

**June 2009**

# **NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc**

**Skip Palmer, President, [president@njsbmwr.org](mailto:president@njsbmwr.org)**

**Joe Karol, Vice President**

**Roger Trendowski, Secty/Treasurer**

*secretary@njsbmwr.org*

**Dennis Swanson, Trustee and Cub Reporter**

**Don Eilenberger, Trustee and Newsletter Editor**

**John Welch, Trustee**

**John Malaska, Newsletter Publisher**

Club Membership Application at: <http://www.njsbmwr.org/>

*NJSBMWR\_Application.pdf*



Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that's the stuff life is made of. [Benjamin Franklin \(1706 - 1790\)](#), 'Poor Richard's Almanack,' June 1746

Prosperity is only an instrument to be used, not a deity to be worshipped. Calvin Coolidge (1872 - 1933), speech, June 11, 1928

Be open to your dreams, people. Embrace that distant shore. Because our mortal journey is over all too soon. [David Assael](#), Northern Exposure, It Happened in Juneau, 1992

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

This month, the movers will arrive to relocate Susan and I to our Florida home. For several years we have been planning how to retire, relocate, and transition into this new phase of our lives. Our plans have evolved into sound solutions. Change requires major decisions, which have been made and preparations are in place for what is the most dramatic shift in our family since starting our lives together after college and military service.

We have been reminded repeatedly throughout this process that what we leave behind is more than careers, houses, and New Jersey. The comfort of close friends and familiar places has enriched our lives and will be missed beyond measure.

June will be the last month I serve as President; however, our club is in the very capable hands of Joe Karol and Roger Trendowski. Joe and I have been planning for a smooth transition as he takes over the office of president with the support of Roger continuing as treasurer and secretary. The acting officers and Trustees guide the New Jersey BMW Shore Riders Inc.

I am very grateful I joined the club and was provided the opportunity to serve in various capacities. The past ten years flew by because of your friendships and our shared experiences. They are something that I have enjoyed immensely and will cherish the memories.

Susan and I want to thank everyone for attending the "Surprise Dinner" at the Cabin on Friday evening. I appreciate your kind comments and shared memories of our experiences together. Thank you for the beautiful commemorative clock.

*Skip Palmer, President*

## **DUDLEY WINS MAJOR AWARD!**

*Bill Dudley reporting*

**2009 British and European Classic Motorcycle Day at Butlers Orchard**

William and I rode down to Gaithersburg Saturday afternoon and evening, May 16, via Delmarva peninsula and US 50. We had nice weather except

for the Biblical rain for the last 30 miles. The only hiccup was the "new" used gas cap decided to lock itself, but fortunately we discovered this at the gas station a mile from my house, so we rode back home and I drilled it and put a screw in it.



Sunday, May 17, we rode from the motel in Gaithersburg to Butlers Orchard. We entered both bikes (my Commando and my R90S) in the concours. This was the first major outing for the R90S since I had the tank repainted by the kids at the Ocean County Vo-Tech in Jackson.

The flea market was pretty sparse, but I did pick up a new set of BMW petcocks, and some nice machined aluminum fork caps for the Norton.

The organizers had announced that if you were going to win something, they would hang a tag on your handlebar. After hanging about a few hours, we decided to leave since it didn't look like I'd be winning any trophies, since no handlebar tag. So we packed up and got suited up, and then the Norton wouldn't start.

There were no shortage of kibitzers, but one bystander offered a voltmeter, and Chris (mumble), Norton expert (and husband of Steve Atkinson's widow, Loretta), offered to help debug the problem. We eventually discovered that both a wire had broken (inside the insulation, so it was invisible) down at the Boyer pickup plate, AND the Boyer module itself had died. I'm still don't understand how we got TWO failures at the same time. (I \*do\* have a piece of foam rubber holding the wires down at the pickup plate, I already know about that trick.)

Chris sold us his spare Boyer, and we were ready to go, finally.

Meanwhile, during the debugging, I heard the announcement that my R90S had taken second place in the German 1970-1985 class.



