



Beemer Buzz

Dedicated to the Unity, Sociability, & Good Fellowship of all BMW Owners

Wisconsin BMW Motorrad Club

Volume 59 – Issue # 2

February 2026

President's Report

Wasn't it a nice brunch?

Thank you Jim Furman for a great event!

Looking forward one of the things brought up at the In & Out board meeting was possibly having someone at a meeting to speak on issues related to our sport. That being said, I am looking for anyone who would like to give a short presentation on the motorcycle riding, maintenance, camping etc. subject of your choice. If you know of someone that could be invited to give a short presentation. Please let me know.

We're on the way to spring! The Wild Goose date is out, followed by the Slimy Crud and the GR3. (See upcoming events → ed.)

Any volunteers for a tech session?

We are all aging and are making adaptations to how we do things. This includes the club.

It has been suggested we may adapt as a club also. I will be bringing the suggestions forward at meetings to come.

Andy would love contributions to the newsletter. Help him out!

I leave you with this;

May you have love that never ends, lots of money, and lots of friends.

Health be yours, what ever you do, and may God send many blessings to you.

Ride safe and warm.

Bob L

Upcoming Events

Your ride could go here! Of course with the onset of Winter there's not going to be much going on for riding anymore. So, THIS WOULD BE A GREAT TIME TO THINK ABOUT AND PLAN TO LEAD A RIDE NEXT YEAR!!!! Please let Jeff Johnson know if you are planning on leading a ride!

Blackhawk Region Swap Meet April 25th

For those of us who are cleaning closets and basements during the dark winter months, with the hopes to move some items on to new owners: The Blackhawk Region BMW Club is hosting their annual Flea Market on April 25, in Leaf River, IL Put it on your calendars! More info will come on who to contact and how to reserve your spaces. It's recommended you bring your own tables.

Wild Goose Ride April 19th \$20 advance 24 at the door. (Looking for a ride leader!)

GR3 Rally May 15-17 2026

Veterans Park, Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin
<https://madisonbmwclub.org/gr3/>

BMWMOA Rally June 11 – 13 2026

Champlain Valley Expo Center in Essex Junction, Vermont. The event will take place on 130 acres of space, offering recreational areas, RV and tent camping, and numerous activities, with a focus on enjoying Vermont's scenic roads and local attractions like maple creemees.

BMWRA Rally June 18 – 21 2026 The BMW Riders Association rally will be held at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairground in Chippewa Falls WI. It was held there previously in 2011 (The Firecracker Rally!)

2026 Officials

President
Bob Lannin 414-477-9626
president@wiscbmwclub.com

Vice President
Jim Fuhrmann
vicepresident@wiscbmwclub.com

Secretary
Dave Kurth
secretary@wiscbmwclub.com

Treasurer
Eddy Boskamp
treasurer@wiscbmwclub.com

Board Member at Large
Jeff Johnson
member_at_large@wiscbmwclub.com

Trustees
Mike Cohen
trustee2@wiscbmwclub.com

Jim Galaszewski 414-640-3467
trustee1@wiscbmwclub.com

Constitution Committee
Dewayne Williams, Andy Pretzl (2 year)
Kevin Krueger, Mike Cohen (1 year)
constitution@wiscbmwclub.com

Social Media Director
NONE – Looking for a volunteer! Please contact either Bob Lannin or Jim Fuhrmann

Webmaster
Tim Koester
webmaster@wiscbmwclub.com

Rally Chair
Tina Doggett
rallychair@wiscbmwclub.com

Sunshine Committee
Bob Reitberger
sunshine@wiscbmwclub.com

Newsletter Editor
Andy Pretzl
editor@wiscbmwclub.com



February Birthdays!

February 5th Bill Stephan

February 6th Jinna Bishop

February 7th Debra Bacon

February 8th Raquel Korb

February 9th Heidi Goehring

February 15th David Luber

February 24th Wendy Pipcorn

February 26th Mike McArthey

February 27th Al Tickner

Wisconsin BMW Motorrad Club Newsletter: The Beemer Buzz
Volume 59 Issue #2

Article submissions are due to the Newsletter editor **by** the 20th of the month for the following month's publication. The editor reserves the right to correct, edit, change or omit all submissions.

Note from the newsletter editor

Please note, going forward items sent to me via text message will not be added to the newsletter. Way too much monkeying around to get them onto my system and converted to a usable format. If I missed something critical let me know so I can fix it, especially misspelled names of club members. A February secret word is located somewhere in the newsletter! 1st person that knows the meaning that tells me at the club meeting gets a free drink courtesy of the underpaid newsletter editor. No parking lot ambushes please! As always tips and gratuities are welcome. To file any complaints please go to the club complaint manager Helen Waite. ;-) Have an exceedingly fine day!

