



The Call of the Road

Newsletter

Lehigh Valley Beemers

BMWMOA Charter Club #277

BMWRA Charter Club #369

February 2023

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Current Member New Bikes ! And...New Member Bikes !

BMW RECALL: NHTSA RECALLS BMW RT, GS, GSA for MODEL YEARS 2019-2023

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

The Next LV Beemer 'Breakfast Club' meeting will be **Sunday, February 12, 2023 @ 0800-0930** at the New Country View Diner and Family Restaurant in Slatington. Please sign up on MEETUP by Friday February 10 so we can finalize the reservation.

No Post-Breakfast Ride is Planned.

Address: 6210 PA-873, Slatington PA 18080



FINAL CLUB LOGO.



President's Message

Dear Fellow Lehigh Valley Beemers,

I want to take this opportunity to welcome and introduce Bruce Dimon to the Club. He is one of three new club members in January. Following several 'email discussions' and after reviewing Bruce's 'riding resume', I asked him to be the Club's **Safety and Training Director** – a new Club Board position. Bruce currently lives in Fairfax VA, and is looking to retire and move to Lewisburg, PA next year sometime, where he and his wife already own their 'retirement house'. Bruce still works in VA and gets home a couple of weekends a month. So for now, he will perform his role mostly at a distance. Bruce is very active in the BMW Bikers of Metropolitan Washington, and will be attending the BMWMOA National Rally where we can meet him face to face. Bruce is a very experienced rider: He rode dirt dating back to 1971, has had 9 motorcycles in 52 years and has tallied about 700,000 lifetime miles! His first Beemer was a 2005 R1200RT. 130,000 miles later, in 2020, he procured his second BMW - an F900XR. He is a BIG FAN of riding instruction and has attended Reg Pridmore's CLASS Ride twice ([Classrides – The Nation's BEST Street Riding School!](#)). Also, he teaches the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Basic Rider Course and Total Control's Advanced Rider Clinic Level 1 ([Advanced Riding Clinic | Total Control Training](#)), both in Virginia. Bruce will be leading up the [Focus on Safe Riding and Rider Training](#) section of the newsletter going forward. Please join me in welcoming Bruce to the Club!

Speaking of Training – sign up for the American Motorcycle Training (AMT) Advanced Rider Clinic on April 1. AMT has scheduled a class for the Lehigh Valley Beemers (only) - we have 12 seats. I've taken the ARC in PA in the past – it's a good course and great refresher coming off of winter. For details, see the Focus on Safe Riding and Rider Training section, or in MEETUP on April 1.

Speaking of the LV Beemers Board of Directors, I am the only 'elected' club official – having been elected at a monthly club breakfast from which I was absent (May 2021). I am thinking about opening things up later this year so the club can vote on the following board positions: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary (Still Vacant). These are typically the elected board positions on clubs that have By-Laws (we do not have By-Laws). I've been in this role almost 2 years. Have you had enough of me yet? If you'd like to 'run' for any of these positions, or volunteer for other board positions (see later in the newsletter), please let me know!

I'm happy to say we have three new members in January: Bruce Dimon, Larry Johnson, and Dave Baechle. Larry lives in Fogelsville and rides a BMW K1100LT (and a Harley (FXEB)). Dave Baechle joins us from Orefield, and this riding season he will be riding a K1600B – BMW Bagger (and a Suzuki Intruder 1500). It's enroute from San Antonio at this moment. Dave also rides another bike: Welcome to BMW, BMWMOA (free 1 year membership), and to the Club Larry and Dave!

As of the end of January, we are at 53 renewed and new club members. We have nine new members since October. In addition, there are a total of fifteen (15) members that have not renewed, so we will be dropping them from the email distribution list and MEETUP after the February newsletter is published. You are always welcome back, just join on the club website. Ride, and Ride Safe!

In February – we have two scheduled events: The monthly breakfast meeting – February 12 at the New Country Diner and Family Restaurant in Slatington (On Rt 873), and the Backcountry Discovery Routes (BDR) movie showing at the Hamburg Strand Movie House on February 21, hosted by Hermy's Chuck Vicknair ! This event is showing the new Oregon BDR! We had a good time last year, please join us at the movies event if you do not intend to ride the BDR. Last year some of us met for dinner locally before the show. Look for any plans for that on Meetup.