We saddled up around 4PM and hit the road, and taking 2 lane roads for the first few hours, got back to Jackson around 11PM.

## **RA RALLY ADVENTURE RIDER CLINIC, JULY 23-26, CANAAN VALLEY, WV**

*Elsie Smith, BMW-RA*

This course consists of 4 hours of seminar and off-road motorcycle riding instruction on a closed course that has been groomed for beginners, yet has challenging areas for more advanced riders to hone their skills. The course enables riders to transition from the basics of off-roading to the more complex techniques needed for multi-day trips on dual-sport machines. This course combines the skill-building of the basic off-road course with advanced techniques for single track and obstacles.

You'll learn skills that enable you to transition from asphalt to double track, single track, and fire trails. The fundamentals of straight lines, turning, body posture, and braking are combined to handle obstacles, stream crossings, and tight single track.

We'll teach you the fundamentals and demonstrate real-world challenges so that riders can assess terrain and risk, then make good choices using skills practiced here. It's a course that builds confidence and breaks down barriers without destroying you and your gear.

There will be four classes offered during the rally including one on Thursday afternoon, two on Friday, and one on Saturday morning. Morning classes will begin at 8:00am and run till 12:00 noon. The afternoon class will begin at 1:00pm and run till 4:00pm. Classes will be assigned on a first come, first served basis, so register now to confirm a spot in your preferred class!

### **BMW RA Rally Adventure Rider Clinic Details**

**Length:** 4 hours (½ day)

**Age:** 6 years old - Adult.

**Class Sizes:** maximum of 10 students.

**Motorcycle:** bring your own motorcycle.

**Minimums:** Safe off-road or dual-sport motorcycle with appropriate tires for dirt riding and fuel for 4 hours of riding, spare spark plug and basic tool kit (plug wrench, etc), DOT helmet, jacket, sturdy pants, gloves, eye protection, over-the-ankle boots. Hydration packs (CamelBak, canteens, etc) are recommended for all seasons. Long sleeves recommended for summer.

**Location:** [BMW RA National Rally in Canaan Valley, WV](#)

**Price:** \$75. To register, or for more information, please visit [www.motomark1.com/dbsra.html](http://www.motomark1.com/dbsra.html)

## **DOWN EAST RALLY, HERMIT ISLAND, MAINE, MAY 15-17TH**

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*Skip Palmer*

Miles Cannon and George Hickman have enthusiastically promoted this rally for as long as I have known them. The appeal of a secluded coastal Maine island camp ground complete with spectacular scenery, abundant wildlife, homemade chowders, and a lobster dinner is not a difficult image to promote. Over the years, they have been joined by many of the New Sweden and Shore Riders. This year, I decided to make the weekend rally a priority before I moved south.

Maine has always held an important place in my life. My maternal grandmother was raised in Rumford. Frequent visits to sea kayak, climb Mount Katadin, shop the outlets in Freeport, and the beauty of the coastal villages are enough to bring me back year after year. Did I forget to mention the lobster dinners with steamers?

A falling mist and some scattered fog awaited me as I

prepared to leave early Friday morning. The weekend forecast promised rain arriving Saturday evening and continuing well into Sunday throughout New England. The Land Cruiser was destined to be my weekend transportation. The sun broke through by noon just north of Hartford and the weather remained pleasant until Saturday night. After that, it poured steadily through most of Sunday.

Arriving on Hermit Island around four, George and Miles were in the "Kelp Shed" (a rambling, rather eclectic, building that served as registration, social center, kitchen and dining room for the rally). They took me on a tour of the mile long island. The camp ground offered secluded camp sites on patches of grass located on rocky peninsulas, in wooded groves and along the marsh on the east side of the island. The northern end of the island is home to a ramshackle marina, lobster-pound, and sheltered cove with several lobster boats tethered to their moorings. The natural diversity of this small island is as remarkable as it was picturesque to see. We encountered half a dozen very docile deer and a bald eagle. A short drive off the island brought us to Popham Beach at the southeast end of the peninsula. Here the Kennebec River flows past the ruins of an old fort into the Gulf of Maine. Where the currents merge, we found a feeding frenzy of seals bobbing and diving directly off shore. We stayed for sometime watching them through binoculars.

