

The Call of the Road

Newsletter

Lehigh Valley Beemers

BMWMOA Charter Club #277

BMWRA Charter Club #369

January 2023

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Club Monthly Breakfast Meeting (NOTE NEW LOCATION AND TIME!)

The Next LV Beemer 'Breakfast Club' meeting will be **Sunday, January 8, 2023 @ 0900-1030** at the BLUE MOUNTAIN DRIVE-IN AND FAMILY RESTAURANT IN DANIELSVILLE, PA. Please sign up on MEETUP by Friday January 6 so we can finalize our reservation.

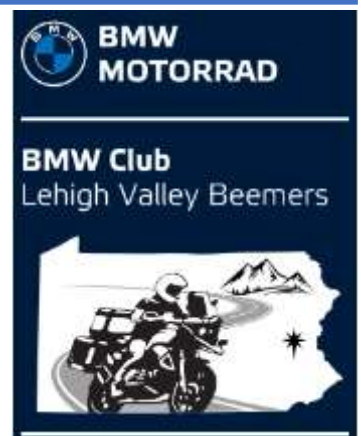
No Post-Breakfast Ride is Planned.

Address: *1439 Blue Mountain Drive, Danielsville, PA. 18038*

2 SAMPLE DRAFT LOGOS FOR THE CLUB.
AWAITING BMW APPROVAL.



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President's Message

Dear Fellow Lehigh Valley Beemers Club Members,

Best wishes to all members for the coming year!

2023 looks to be a great year for the club! We have established an exciting ride plan that has many opportunities for members to hook up on many different day rides, 'weekenders', multi-day trips, tire changing events, an annual picnic, and a Christmas gathering with other BMW clubs!. Lots of riding opportunities and camaraderie. For those of you who have not joined in on a breakfast or ride event, please consider doing so this coming year. Get engaged!

A year ago at this time we were AT 35 members, by the end of the year we were at 65 members! While 5 members have indicated they will not renew club membership at year's end, 43 members have renewed through 12/31/2023. Renewal is easy – hit the link on the email you receive from BMWMOA. You can also renew on the Lehigh Valley Beemers website under "about us", and then "renew club membership". Let me know if you have any questions. The LV Beemer website can be found at this link: [Lehigh Valley Beemers BMW Motorcycle Riders Club](#). Renewal cost is unchanged at \$25 per year.

Three (3) new members joined our ranks in December – Bob Nelson (Myerstown), John Sise (Bethlehem), and Ed Wigfield (Macungie). All three are BMWMOA Members and experienced riders. Bob runs a 1981 R100T, John rides a 2021 1250RT, and Ed chooses between a 2016 RT and a 2018 F800GS. Please welcome them to the club in MEETUP, or on the club website under 'member directory'.

Webmaster Chip Richardson has ramped up activities to make our website more useful to club members. It's now updated with current and past newsletters, new BMWMOA news, and the 'member only area' has a workspace where all club members can utilize the 'Bookmarked Workspace for the Lehigh Valley Beemers'. Here you can post your own topics that you want to talk about with club members under a common thread. Works better than Meetup for that. We post the monthly newsletter there and members can 'chat' about it. The 2023 ride plan is posted there - feel free to comment under that thread for future ride/trip ideas. Chip continues to revise and upgrade the website, so check in frequently to see what's changed. Also, let us know what other functionalities you'd like to see on the website!

In the new **"Focus on Safe Riding"** section, I offer a YouTube video of reasons why motorcyclists are 'invisible – and what you can do about it. Also provided are links for signing up and attending safe rider courses. One for Free in PA, and the other at the BMW Performance Center US Rider Academy in Greer, SC. Checkout the video – it's worth watching.

Hope to see you at the Monthly Breakfast next Sunday January 8 !
NOTE THE NEW START TIME - 0900, and the NEW VENUE -
Blue Mountain Drive In and Family Restaurant, in Danielsville PA. Ron Paret is hosting.

P.S. If you got a new bike recently – provide pictures please!

Ride Safe!

Vince

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



"ONLY THOSE WHO RISK GOING TOO FAR CAN POSSIBLY FIND OUT HOW FAR THEY CAN GO".
T. S. ELLIOT

Focus on Safe Riding !