As page 1 of the newsletter states, we officially have one logo that is approved for use, as shown. I am still working with BMWMOA and BMW on a second logo with the blue and white BMW Roundel. Quality takes time. Anyways, I am moving on a hat design with the “LV Beemer Roundel” embroidered logo on the front, and a BMWMOA 50-year logo and BMWRA logo on each side. I’m also looking at a polo shirt design and T-shirts, with a choice of 2 or 3 colors each, and a fleece vest and light jacket. There will be a sizing chart available on the store site to help you determine the correct size to order.

I am working with a local screen-printing and embroidery company ([All America Graphics - All America Graphics](#)) to set up an ‘on-line store’ where each club member can sign in and order and pay for what they wish. The store will be open for a limited time – say 2 weeks – and then the printer will proceed to make the articles that were ordered. I expect the store will ‘go up’ in February. I Still need to work out the logistics of how everyone gets their merchandise, and will advise on that. As I get the designs finalized I will send an email out with visuals so you can get a sense of what you’d like to order. If you’d like to work with me on coordinating choices noted above, please contact me ASAP.

When we attended the 5-club Christmas Luncheon in December at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, towards the end we took photos of the attendees. Three clubs held up a ‘club banner’, which included their club logo, name, and some other information they wanted to place on it. A photo of the three banners can be found in the Club Business section. It was suggested by Vice-President Ron Paret that the Lehigh Valley Beemers should consider designing and creating such a banner. If you are interested in joining Ron’s committee to design and have a banner made, please let me or Ron know. I’m thinking it would be good to get a banner. We can post it at rallies or events we attend. Locally and on trips.

Did you sign up for the BMWMOA GRAND CODDIWOMPLE in 2022?! Coddiwomple definition: “*to travel in a purposeful manner toward a vague destination*”. I did. And I didn’t fare well. The rules were just too much for me. In January, BMWMOA announced the prize winners for those that finished the Grand Coddiwomple, and our own Brad Moulton was a winner! Congratulations Brad! He won a Motopressor Pump.

I am still interested in obtaining and sharing club member trips or ride summaries with photos that reflect a favorite ride or trip you took on your bike. Send me your info and I’ll place your input in the queue.

Hope to see you at the Monthly Breakfast on Sunday February 12 ! Please sign up in MEETUP.

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

Bruce Dimon's Focus on Safe Riding and Rider Training !

What is a Safety & Training Director? It does not have to be the guy who throws cones down in a parking lot and yells at you to "turn your head!" It might not be the guy who lays out the long list of rules for the group rides and makes everybody sign a waiver. This guy might do those things, but mainly the Director explains how training will make your riding more fun as well as safer. It's the guy who helps you find the right training for you. It's the guy with information based on research, not anecdotes from his brother-in-law.

Too many riders stop training after the BRC (Basic Rider Course) and ride like beginners for the rest of their lives. I ask people why they don't take more training and the responses are generally that they don't ride fast enough to need more skills or that they ride in groups so nobody will pull out in front of them. They are afraid of dropping their bike while practicing in a parking lot. But the number one reason is, "I don't need to train because I already have my license."

I'll figure out how to be a Safety & Training Director with your help. I'll tell you what I learned from each class I took. You tell me what you want to improve. I rode like a beginner for 40 years before I started taking advanced riding classes. Now I enjoy motorcycling more than I ever did in my youth. As Safety & Training Director, I'll be the guy who encourages you to have as much fun as I'm having by increasing your skills to be the rider that you can be.

Bruce Dimon

Here is the latest information on rider training that is available, and also a monthly training video for your review.

1. PA DMV Offers American Motorcycle Training (AMT) Training – ARC ON APRIL 1, 2023!

Your Club has negotiated with the PA DMV American Motorcycle Training group, to hold a group-specific ADVANCED RIDER CLINIC (ARC) on Saturday April 1, 2023 at the below location! As the email I sent out to all club members stated, I created a MEETUP event for club members to sign up for the training.