We returned to the "Kelp Shed" to find several people gathered around a roaring fire devouring endless servings of homemade clam chowder, corn chowder, and chili. If you are not envious yet then you're seriously overdue for a check-up. Hearty food, down to earth people (each with interesting stories to share), and a stone fireplace radiating warmth on an early spring evening is about all anyone can ask for.

Early Saturday morning, we gathered around the fireplace for breakfast and to plan the day's activities. Some would ride to White Horse Press; others explored the coastal villages while we headed for Freeport to L. L. Bean, North Face, and Patagonia stores. We soon moved on to Yarmouth to visit the cycle shop there. With our wallets still intact, we let the GPS guide us along some less traveled shore roads just begging to be discovered. Before too long, the Harraseeket Lobster Pound beckoned us to enjoy a bowl of bisque with steamed lobster and clams at the riverside marina. Appetites now satiated and the pleasant smell of seafood clinging to our hands, we made our way back to the rally to set-up the flea



market a.k.a. George's retirement supplement! He swears he just does it to met friends and the chance to engage in some casual conversation. Judging by the number of sales, I suspect the later is a lot closer to the truth.



Late in the afternoon, propane burners and five enormous aluminum pots were assembled just outside the kitchen door. Soon, a well weathered Chevy pickup delivered several hundred lobsters and the burners were lit. The billowing clouds of steam that drifted over the site of the "massacre" hid the succulent treasure that was soon to be our dinner. If you want some simple amusement, just place a few hundred steamed lobsters in front of a hungry crowd and watch them smash and suck every succulent speck of meat from those shells. It doesn't take long!



The rest of the evening consisted of every conceivable means of awarding as many prizes as possible to almost every rally attendee.

The members of the BMW Southern Maine Riders

Club made every effort to satisfy each attendee's appetite and desire to win something for free. To that end, they succeeded beyond any reasonable measure!

## FAREWELL TO SKIP PALMER, MAY 29TH

*Oscar Gomez.*

It's not as if we will never see Skip again. To be sure he will still be around as he and Sue take up temporary residence in a trailer park located in an industrial zone. But they will be moving to Florida by the end of June and we will see a lot less of Skip after that. (Don and Dennis are negotiating with Skip to turn the trailer into a clubhouse when he departs).

Skip has been such an important member of Shore Riders for the past ten years that the membership heartily responded to a call for a testimonial dinner.



Thirty-eight members of Shore Riders, New Sweden and Skylands were on hand at The Cabin in Howell to break bread, quaff a few bebidas, watch Roger's slide show and share stories of the many rides and events involving Skip. Sue Palmer successfully duped Skip into attending a co-ed baby shower, held at the Cabin. Strangely – it seemed to actually be a surprise party to honor Skip. According to Sue – Skip was quite annoyed at having to attend, and did all he could to get out of it. I think the surprise worked! Thanks Sue!

Dennis acted as master of ceremonies and called on the assembled cast of characters to share some stories: Alex Edly started the speeches with an excellent summary of Skip's many contributions to the Shore Riders; Gerry Rouvrais spoke of how Skip got him started in motorcycle ice racing in January; Carl Cangelosi told how Skip turned him into a drug

addict in Canada; Grant recounted the midnight ride without clothing in Delaware (this really shouldn't be thought about too much); Nancy told the assembled group that she thought Skip had a great body and remembered when the last time she pee'd; Pete Stone remembered Skip's grateful appreciation of his cooking skills; Roger recounted Skip's inability to use a GPS and how it led Skip and a ride group on a wayward route; Don Gordon (Skylands) mentioned Skip's unwavering support for Skylands events, particularly the Metheny benefit; Wayne Reiss (New Sweden) said something but no one could remember what it was; Ex-President Tom Spader aka Lamont Cranston spoke of how Skip gave so much to the club and motivated him to join, become President and then disappear; Don spoke of Skip's role as ride leader and president and of his attention to obsessive detail; Dave Mason recounted the infamous tale of Skip slaying a buzzard assisted by Dr. Tom R; and Dennis on behalf of the club presented Skip with a beautiful plaque and clock that read as follows: *Presented to Skip Palmer, President, Trustee and Ride Leader, in thanks, NJ Shore BMW Riders 2009.*



The evening concluded with informal conversation, coffee and drinks as the assembled slowly drifted home.