When we published the 2023 Ride Plan we noted that the ride plan does not have any riding safety events or training. We are picking it up again this year – we want to focus on safe riding – including sharing ‘training information’ on safe riding and also making you aware of safety training ‘out there’ and what we are looking at to potentially bring safety training to the Lehigh Valley. Here is what I have so far:

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

- The Advanced Riding Clinic (ARC) is a motorcycle training course and is available to licensed motorcycle riders with intermediate skill level operating any street-legal two-wheel motorcycle that meets safety requirements. It is a nine-hour course consisting of approximately four hours of classroom activities and five hours of riding instruction. There is no formal skill evaluation (test). You must have your Motorcycle License and at least 3,000 miles of riding experience to participate in this course. And your own motorcycle. You can have an adult passenger with you for the course if you ride with a pillion. The ARC is FREE to Pennsylvania residents with a valid Pennsylvania Class ‘M’ driver's license.

- Course is expected to be offered at these two nearby locations:

Philadelphia County - Bartram Training Center:

Classroom: 76 Industrial Highway, Essington, PA 19029 (The Clarion Hotel)

Riding Range: 9162 Bartram Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19153

Luzerne County - Luzerne County Community College:

Classroom: Education Conference Center Room 130, 1333 S. Prospect Street,
Nanticoke, PA 18634

Riding Range: 1333 S. Prospect Street, Nanticoke, PA 18634

- The 2023 Training Plan has not yet been published on their website. I am currently talking with the PAMSP Statewide Regional Manager on possible dates for an ARC training course for the club, taking into account our already full 2023 ride schedule.

- Their website is at the following link: [American Motorcycle Training \(timetap.com\)](https://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/training)

- You will need to create your own account to look at training classes and to register. Register at the above website.

- In 2022 they advised me I could sign up folks in the club if I have your basic info. I suggest if you are interested please register at least for an account, and let me know of your interest. I have an email into them to get their 2023 training plan.

2. BMWMOA Foundation Training Information

- The BMWMOA Foundation has Spring Premier Training available in Greer SC. There are 4 lots remaining for March 23/24. The other two Spring sessions are SOLD OUT. There are 34 slots available (combined) for the sessions scheduled in September thru November. See details at the following Link:

[2023 Premier Training \(regfox.com\)](https://www.regfox.com)

3. Fellow Regional Coordinator Bruce McKelvy spotted this video on the BMWMOA Facebook page. It's on YouTube. It's titled INVISIBILITY TRAINING FOR MOTORCYCLISTS. It gives excellent insights into why drivers do not see motorcyclists and what we can do to help them see us. It's why I put very expensive bright Clearwater Lights (AKA Retina Burners) and a 140-decibel truck horn on my bike, have flashing lights under my license plate, and wear that annoying BRAKE FREE light on the back of my helmet. Cheap insurance. I've had 7 orthopedic surgeries in my lifetime, looking to prevent #8 ! Check it out. 9 Minutes that could save your life.

[\(67\) Invisibility Training for Motorcyclists - YouTube](#)

December Recap

Five (5) BMW Clubs - Holiday Luncheon at Shady Maple Smorgasbord – Saturday, 12/03/2022

In early October, Bruce McKelvy was approached by Dominic Pirocchi (president of the Mid Atlantic BMW Riders) about the possibility of organizing a multi-club holiday event. They shared this with me, and several other nearby BMW club presidents and we all say, 'good idea'. All 5 clubs contacted were interested in the event and fortunately we were able to find a location that could host us at this late date and would handle individual payment on the day of the event with no guaranteed number, which is extremely rare. The Shady Maple Smorgasbord was set as the location for the holiday luncheon party. (<https://www.shady-maple.com/smorgasbord/>) They put out a great spread of good food and can handle thousands of people and do so on a regular basis.

In addition to our club, members of the Mid Atlantic riders (Chartered Club #280), Delaware Valley BMW Riders (Chartered Club #27), the Mac-Pac (Chartered Club #289), and the Dutch Country Riders (Chartered Club # 56) attended.

