 years. ¶

Route 66 was enjoyable and somewhat sad all at the same time. Enjoyable to think that this was the major thoroughfare from Chicago to LA back in the 1930s and 40s but sad at times when I would come to a landmark or town that barely existed anymore after the Interstate highways were built and bypassed many small towns. Still, I did see some pretty neat sights! ¶



Random Sights along Route 66 ¶

I need to mention one (near) catastrophe I experienced in Gallup, NM. After noticing that both of my tires were a couple pounds low, I decided (against my better judgement it would turn out) to stop at a gas station/truck stop to top off. Big mistake. The air pump was defective so instead of putting air into my rear tire, it let a good amount out! The rear tire was now reading a very low pressure of 25 psi and the TFT was screaming at me (in RED!) not to continue. Somewhat panicking (since I was literally out in the middle of nowhere), I found a worker, Ignacio ("Nas" to friends—and he certainly became one for me!) at the Love's truck stop I was at who offered the use of his 12V pump and his car battery to top me off. I quickly learned two (2) lessons: ¶

- 1) → Don't fill up at random air pumps ¶
- 2) → Make sure you have your own 12V air compressor along with your tool kit ¶



After spending a few days with my relatives in Palm Springs and visiting Joshua Tree National Park, I took off north towards Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks. CA-198 (or "Generals Highway") climbs up over 7000 feet in elevation through both those parks, with plenty of switchbacks and tight turns to navigate all while trying to enjoy the spectacular scenery! Very hot coming out of the mountains however—107 F near Fresno, CA. Decided to make a run for the coast and pulled into Santa Cruz, CA later that evening around 10PM. For the next couple days, I enjoyed cooler temperatures as I rode up the coast of California, over the Golden Gate Bridge and along Highways 1 and 101.



Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks

Pulled into Lake Cushman, WA in the Olympic National Forest a few days later to spend some time with my cousin (who's been like my brother for the past 52 years) and his wife. Enjoyed hiking, dining, and enjoying a few adult beverages. Good times!



Lake Cushman, WA Sights

After 12 days on the road, I left the Olympic Peninsula and headed for Central Washington to see my parents, sister and brother-in-law. Only a quick 200-mile ride and I was settled into Wenatchee, WA to spend a couple days of more hiking, dining, and adult beverages! With some sadness, I left Wenatchee three days later and headed to Pullman, WA—home of Washington State University which I attended some 30+ years ago! (Ugh. It pains me to write that!) From Pullman, WA, I rode SE towards Lewiston, ID to begin my ride along Highway 12 and Lolo Pass.

