

THE SHAFT

The Journal of the Riders Association of the Mid-South



<https://www.bmwrams.com>



"The Notepad Edition"

While our fearless Editor is away on a well-deserved break ...

December 2019 Meeting Minutes

- *Spencer Bennett*

The meeting was called to order by President Art Manchester IV on December 14, 2019 at 8:00 PM at the Home of Spencer & Rose-Anne Bennett in Hernando, MS. There were 18 RAMS and 1 bike in attendance (way to go Bruce Ottway who rode down from Murray, KY and rode home after the meeting).

Call to order

1. We have no new members for this month.
2. We currently have 78 new and returning members for 2019.
3. There was one guest for the meeting. Erin Lankford was the guest of Tom & Leslie Wolfgang,
4. Thanks to Meeting Hosts: Spencer & Rose-Anne Bennett

New Business

1. We still need Volunteers to host Donut Saturdays. December 28 is still available. Let an Officer know if you want to volunteer.
2. Officer Nominations for 2020 are open with the following nominations:
 - a. President: Art Manchester IV
 - b. Vice-President: Paul Whitworth & Paul Rhodes
 - c. Secretary/Treasurer: Spencer Bennett
3. All the nominated candidates have indicated a willingness to serve in the nominated position.

RAMS Rally Update

1. Bryan Leonard is the RAMS 2020 Rally Chair.

VP's Corner

1. Paul asked that anyone who has an idea for a RAMS Ride get the information to him.

Old Business

1. If anyone still does not have their picture in the online directory, please see Spencer or Rosey. We need these for the 2020 on-line directory. The following RAMS do not have pictures in the directory: *Joe & Joanie Barber, Chris Braese, James & Caffie Chambers, Casey & Rebecca Harden, John H. Holliday Jr, Daniel Hovater, Marty Irby, Michael Pandolf, Dave Watkins, and John Whitworth.* Please send a photo to webmaster@bmwrams.com.
2. If you would like a RAMS patch (old logo only), decal (old and new logos) or need RAMS business cards, please get with Spencer.

For the Good of the Club

1. Check RAMS website for rally schedules for other Club's Rallies.
2. RAMS Meeting hosts are needed for 2020.
3. Spencer Bennett, Chip Mann, and Jim Linneman will be attending the North East Florida Rally on January 17-18, 2020. They are renting a house and have one bedroom available. Planned departure is on January 15. Please let Spencer know if you are interested in joining them.
4. The January Meeting will be held on January 11, 2020 at:

Fox Ridge Pizza

711 W Brookhaven Circle

Memphis, TN 38117

Ph: 901-758-6500

This is the Election Meeting so please make every effort to attend. Lunch will begin at 1200 and the Meeting will be at 1:00.

If a Pre-Meeting Ride is scheduled it will be communicated by e-mail.

5. If you have an item you would like to see in the next meeting agenda, please get it to the Secretary by Wednesday prior to the meeting and it will be added to the next meeting agenda. This is not required for an item to be discussed, but it will make sure it gets in the mix. Send the information to: officers@bmwrams.com

Treasurer's Report

1. Balance in Bank plus petty cash = \$6536.14
2. Petty Cash = \$50.00
3. No Major Expenses for the month:

Movement to adjourn: Tom Wolfgang; **Second:** Crystal Manchester/Mark Campbell; **Vote:** Unanimous to adjourn

RAMS December Meeting and Christmas Party

- *Spencer Bennett*

The December 2019 RAMS Meeting and Christmas Party was hosted by Spencer & Rose-Anne Bennett at their home in Hernando, MS on December 14.

The first to arrive was Bruce Ottway, who had ridden down from Murray, KY for the meeting and had made better time than expected, followed by Joe & Sheri Marshall, also from Kentucky. These Kentucky folks are apparently serious about making meetings on time.

The rest of the RAMS filtered in over the next little bit and by the official start time of 6 pm there were 18 RAMS present. Marshall Robilio was kind enough to bring a video presentation of RAMS History from years past which was presented on the TV in the living room and ran throughout the evening. It was wonderful to see the old pictures and rekindle the memories of past events and people.



The meal at this event has traditionally been a “potluck” with the entre provided by the RAMS and everyone bringing a side dish to support it. This year the entre was smoked brisket provided by Rick & Susan Coffman and it was truly delicious, as were all the wonderful side dishes and desserts brought by the RAMS.



The meeting was a chance for the Bennetts to show a new addition to their home in the form of a 16 X 30 foot enclosed sun room that allowed for all of the RAMS to be seated in the same room for dinner, although they tended to scatter though out the house as is their norm.

As dinner was winding down, Art Manchester (President until he can find a replacement) called the meeting to order. The Wolfgangs introduced their Guest for the meeting, Erin Lankford who is visiting with them for a few days and new RAMS Member Karen & Mark Campbell were introduced as well.



The rest of the official meeting went as usual (see the minutes for details) and were soon out of the way so we could get to the Sneaky Santa gift exchange. This works like this: Everyone draws a number and then the person with number 1 selects a gift from under the tree, unwraps it and shows it to the group. Person number 2 then either selects a gift or takes the gift from number 1. If number 1 loses their gift they then select another gift. Number 3 then can either take the gift from number 1 or 2 or select from the pile under the tree, and it continues until all of the gifts are given out. The maximum number of times a gift can be “taken” is three, the original taking from the tree and two more by others, else you would be all night getting it done. Gifts are limited to \$25.00 in value and vaguely motorcycle related and there were many that were well thought out. After the gift exchange the party

resumed with conversation and planning for the coming year's activities until it was finally time for the evening to end. Everyone went out to see Bruce off as he was the only motorcycle to

make it to the meeting, and then make their way home full of good food, good memories, and making plans for the coming year.

Christmas Party Photo Gallery (Thank You, Marshall Robilio!)



A glimpse of the sides and deserts. The brisket and chicken evaporated before pictures!



Tom slips out of his contraption long enough to play Sneaky Santa



Karen is a happy camper!



Joe: "OMG, it's MR HAPPY!!"



Paul schools Fred on the art of gift-stealing



Marshall: "It's MINE!"



Mark: great gift for a new BMW rider!





The lovely Erin with her best friend (and Tom's sponsor), Leslie Wolfgang

Joe flew home to KY, then drove down with Sheri. Thanks so much, y'all!



(Above): Your Hosts, the Bennetts

(Right): "Hey, I might want that later, don't get too comfy!"