Many thanks to those who put this affair together. To Grant for using his friendship with the owner of The Cabin to get us a private room and arranging the pricing and meals. To Roger who handled the finances and presented the slide-show and to Dennis and Don who did the rest.

*PS: See you at the new clubhouse – it's GREAT!*

## UPCOMING RIDES AND EVENTS

The following rides and events are sponsored by the AMA or other organizations and are not NJSBMWR's sponsored. Please feel free to personally arrange rides with your friends and attend.

- June 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> ~ Square Root Rally, Thurmont, MD
- June 10<sup>th</sup> ~ 7 PM Shore BMW Riders Monthly Meeting at Schneider's Restaurant, Main St. Avon NJ
- June 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Grand National Classic Motorcycle Meet, Rhinebeck, NY
- June 13<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> ~ Laconia Motorcycle Week, Laconia, NH
- June 14<sup>th</sup> ~ British Motorcar Rally, Hellertown, PA
- June 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Metheny School Children's Ride, Gladstone, NJ
- June 24<sup>th</sup> ~ 7 PM New Sweden BMW Riders Monthly Meeting at El Azteca, 1155 Rte. #73, Marlton, NJ 08053
- June 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> ~ Thunder in the Valley, Johnstown, PA
- July 1<sup>st</sup> ~ 12:30 PM Moribundi Lunch location TBA
- July 5<sup>th</sup> ~ the Gathering at Ephrata, PA
- July 6<sup>th</sup> ~ 7 PM Skylands BMR Riders Monthly Meeting ~ the Lamp Lighter, 190 West Main (Rt. #24), Chester, NJ
- June 8<sup>th</sup> ~ 7 PM Shore BMW Riders Monthly Meeting at Schneider's Restaurant, Main St. Avon NJ
- July 15<sup>th</sup> ~ NJSBMWR's Twelve Day Ride to the National Rallies and the Southern Mountains
- July 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> ~ MOA National Rally @ Appalachian Fairgrounds, Grey, TN
- July 17<sup>th</sup> ~ NJSBMWR's Volunteer Registration 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM @ the MOA National Rally
- July 17<sup>th</sup> ~ 6 PM NJSBMWR's Dinner at Ryan's Family Steak House, 205 Montecastle Drive, Johnson City, TN
- July 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> ~ RA National Rally @ Canaan Valley State Park, WV
- July 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> ~ AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington, OH
- Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> ~ Last Chance Rally, New Sweden BMW Riders, Apple Farms, Elmer, NJ
- Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Barber Museum Vintage Festival, Barber Motorsports Park, (Leeds) Birmingham, AL (Week long ride)



# RETURN OF THE CYCLES TO THE MATHENY SCHOOL FOR JUNE 2009

Ken Maas, Skylands

Dear Friends and Fellow Riders;

I wanted to take a moment of your time to announce that Wednesday June 17, 2009, has been set aside for a return of the cycles to the Matheny School .

So once again, we are soliciting all our side car and trike friends to set aside this date in order to help us bring some joy and excitement to the students of the school. Our plan is to meet at the Peapack-Gladstone Fire House at 6:00 pm. We will then move through town a short distance to the school for the fun activities. Afterwards a barbecue will take place a short distance away and you are cordially invited. Great fun, good food, and a wonderful time!