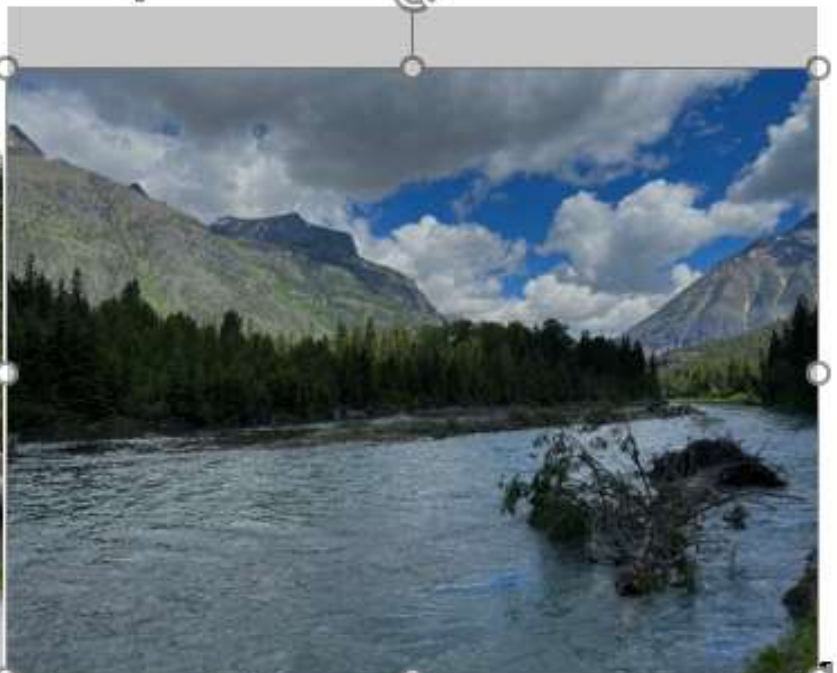


Hwy-12-is-an-incredible-ride-up-through-the-mountains-with-sweepers,-tight-turns,-and-plenty-of-passing-lanes-in-case-a-truck-or-two-is-slowing-you-down!-I-personally-think-the-ride-East-was-better-as-the-climb-towards-Lolo-Pass-(elev.-5225-ft)-is-much-higher-than-the-descent-on-the-East-side-into-Montana.-Still....-Beautiful-in-any-direction!



Highway-12-&-Lolo-Pass-in-Idaho/Montana

Spent-the-next-few-days-riding-through-the-state-of-Montana.-Rode-up-to-Glacier-National-Park-and-attempted-to-ride-the-Going-to-the-Sun-Road-but-it-was-still-closed-approximately-17-miles-East-of-West-Glacier.-Still,-I-did-ride-what-I-could-of-the-GTTSR-and-it-was-spectacular.-Honestly,-all-of-Glacier-National-Park-is-amazing.

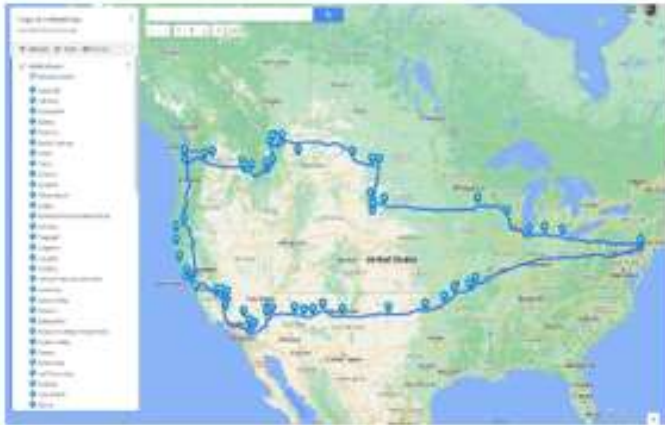


Scenes-from-Glacier-National-Park,-Montana

I-originally-had-planned-to-head-South-from-Montana,-into-Yellowstone-National-Park-to-ride-the-Northern-Loop-and-Bear-tooth-Highway,-but-recent-flooding-had-closed-the-northern-entrance-from-Gardiner,-MT-so-I-headed-further-East-into-North-Dakota-and-Theodore-Roosevelt-National-Park.-From-there,-I-rode-South-into-South-Dakota—visiting-Sturgis-and-Deadwood.-Big-biker-towns!-Stopped-in-to-talk-to-the-BMW-guys-at-Sturgis,-BMW-but-it-was-just-before-closing-on-the-Friday-before-the-July-4<sup>th</sup>-weekend,-so-I-didn't-stay-long.-While-in-South-Dakota,-I-visited-Mount-Rushmore,-Wind-Cave-National-Park,-and-the-Badlands-National-Park.-Wanted-to-get-back-to-Pennsylvania-and-home-before-the-4<sup>th</sup>-of-



July-so-I-"slabbed"-it-home-on-Interstate-94/90/80-through-the-states-of-Minnesota,-Wisconsin,-Illinois,-Indiana,-and-Ohio,-only-stopping-for-a-brief-visit-to-Indiana-Dunes-National-Park.-Was-home-in-Nazareth,-PA-the-afternoon-of-July-4<sup>th</sup>.