On Saturday December 3 we all met for lunch and were seated in Shady Maple main ballroom. We had about 50 in attendance. The room could easily handle 500 or more and by the end of our lunch it was nearly full of overflow guests from the other side of the facility.

Such a good time was had by all that someone raised their hand and made a motion that we do this annually on the first Saturday in December each year. The motion passed unanimously, so it looks like a tradition has been started.

I then reached out to 5 other clubs in New Jersey and Scranton that I interact with with as BMWMOA Regional Coordinator to see if they were interested in joining in on this new 'annual tradition'. They've expressed interest and we will be talking about it this year. We are looking to centrally locate the event, if possible, but it would need to be able to work the same as Shady Maple – no reservation required, no pre-payment. If we cannot find another location centrally located with those capabilities, we will likely head back to Shady Maple in 2023. Stay tuned! Some pictures from the gathering can be found at this link:

<https://bmckelvy.smugmug.com/Motorcycle-Content/Mac-Pac-Events/1st-5-BMW-Club-Holiday-Luncheon>

Here's a pic that didn't make the link: Club Member Geli, and MaryAnn Kelly in foreground. Ron and Cindy Paret are also in the photo.



December Breakfast at Superior Restaurant – Sunday, 12/11/2022 -

We've been trying different venues for the monthly meeting but thought we'd bring it back to where it all began – Superior Restaurant in Emmaus. It's been a while since we have seen our founding president Floyd Keim, and his lovely wife Jan, so we decided to hold it in their hometown with the hopes they could join us! And join us they did! It was great to see them!

18 members turned out for breakfast, and as usual a good time was had by all!



Revzilla Shopping Spree – 12/19/2022 -

Confession: I have very wide feet. I have never been able to find a boot for my width, looking locally.

After riding over two weeks in Ireland and the Isle of Man in ADV/Waterproof boots that were just a little too narrow for me (it only rained 1 day on the trip...), I decided it was time to splurge and go find boots that I could be super comfortable in for long trips.

Hence the reason for the Revzilla Shopping Spree on December 19. Merry Christmas to Me. Thanks MaryAnn.

Many of you have probably bought something on Revzilla, but did you know they have a local showroom in Philly, near the Sports Complexes, where you can go and shop?!?

On the spur of the moment Roger Sposili and I headed out to the promised land for boots. And I was successful. So successful, I bought 2 pairs. Prices are not super discounted. But they have a variety of stuff.

I'm gifting my Ireland pair of boots to a good new home. Who will it be!?

Observation: I thought the showroom would be much bigger than it was. Bottom line is they had what I needed. The showroom may not be huge, but they have a lot of stock in the attached warehouse. Helmets and Riding Gear especially. Should we make this an annual trip?



January Look Ahead

Two things cooking for January:

Sunday January 8 – Monthly Breakfast! Blue Mountain Drive-In and Family Breakfast in Danielsville.

Saturday January 21 - John B Haines IV Logging Exhibition and Workshop in Pennsburg.

This is a neat place and for those of you who like free food – look – Complimentary lunch and beverage provided – BUT YOU MUST BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE.



**John B. Haines
IV
Events**
*Proudly
Announces...*

**2023's
Ye Ol' Antique
LOGGING**
EXHIBITION AND WORKSHOP

What:
Come out and join John B. Haines IV, Art Cooper, Andy "Chainsaw" Price and other fellow antique logging enthusiasts for a morning of demonstrations and activities. See the antique equipment cut, split, plane and mill wood, just as our forefathers did.

When:
Saturday, January 21st, 2023 • 8:30AM - ???
[Snow, Rain or Shine!]

Where:
At the home of John B. & Linda Haines
3327 Geryville Pike • Pennsburg, PA 18073
[See below for directions.]

You are invited to bring your antique wood sawing equipment to showcase.

Complimentary lunch and beverage will be provided. Kindly bring a shared dessert.

Featuring exciting new exhibits, regional craftsmen & historical demonstrations!

