



# THE GASLINE

Brandywine Motorsport Club, Inc.

[www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org](http://www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org)

February 2022

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**Club Meeting – Tuesday, February 1st. Greet & Eat @ 6:00, Meeting @ 7  
Deerhead Hot Dogs, 1233 Churchmans Rd.,**

**<https://www.dhhotdogs.com>**

**Soft drinks available – BYOB - Bring your own beer, wine, etc.**

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## Club Chair



Hello, everyone, and welcome to 2022... I think.

We're working to put together a good motorsports season for you this year.

**Autocross** will have at least four events this year. **Rally** is already on

schedule to open our season in mid-March, and we're hoping to expand our involvement with the **Coatesville Vintage Grand Prix** and related events. It's shaping up to be an exciting year, despite the continuing challenges.

In other news, our **Treasurer** of recent years, Jim Martin, has resigned from the Board. We thank Jim for his dedication to the Club. **Heather Alderman** has kindly offered to serve as interim Treasurer, or to take the position officially if no one else is interested. If anyone else would like to be Treasurer, please let me know at [BMCchair@gmail.com](mailto:BMCchair@gmail.com) and we can discuss it. Either way, big thanks to Heather for volunteering!

We've been discussing a **Holiday Party** for the first part of 2022, but feedback has been low and turnout at general meetings has been poor. Are people interested in a social get-together, or is the pandemic still keeping folks away? We'd like to have a party and share the Club's appreciation of our members and friends, but there's not really a point if only a handful of people would be there. Please let me know at the email address above if you would attend – or definitely wouldn't – so we can decide if it is worth planning.

That's it for now – keep your eye out for announcements and events on [motorsportreg.com](http://motorsportreg.com). And remember, you can renew memberships online at [www.msreg.com/BMCMembership2022](http://www.msreg.com/BMCMembership2022) !

*Duke "No Shadow" Wilford, BMC Club Chair*

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## Autocross



**Long time no vrooms and happy new year, all!**

**I'm pleased to announce that we've been busy under the hood here at BMC, and just signed with Ripken for the 2022 autocross season!**

This year's event dates will be:

**March 26 - AX I**

**May 28 - AX II**

**July 23 - AX III**

**October 8 - AX IV**

**November 12 - Rain date or possible AX V**

Preregistration for AX I will open on February 12, six weeks before the event.

To prepare for this season, I will be releasing non-member car numbers in advance of opening pre-reg. This means you have TWO WEEKS to register as a member or your car number WILL NOT be reserved!

All members also receive \$5 off BMC events for the full year. And we're still working out the nuts and bolts, but we're hoping to offer annual tech as an additional perk this year.

You can sign up at MSR using the link below. Please use the form to tell us your preferred car number - if you don't, we'll use last year's.

<http://msreg.com/BMCMembership2022>

Just a general reminder that paddock is now in the main lot instead of the VIP lot.

My final bit of exciting news is that we may be purchasing Philly SCCA's old timing truck in the spring! More details to come.

Can't wait to get out there with everyone again!.

*Liz Wilford, BMC Autocross Chair*

302-353-7254

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## BMC Meeting Highlights

The 04 January 2022 meeting was held at Deer Head Hot Dogs in Christiana, DE. Meeting was attended by 6 members, 2 of them new. Turnout was a record low. No quorum of Exec Board. Meeting called to order by Club Chair Duke at 7:15pm.

**Secretary:** Did not attend. Notes kept by AX Chair and transcribed by Club Chair. December Elections with one candidate for each Exec Board position. Only change is Membership Chair to Alex Brooke.

**Treasurer:** Did not attend. Current bank balance is ~ \$34,700.00. Incorporation fee paid for 2022 (\$44). Insurance due in March. Club is remaining with K&K Insurance, but they are switching underwriters - minimal impact expected. There are ~ \$4,000 in unused event credits with various users on MSR. About \$1,000 are from CVGP will expire at the end of 2022. Club Chair proposes to make all open credits expire at that time, and will send email alerts. Future credits will have a 1-year lifespan from date of issue.

**Membership:** New Membership Chair not expected to attend regular meetings due to travel distance. Two new members, Chris Pippin and Chris Devaux, attended the meeting.