Wisconsin BMW Motorcycle Club Upcoming Rides

Seeing as the weather is trending towards less than favorable riding conditions for the next few months this is a great time to think about planning and leading a ride or two (or even more!) for the 2026 riding season!

FYI – There is no special training or anything needed to lead a ride. Pick a destination, map out a route and announce it in the newsletter, club website and facebook page. Easiest way to do that is to email the time, date, secret word is poltroon starting location and destination to editor@wiscbmwclub.com webmaster@wiscbmwclub.com and socialmedia@wiscbmwclub.com at least 30 days before the ride so people have time to plan.

Remember to thank your ride leader! *(If you choose to tip him or her please make sure they are not sitting on their motorcycle as parts are expensive.)*

2026 Dues

Happy new year BMW club members!

During the in out board meeting on January 18, the board decided to keep dues the same as last year (\$30) and to refund everyone who worked at least 2 shifts at the rally or was a committee chair/member for the rally \$15. Additionally, per the miscellaneous policies, the editor, webmaster, rally chair and social media director do not pay any dues in acknowledgment for time and service rendered to the club.

If you know how many shifts you worked at last year's rally you can figure out how much you owe for 2026 (dues minus refund) and pay me now. I am awaiting a list of shifts worked from last year's rally chair so ultimately, I will know everyone's refund. **I would like to have the 2026 dues paid by April 1 at the latest.**

Send your checks to Ed Boskamp, 344 S Elm st, Oconomowoc, WI 53066 and mention "2026 dues" on the check. You can also pay in person at the February or March meeting.

Ed B
Treasurer BMW club

Club Member has multiple motorcycles for sale:

Vintage BMW Airhead – hotrod for sale

1977 R100S – Total rebuild 40K Miles ago, good paint, 336 high lift cam.

\$3500

1999 R1100R ~ 70k miles, blue, windscreen, bags, great runner. Asking \$2000 obo.

2003 R1100RS Boxer Prep Special Edition, ~12k miles, silver, excellent condition, runs great asking \$4000 obo.

2002 R1150RS, ~70k miles, blue, lowered suspension \$3000 obo

Please contact Brian Manke 262-949-0715 for details about any of these BMWs.

If anyone needs a hotel room for the 2026 National BMW Rally in Essex Junction,

Vermont, please contact Bill Ewert. Bill has 10 double queen rooms reserved at the Fairfield Hotel at a rate of \$200 per night - tax included.

The Fairfield Hotel is about 4 miles from the venue location. 2844 St George Road, Williston VT.

Reservations will be under your name and held on your credit card, you are simply taking one of the rooms from Bill's pool of 10 rooms.

Please let Bill know if you are interested. Rooms need to be booked by 5/12/26.

Wisconsin BMW Motorcycle Club "In & Out" Meeting Minutes January 18th , 2026

Officers in attendance: Eddy Boskamp, Dewayne Williams, Jim Fuhrmann, Jeff Johnson, Bob Lannin, Mike Cohen, Ross Bennett, Bob Reitberger, Dave Kurth

Bob opened the meeting.

Jim mentioned that most officers are not fully aware of their individual roles and responsibilities. It was recommended that each officer review this.

Refunding partial membership dues for working shifts at the Rally.

Club members can earn a \$15.00 credit towards their next years member ship for working two shifts at the previous year's Rally.

Jim made a motion to continue this policy for 2026. Dewayne seconded and the motion was passed.

Some members have mentioned that they are not receiving email notices. Ross Bennett has mentioned that he has not received all the emails circulated.

This will be a topic for New Business at the February meeting.

The Club position of Social Media Director, responsible for Facebook account, is still open. Members interested should contact Bob or Jim.

Ross mentioned that the local Ducati Club is having issues with attendance and organization. Open discussions on this. The following items regarding this were mentioned.

1) Due to the average age of our membership, this same thing could happen to our Club in 5 to 10 years.

2) Jeff Johnson mentioned that the monthly meetings are a bit dry and we should figure out ways to liven the meetings up a little. Jeff recommended that we open up the meetings to include more discussions on riding, various topics on motorcycles, and

Technical Talks.

3) Mike Cohen said that we should schedule separate Tech meetings like we have in the past.

4) Dave said the we should consider inviting other riders that don't own a BMW.

a. Why not invite the Ducati riders and other people we know that ride to our Club meetings and Club rides?

5) Dave recommended that we could start the meetings a half hour earlier to 7:30pm and let it the extend to 9:00pm. This would enable adding bike topics in with the new and old business.

Mike Cohen brought up the following topics:

1) Mike volunteered and was approved to circulate copies of the updated Constitution and the updated list of Past and Present Officers.

2) Mike Cohen made a motion to keep the annual Club dues at \$30.00 and the initiation fee at \$18.00. Eddy seconded and the motion was passed.