For more information please contact:
John Haines - 610.842.6700 • Art Cooper - 484.576.3952 • jbhevents@hkgroup.com

2023 Look Ahead

- The 2023 Ride Plan was published to all club members December 6, 2022. The Leadership team is creating ride events in Meetup for members to sign up for rides, trips, and events. We expect to complete loading all events into Meetup in January. Some rides fill up fast – set your meetup to let you know when a ride has been posted so you can review the details and sign up!
- Note that nothing is perfect. Alas, the ride plan is already changing due to conflicts we are seeing as we create the rides in Meetup. So always use meetup as the living version of the 2023 ride plan.



"A good traveler has no fixed plans, and is not intent on arriving." –Lao Tzu

Great rides start in Firstgear.

Club Members – take a chance and signup for a ride, a trip, and weekender. Meet your club members. Again, it's not about the destination – it's about the journey. On your motorcycle.

Club Business

Membership Update:

Members as of 12/01/2022:	62
New Members in December	3
Members Not renewing (as of 12/31/22)	(5)

Total Membership as of 01/01/2023: 60

NOTE: Of the 60 current members shown Current as of 1/1/2023, 17 members have yet to renew for 2023. There is a 30-day grace period for renewal (1/31/2023), after which members not renewing will be removed from the club member list in the Club Website, and Meetup. Please remember to renew soon if you plan to. If you do not plan on renewing, please send Vince a note of your intent. Appreciate it.

Treasurer Report – Month Ending December 31, 2022

While December did not have many riding opportunities, financially it was a very active month for renewals and account activity. Many members electronically renewed their membership as others gave cash and/or checks. Nevertheless, we got it all and here is our financial status...

Opening Balance as of 12/1/22: \$1,854.27
Deposits: \$580.00 (includes renewals and 50/50 proceeds)
Payments: \$104.88 (Charge for Meetup renewal)
Ending Balance as of 12/31/22: \$2,329.39

As I mentioned at the December breakfast meeting, we now have enough funds to consider using some of our money to sponsor part of a group training event this spring/summer. Suggestions welcome.

AND...if you haven't renewed your 2023 membership yet, please be sure to take care of it as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
David Dunn
Club Treasurer

LV Beemers Website, MEETUP, and Facebook

- The website is found at URL: [Lehigh Valley Beemers BMW Motorcycle Riders Club](#)
- 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. Sign up at www.meetup.com (create a user ID and PW – it's free).
 - Then tap this link. www.Meetup.com/lehigh-valley-beemers

Mark Twain:

Twenty years from now you will be more
disappointed by the things that you didn't do
than by the ones you did do.

So throw off the bowlines. *AND RIDE!*

2022 Club Leadership

President, Newsletter Editor, Membership: Vince (Long Leash) Kelly ~
LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM, 610.704.7611

Vice President: Ron (Blue Man) Paret ~ reparet@aol.com

Treasurer: David (The Accountant) Dunn, davidvdunn@gmail.com

Ride Master: Roger ("Smoothie") Sposili, sposilirj@msn.com

Webmaster: Chip Richardson

Ride Leaders/Event Co-Organizers (in Meetup): In addition to four above – Rob Banwart, Randy (Ol Milla) Miller, Bob Nelson, Tim (Wedge)Otoole, Todd Poole, Dave Smith

Secretary: **VACANT**

Merchandising Coordinator: **VACANT**

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!

Current Member New Bikes ! And New Member Bikes !

New Member in December – Bob Nelson



New Member in December -Ed Wigfield



New Member in December -John Sise

(Photo not available at Time of Publishing. Look for John's photo in the February issue of the newsletter)

CLUB LEADERSHIP ACTIONS

- 1) Rider Safety Training Courses and Safety Training Videos.
- 2) Club Membership Renewals.
- 3) FINALIZATION OF LOGOS (👉)....
 - a. Needed to adjust bike on logo at BMW request. Awaiting approval of second version as of 11/2022.
- 4) CLUB MERCHANDISE WITH LOGO(S)
 - a. Awaiting Approval of Logos. Volunteers to take the lead on this?
- 5) New Trip Summaries from 2022 like Brad Moulton's in 2022?
 - a. Day Ride Writeups – Going forward the ride leader should provide a brief paragraph on the ride.
 - b. Anyone want to summarize and share a trip they took??