**Rally:** Chair did not attend. First Rally event is tentatively scheduled to be the Shamrock Showdown III, around St. Patrick's Day.

**Autocross:** Autocross Chair presented the following information:

- Proposed AX dates – 26 March, 28 May, 23 July, 08 October, with possible alternate / extra date of 12 November. Ripken Management will send contract for signature and deposit will be required.

- AX Chair has been in discussion with Philly SCCA concerning purchase of their old timing truck. Asking price is \$5,000 including PA system, timing computer(s), monitors, etc. BMC proposes to get a small group together to examine the truck before proceeding with negotiations. Details are needed to determine approximate yearly costs. Truck would replace current trailer. Convenient / inexpensive / secure parking location will be needed.

- AX Chair intends to release reserved car numbers for non-members and expired members in February. Announcement will be made ahead of time.

**Property:** Chair did not attend.

**Newsletter:** Editor did not attend. Contributions for the February Gasline are due to the Editor by 27 January.

### Other business:

- Discussion of holiday party venues occurred, with preference towards north / west locations to accommodate newer members from central PA area.

- General discussion of other potential AX sites.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

## Rally



Hi all! It's almost that time of year... time for our annual season opener road rally: the **Shamrock Showdown!** Join us **Saturday, March 12th** for the 3rd annual running of this fun event.

More details to come as we continue to work on the route, and get closer to the date. Looking forward to sharing what is special about this year's route with you all that day!

- *Hanna Alderman, Rally Chair*

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## Membership

No new business from the membership desk, just a reminder to sign up and enjoy the amazing benefits of the title "BMC Member"! You can renew memberships online at [www.msreg.com/BMCMembership2022](http://www.msreg.com/BMCMembership2022).

*Alex Brooke, BMC Membership Chair*

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## Marketing Con Job





## Automotive Batteries – Starting Cold

With cold weather upon us, our vehicle batteries are challenged with much higher current draws during a cold start due to a variety of factors, especially caused by cold engine oil being more resistant to being pumped by the oil pump.

Efficient cold startups are affected by a variety of factors. Always follow the manufacturer's owner's manual for the recommended procedure; however there may be few tips which may not be covered.

Today's fuel injected vehicles have an array of sensors to allow an engine to operate optimally as long as the fuel and engine management system are in proper working order.

When starting a cold engine, and the vehicle is started with a key, not a push button, turn the key to the on position and wait five seconds before cranking. This allows the fuel pump to prime the fuel system.

On both systems, key and push button, do not depress the gas pedal.

Do not allow the starter motor (engine cranking) to operate continuously longer than fifteen seconds. If the engine does not start, allow five to ten seconds between starting attempts to allow the starter motor to cool down.

As the starting system's efficiency is affected by other factors, such as the switching components and especially the battery cables which need to be securely fastened to the battery posts with clean connections.

Most of today's batteries are maintenance free, but if not, it's important to maintain the proper electrolyte (battery acid) level. Use distilled water to top off a battery as necessary. Only fill to 1/4" below the surface of the battery.

Keep the top of the battery clean. Baking soda and water work well. Wear protective gloves and goggles to avoid compromising your skin.

As for batteries, there are several specifications that need to be considered. If replacing a battery, always replace the battery with a battery recommended for your vehicle, though note in some instances there may be some differences in their specifications such as the reserve capacity which reflects how many minutes a battery will provide power if the charging system (alternator) fails.

When replacing a battery, assuming your vehicle is negative ground (most vehicles since the late 60's are), always remove the negative cable first and then the positive cable. On installation, install the positive cable first then the negative cable. Not only is this the safe manner, failure to follow the procedure could permanently damage electronic modules in the vehicle.

Also note that if the battery is disconnected and a memory saver is not used, every electrical preset will be erased (emissions, radio stations, etc.). Additionally, the engine control module will lose all of its adaptive memory such that the vehicle will need to be driven to readapt. On vehicles 1996 and newer the engine management "monitors" are cleared, requiring the vehicle to be driven through a manufacturer's prescribed drive cycle to reset the monitors to pass emission testing.

Lastly of vital importance, on newer vehicles it is important to determine if your vehicle requires the replacement battery to be registered to your vehicle's engine management system. This must be done with an appropriate scan tool.

*Contributed by Dave Back*