3) Mike asked questions regarding the revised point system. Bob said to refer to the point system as listed in the Club Facebook account.

4) Mike asked to have more defined clarification in the point system for the "Couples Award". This topic was tabled.

Dave made a motion to close the meeting. Jim seconded and the motion was passed.

David Kurth

Wisconsin BMW Club Installation Brunch

The event was held on Sunday January 18th at Weissgerber's Golden Mast Inn, in Okauchee WI. The In & Out meeting for the Board was held at 10:00am and the cash bar opened at 11:00am with the brunch beginning at Noon. The event was well attended despite the chilly weather, below are a few pictures of the event. An extra thanks to Jim Fuhrmann for setting this up!



The gang waiting for the announcement to go eat!



1st Place Mileage Winner Doug Twing



2nd Place Mileage Winner Jim Fuhrmann



2025 Above & Beyond Club Service Winner Eric Schindler



2025 Couples Award Winners Dennis and Wendi Pipkorn

Wisconsin BMW Club Member Bio

(Maybe a new part of the newsletter if there are no objections and people send me bios)

Hi, I'm Andy Pretzl currently the Newsletter editor and member of the Constitution Committee. I started riding in 1979 while stationed in Italy on a 50cc Caballero that a guy in the barracks owned. He and another 'experienced' rider taught me all the important things I needed to know, like NEVER touch the front brake ("It'll flip the bike over and kill ya!!") and the best way to stop quickly is to stomp down on the rear brake and skid. ("If the skid don't work then ya gotta lay it down") Some how I managed to survive that spectacular training then, I was stationed in Phoenix where I took the required on base motorcycle training. It was a combination of the official Air Force training and large parts of the MSF rider course. Sure was an eye opener, that front brake can actually be handy ...



I bought my 1st Beemer new in 1982 while stationed in Phoenix and since then that's all I've owned. They just keep getting better, the shift cam engine is fantastic! The R65 then gave way to the RT as it had a more upright riding position. I put a bunch of miles on the RT, and then when on a trip to Europe with a bunch of people from the club. In a glitch with the bike rental request no RT was available and my choice was either a K1600GT or a R1200GS. The flat twin is my beloved engine configuration and after one of the rental guys showed me that I could lower the suspension by pushing a button I took the GS. Boy howdy, that was another eye opener right there! Fast and steady on the Autobahn and Autostrada and a tremendous cornering demon in the twisties. (I'm told the GS even works well off the road but I'm scared to try it there as I'm too broken to be able to pick the beastie up when I fall)

I joined the club in November of 2007 and have been the Board Member at Large, served on the Constitution committee and vaguely remember being Rally Vendor chair once or twice when the rally was still held at Chula Vista. I've also been a Trustee on the BMWRA board.

Non motorcycle related Christa and I have been married for almost 40 years, we have 3 kids, Monica, Luke (just got married last October) and Maria (getting married in November 2026). I'm retired from the IT industry spending a majority of it in Information Security. Should have pulled the plug on that nonsense a lot sooner. This retired stuff is a lot less stressful.

Outside of the club back in my working years I was active in the information security area of a number of organizations. I held the positions of Events Director, Vice President, President and Treasurer of the Milwaukee chapter of the Information Systems Security Association, Board chair of the MATC Information Security program Industry Advisory board and I'm still a member of the FBI InfraGard chapter here in Wisconsin. Outside of work related stuff I was also a Den Leader & Cub Master with Pack 109 and later an Assistant Scout Master with Troop 109.

Motorcycles owned:

Late 1970's Suzuki 250 TS (Sold to another Airman)

Mid 1980's Suzuki 550 GS (Traded in on the LS)

1982 BMW R65LS (Sold to a wanna be BMW rider)

2002 BMW R1150 RT (Sold to a Ducati rider so his significant other could ride in comfort)

2014 R1200GS (RIP – slain by distracted driver)

2019 R1250 GS (Current ride)

Andy Pretzl

Wisconsin Club Membership

Many long and lasting friendships have been made through the Wisconsin Club since its inception in 1967. You are welcome to come and join us and meet the friendly and knowledgeable people who share a mutual respect for riding BMW motorcycles.

Our membership includes men, women, families, couples, and singles. Our meetings are open to all BMW riders.

During the riding season, we sponsor many activities, including group rides, tech days, social get-togethers, and in September we host the annual Wisconsin Dells Rally.

Visitors are welcome. If you are interested in membership, you will be asked to attend two club rides and two monthly club meetings within 12 months prior to being voted in by the general membership. You must own and operate a BMW motorcycle. Helmets and proof of insurance are required by all participants on club rides.

Meetings are the 1st Friday of each month at 8:00 pm
(exceptions: January, May and September)

Location:

VFW Post 5716

17980 West Beloit Road, New Berlin, WI 262-679-0800



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