HOWEVER, If you plan to attend you MUST complete an AMT Student Profile at this [weblink](#) BEFORE I CAN GIVE OUR NAMES TO AMT FOR THEM TO SIGN US ALL UP IN THEIR ROSTER (We will not need to sign up for the course in their website – they will do it for us). When you hit the green link, click on 'REGISTER FOR AN ACCOUNT' – top right of page.

[American Motorcycle Training \(timetap.com\)](#)

Details of the Advanced Rider Clinic (ARC) class can be found at this [Link](#):

[American Motorcycle Training \(timetap.com\)](#)

- Course is offered at this location Only at this time:

Philadelphia County - Bartram Training Center:

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

Riding Range: 9162 Bartram Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19153

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 \(regfox.com\)](#)

3. Ride-Like-A-Pro Training ([Home \(ridelikeapropa.com\)](#))

The Skylands Club in NJ has periodically taken this training. This trainer provider states this is an advanced motorcycle training class designed to teach riders the techniques that Motor Police Officers use for total control of their motorcycles: It teaches riders to lean their bikes at slow speeds without fear of dropping it. Classes are offered periodically during the year at Leesport PA, (Classic Harley-Davidson). Classes are offered April 1, May 7, June 11, July 9, September 17. Class length is 4 hours, there are 4 riders per class, and the fee is \$150. This fee would be reimbursed by the MOA Foundation Paul B Rider Safety Grant ([Paul B. Grants – BMW MOA Foundation](#)).

4. This Month's Video Link for Motorcycle Training

Motorcycle Training Concepts 15 minute video on a couple of accident scenarios and root cause discussion, and some practice methods for motorcycle control in a parking lot. Recent Video. "#MotorcycleTrainingConcepts"

[\(18\) Watching your riding buddies do this is the worst feeling... - YouTube](#)

5. Ways to Make your Motorcycle Safer. Consider Mods to your bike to make it safer:

- a. Horn
- b. Put 'Slime' in your Tire, "Ride On"
- c. Seeing and Being Seen: Lights, including Helmet Lights like "Brake Free"
- d. Seeing and Being Seen: Reflectives (Cheap and Easy to Install)
- e. Helmet Visors: Tinted during day, clear at night.

6. Motorcycle Safety Facts – Motorcycle Accidents are on the Rise. Becoming a better rider can prevent us from becoming a statistic. Consider Training.

[Motorcycles - Injury Facts \(nsc.org\)](#)

[Dangerous States for Motorcycle Riders - QuoteWizard](#)

January Recap

January 8: Monthly Breakfast at the Blue Mountain Drive In & Family Restaurant. Recommended and hosted By Ron Paret. Breakfast was excellent and a good time was had by All! 17 Members attended! Great Turnout!



Above: Breakfast Attendees enjoying themselves.



Left: Past Club President Mike Hopstock (Left) helping Treasurer David Dunn with the Monthly 50-50 Raffle. In this photo – new member Ed Wigfield (on Right) picks the winner! And the winner was.... Joe Leskin !

David Dunn always says: You've got to play to win!

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January 15 – Non-Riding Event at Retriever Brewing. 12 club members including spouses signed up for the event. Ron Paret reported: Good Beer, Good Lobster. A good time was had by all!

January 21 – Non-Riding event at John B Haines IV 2023 Ye 'Ol Antique Logging Exhibition & Workshop in Pennsburg. 1 Member attended. Old tools at work. Free Hot Catered Lunch was great!



February Look Ahead

February 12, Sunday - FEBRUARY BREAKFAST MEETING is @ The New Country View Diner & Family Restaurant. Sign up by February 10 to finalize the reservation. Jim Fortney is hosting this breakfast – his recommendation for the venue! **Let him know how you liked it!**

February 21 – Oregon BDR Documentary Film Showing at the Hamburg Strand Movie House – Sponsored by HERMY's! Signup on the meetup event to let fellow club members know you are going. No signups at HERMY's needed, just show up. 6:30 PM Start. See you there. For more information on BDR's, follow this weblink: [Backcountry Discovery Routes \(BDR\) for Adventure Motorcycling \(ridebdr.com\)](https://ridebdr.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.