"Rough" Map-of-Travels-and-Final-Totals-from-the-Onboard-Computer

- Final-Totals:
- 7969-miles
- 21-States
- 20-Days-(14-days-of-riding)
- 10-National-Parks
- 1-Amazing-Time....





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## *October Recap, Club Member Ride Summaries*

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- Abridged this month. See the President's Message, and Meetup! I did not receive any ride summaries from club members this month. Below is a picture of the Breakfast Club. The usual suspects. How about we get a few more regulars coming to breakfast!
- Guest of Honor – Sweet Pea's Dad was photographer for the event!
- Checkout 10/29/22 Ride Video Summary to Harvey's Lake at this Link:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/n7ff10bo7wpx9y9/Video%20Oct%2030%202022%2C%2018%2000%2051.mov?dl=0>



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## *2023 Look Ahead*

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- See the President's Message !

## **Club Business**

### **Membership Update:**

Members as of 11/1/2022:	59
New Members in Oct	1
1 Member Who Resigned	(1)
<hr/>	
Total Membership as of 11/1/22:	59

### **Treasurer Report – Month Ending September 30 (No Update This Month)**

End of August Closing Balance:	\$1,699.27
<u>September Receipts:</u>	
9/12: \$80.00 - 50/50 proceeds!	
9/20: \$75.00 - New member fees	
<u>September Disbursements:</u>	
9/20: <span style="color: red;">\$150.00</span> - Annual Picnic contribution to Todd Trumbore	

**End of September Closing Balance: \$1,704.27**

*From David: "So sorry, no update this month. I'm in Spain now, then Greer SC for an MOA Foundation BOD meeting, then off to Alaska to visit my daughter! I'm liking Retirement!"*

*David Dunn*

### **LV Beemers Website, MEETUP, and Facebook**

- The website is found at URL: [www.lehighvalleybeemers.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.meetup.com) (create a user ID and PW – it's free). Then tap this link. [www.Meetup.com/lehigh-valley-beemers](http://www.Meetup.com/lehigh-valley-beemers)



## 2022 Club Leadership

**President, Newsletter Editor, Membership:** Vince Kelly ~ [LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM),  
610.704.7611

**Vice President:** Ron (need a nickname) Paret ~ [reparet@aol.com](mailto:reparet@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** David (The Accountant) Dunn, [davidvdunn@gmail.com](mailto:davidvdunn@gmail.com)

**Ride Master:** Roger (need a nickname) Sposili, [sposilirj@msn.com](mailto:sposilirj@msn.com)

**Ride Leaders/Event Co-Organizers (in Meetup):** Vince (TechDog) Kelly, Randy (OI Milla) Miller,  
Tim (Wedge)Otoole, Ron Paret, Todd (need a nickname) Poole, Chip (need a nickname) Richardson,  
Dave (need a nickname) Smith >>

### ***Additional Ride Leader Positions Available.***

**Webmaster:** Chip Richardson

**Secretary:** Open.

**Merchandising Coordinator:** Open

**Newsletter Co-Editor:** Randy Miller. Always seeking additional Co-Editors. 😊

***If any of our members are interested in Joining the Leadership Team, please get in touch with Vince or Ron. Thanks.***

***NOTE: Nicknames must be by another club member. No 'self-proclaimed nicknames' allowed!***

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**Current Member New Bikes ! And New Member Bikes !**

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**Newest Member Rob Banwart and His Better Half!**



**Rob with his '16 RT**



**New Member (September) Rob VanIngen in the Snow and Fog!**

313



## **FUTURE NEWSLETTER SUBJECTS:**

1. FINALIZATION OF LOGOS (👉)
2. CLUB MERCHANDISE WITH LOGO(S)
3. Renewals Status. Vince Kelly
4. BMW KEY FOB MYSTERY.....FOLLOW UP
5. New Trip Summaries from 2022 like Brad's? Daily Ride Summaries ? Club Members
6. 2023 Ride Plan. Vince Kelly and Leadership Team
7. TRAINING ACTIONS FOR 2023. David Dunn.
8. Any other ideas from Club Members??