Your participation in the past has been crucial to the success of this event and we are hopeful that you will be able to work with us again this year. If you know of anyone else with a side car or trike who would like to participate, please pass this info on.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely;  
Ken Maas, Pattenburg, NJ 08802  
(908) 735 5829, Cell (201) 954 9552

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## BMW MOTORSPORT NEWS!

**BMW Motorrad Motorsport – Superbike World Championship – Salt Lake City, USA – Superpole. 05.31.2009**

**Troy misses Superpole by two thousandths of a second.**

**Munich.** Team BMW Motorrad Motorsport rider Troy Corser missed out on getting into Superpole qualifying at Miller Motorsport Park today by just two

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thousandths of a second. After yesterday's difficulties Troy and Ruben both knew that today would be a hard day and that making Superpole itself would be a tough ask. But both Troy and Ruben muscled their way round the 4.96 kilometer circuit as best they could and had it not been for a red flag right at the end of today's final qualifying session they would have made Superpole. There were less than three minutes on the clock remaining when all the riders went out to complete final qualifying, but not enough time for Troy and Ruben to lap any quicker.

American Ben Spies (Yamaha) took his seventh pole of the season to go into the record books with the most consecutive pole positions. Second was last year's Miller double winner Carlos Checa (Honda), with Ryuichi Kiyonari (Honda) third and Michel Fabrizio (Ducati) fourth.

### **Troy - 21st, 1:50.793**

Of course I am disappointed not to make Superpole - the first time this season - and it feels bad to miss out by such a small margin, but that's how it goes sometimes. At the moment, the team and I are a bit of a loss to understand exactly what is going on with the bike here. Every track is new for us and poses problems, but for some reason, it seems to be a bit worse here than other tracks.

Maybe it's because this track has a lot of fast entry and exit corners and we haven't been able to get our bike dialled in for this kind of situation yet. I rode my number two bike in the afternoon and although the set-up was different, the feeling was more or less the same. At the moment, we're struggling to get the bike round the track, but we'll have another look at all the data this evening and see if we can make some improvements in the morning warm up.

### **Ruben - 24th, 1:51.166**

I have no doubt that we are all working hard and I am proud of what me and my team are doing. We know our present limitations and we have to work hard at getting the best we can. When I lean the bike over at the maximum lean angle I am getting some chatter, so we will make some changes to the bike and I will adapt my style and try not to lean over so much. I think Troy and I are both in the same situation, but don't worry we are not giving up. The positive side of my grid position is that I am so far back I do not have to worry about anybody hitting me from behind - except the safety car!

### **Berti Hauser (BMW Motorrad Motorsport Director)**

The reason for not getting into Superpole is that we have not been able to get the bike to use the tyres in the proper manner. The softest tyre we have to use to get good lap times is still too hard for us to get sufficient grip to push for the faster lap times - that last tenth of a second which would make a big difference. When you look at the softest tyre we use here, after ten laps or so it looks like the tyre is brand new and that is not normal. Not making Superpole is a hard surprise for us, but it's important that we understand what we need to do, as others have. We have to find a solution to use the available tyres well and find good grip with them. With this bike and tyre at this particular track, in these conditions, and especially when the gap between 3rd and 20th place is so small, we just have to be faster. We have to find the key to this bike, but I am positive that we will do this and improve.

### **Final qualifying**

1 Spies (USA- Yamaha) 1:48.344, 2 C Checa (E-Honda) 1:48.908, 3 Kiyonari (J-Honda) 1:49.243, 4 Fabrizio (I-Ducati) 1:49.434, 5 Smrz (CZ-Ducati) 1:49.658, 6 Byrne (GB-Ducati) 1:49.982, 21 Troy Corser (Aus-BMW Motorrad Motorsport) 1:50.793, 24 Ruben Xaus (BMW Motorrad Motorsport) 1:51.166

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## CLUB MEETING – Schneider’s – June 10<sup>th</sup> 7PM!

NJ Shore BMW Riders Inc  
 c/o Roger Trendowski  
 18 Hillyer Lane  
 Middletown, NJ 07748

Postmaster – Address Correction Service Requested!