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

Club Business

Membership Update:

Members as of 01/01/2022 (New & Renewals):	50
New Members in January	3
<hr/>	
Total 2023 Membership as of 01/29/2023:	53
 [Members That Have Not Renewed (as of 01/29/23):	 (15)]

Treasurer Report – Month Ending January 27, 2023

A quiet month, as expected. Fifteen (15) memberships processed and a 50/50 Raffle deposit. Lots to look forward to as Spring approaches.

Opening Balance as of 12/31/22:	\$2,329.39
Deposits:	
New members and Renewals	\$ 375.00
50/50 Raffle proceeds (January 8 Breakfast)	\$ 35.00
Ending Balance (1/29/2023)	\$ 2,739.39

Regards,

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

CLUB BANNER?



Per the President's Message – examples of club banners from (From Left) Dutch Country Riders, the MAC-PAC, and Mid-Atlantic Riders. If you'd like to volunteer for the Club Banner Committee to design and fabricate the banner, contact Ron Paret or Vince Kelly. Costs to produce the banner will come from the club's account.

BOARD MEMBER LIST

2023 Elected Officials

President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chair, Merchandising Chair, Social Chair: Vince Kelly ~ LVBEEMERS@GMAIL.COM, 610.704.7611

Vice President: Ron Paret, reparet@ptd.net

Secretary: VACANT

Treasurer: David Dunn, davidvdunn@gmail.com

2023 Board Members

Ride Master: Roger Sposili, sposilirj@msn.com

Safety and Training Director: Bruce Dimon, brucedimon@hotmail.com

Webmaster: Chip Richardson, RichardsonF@PTD.Net

The Call of the Road Newsletter Editor: VACANT

Membership Chair: VACANT

Merchandising Chair: VACANT

Social Chair: VACANT

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

Trustees (Past Presidents)

Floyd Keim

Mike Hopstock

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

Current Member New Bikes ! And New Member Bikes !

Current Member – New Bike!

Tim “Wedge” Otoole –2023 S1000 RR ! Says He “Try to Keep Up Suckers!”



Current Member – New Bike!

Liza “Sweet Pea” Miller ! (Randy Miller Enactment of Bike Arrival)



Liza on the Isle of Man (Douglas)



Her New 2023 F900XR

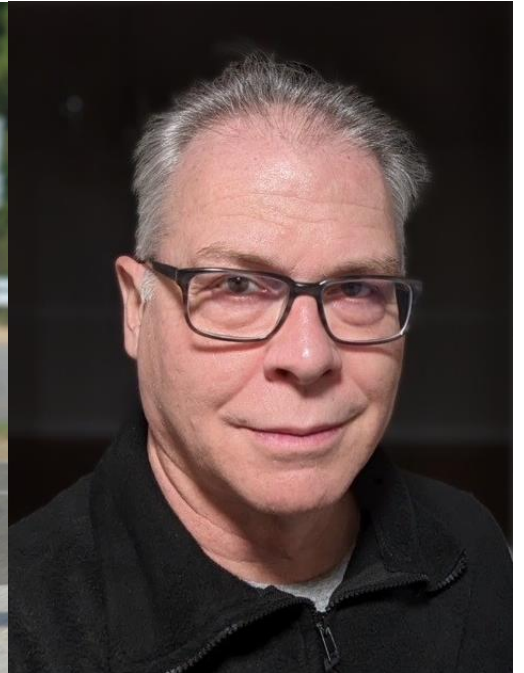
New Member in December -John Sise

John With his R1250RT



New Member in January – Bruce Dimon

Current Bike: 2020 F900XR, Certified Instructor for MSF and Total Control's Advanced Rider Clinic Level 1



New Member in January – Larry Johnson

New Club Member, New BMWMOA Member, with his brand-new looking 1995 K1100LT



New Member in January – Dave Baechle

New to BMW. New BMWMOA. New Club Member. Will be Riding a 2019 K1600 B. Currently waiting for the bike to arrive in Allentown, having flown to San Antonio to Purchase the Bike Recently

JUST ANNOUNCED: BMW RT, GS, GSA RECALL FOR MODEL YEARS 2019-2023

I receive advance notices from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). On January 25 I received this notice below. Recall # 23V011 was just announced by NHTSA. Usually it takes months for the manufacturer to notify owners and pursue actions. Suggest you contact your BMW Dealer NOW if this applies to you and advise them you want to get in the queue.

I KNOW A NUMBER OF CLUB MEMBERS OWN RT'S, GS'S, AND GSA'S IN THIS AGE BRACKET.

Some details on the recall provided in links (yellow highlight).



Your vehicle MAY be involved in a safety recall and MAY create a safety risk for you or your passengers. If left unrepaired, a potential safety defect could lead to injury or even death. Safety defects must be repaired by a dealer at no cost to you.

Why am I getting this email?

You are receiving this message because you requested to be notified by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) if there is a safety recall that may affect your vehicle.

The following may apply to one or more of your vehicles if your vehicle is listed below. Click on the NHTSA Recall ID Number below to read more about the safety issue and the reason for the recall.

To find out if your specific passenger vehicle is included in the recall, use our [VIN Look-up Tool](#).

NHTSA Recall ID Number : [23V011](#)

Manufacturer : BMW of North America, LLC

Subject : Gearbox Input Shaft May Break

Make	Model	Model Years
BMW	R 1250 GS	2019-2023
BMW	R 1250 GS ADVENTURE	2019-2023
BMW	R 1250 RT	2019-2023

What is a recall?

When a manufacturer or the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) determines that a vehicle creates an unreasonable risk to safety or fails to meet minimum safety standards, the manufacturer is required to fix that vehicle at no cost to the owner. That can be done by repairing it, replacing it, offering a refund (for equipment) or, in rare cases, repurchasing the car.

What should I do if my vehicle is included in this recall?

If your vehicle is included in this recall, it is very important that you get it fixed as soon as possible given the potential danger to you and your passengers if it is not addressed. You should receive a separate letter in the mail from the vehicle manufacturer, notifying you of the recall and explaining when the remedy will be available, whom to contact to repair your vehicle, and to remind you that the repair will be done at no charge to you. If you believe your vehicle is included in the recall, but you do not receive a letter in the mail from the vehicle manufacturer, please call NHTSA's Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236, or contact your vehicle manufacturer or dealership.

Thank you for your attention to this important safety matter and for your commitment to helping save lives on America's roadways.

Additional Resources

[Understanding Vehicle Recalls](#)

[Recalls FAQ](#)

Thank you,

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
United States Department of Transportation

GEARBOX INPUT SHAFT MAY BREAK

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23V011000

Potential Number of Units affected 18,489

Summary: BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain 2019-2023 R1250GS, R1250GS Adventure, and R1250RTP motorcycles. In certain engine operating and riding conditions, the gearbox input shaft may become damaged or break, possibly resulting in a blocked rear wheel.

Remedy: Dealers will update the engine control unit software, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed March 10, 2023. Owners may contact BMW customer service at 1-800-525-7417.

Story behind the Recall: [RMISC-23V011-6214.pdf](#)
([nhtsa.gov](#))

Recall Program Announcement: [RCRIT-23V011-2024.pdf](#)
([nhtsa.gov](#))

SOFTWARE UPDATE IS THE FIX ! INTERESTING.

SOME HUMOR



Doug Simmons

June 26 · 🌐

Currently sitting on US 52 in Ohio just across from Ashland KY. Witnesses state a coyote and a roadrunner were near the scene moments before this huge boulder fell to the road.



Jim Lane

I was there earlier. Here is what I saw.



We just had a guy come into our auto parts store asking if we sold longer dipsticks, because his doesn't reach his oil anymore.



To get rid of unwanted junk during the holidays ...

Put it in an Amazon box and leave it on the porch.

I DON'T RIDE A HARLEY

SO I GOT THAT GOIN' FOR ME, WHICH IS NICE

If I can stand up to a woman, so can you.



BUY THE MOTORCYCLE!!!

ME AT A PARTY



SHOWING STRANGERS PICS OF MY BIKE