

July 2012

NEW JERSEY **SHORE BMW** **RIDERS Inc**

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I wanted change and excitement and to shoot off in all directions myself, like the colored arrows from a Fourth of July rocket. *Sylvia Plath (1932 - 1963)*

By trying we can easily learn to endure adversity. Another man's, I mean. *Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)*

Adversity causes some men to break; others to break records. *William Arthur Ward*

Statistics show that we lose more fools on this day than on all other days of the year put together. This proves, by the numbers left in stock, that one Fourth of July per year is now inadequate, the country has grown so. *Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)*

A thing worth having is a thing worth cheating for. *W. C. Fields (1880 - 1946)*

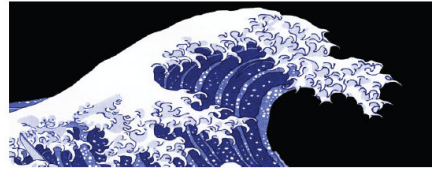
President's Message

Hi all, Hope you are getting used to the warmer weather.

Time to start avoiding the auto and truck A/C condensate puddles at stop lights and remembering to stock a few frozen water bottles in the saddle bags. I removed the fairing upper compartments and heat shields and the K-Bike is a lot cooler to ride. I got the side car mounts in and will start installing the side car this weekend,

The Skylands Metheny School run went well. The children all enjoyed their rides. The weather was good the farther north you went. The BBQ after the

BMW Club
New Jersey Shore Riders



school was great as always. Thanks to Roger for leading the ride home.

Will have to see how the new Yahoo calendar works out. Keep an eye on the group site for posts about upcoming rides. Try and update your member profile if you like. No 4th of July fire works this year in Red Bank or Rumson, Looks like Atlantic Highlands will have a big display this year. Anyone been out to any of the free Beach Concerts at Sandy Hook this year? Jazz in the park starts soon in Red Bank on Thursday nights.

About all for now, Enjoy your summer riding.
Kenton

FluffyButt Challenge - 2012

Don Eilenberger

The idea of the FluffyButt Challenge came to me when I realized many riders (primarily male) are destination driven. If they don't have a destination, they don't want to go out for a ride (hi Dennis!), so – to get more people riding, we needed a bunch of destinations.. and to keep them riding, we need to make it a “challenge” - with some prizes.

So.. I thought about the IronButt National Parks Challenge, which simply put involves a rider visiting a great number of national parks within a year, and getting proof in the form of the National Park “Passport” program – where they stamp the person's “Passport” at each park visited.

Thinking that perhaps it might work better for our riders if each ride could all be done in a single day – I looked up what info I can find on NJ State Parks, NJ State Historic Sites and NJ State Prisons. I threw the prisons in just for fun, and I figured they might be more challenging locations to get to and to get photos of. The proof a rider has visited a site is a photo of them in front of the site, with some indication

they arrived by bike (like the bike in the photo, or their helmet and sweaty face..)

So – the rules came together rather quickly:

- *You visit the state park, forest, prison, historic site - and provide documentation (a photo is good) that you and your bike were there. Each site is worth 1 point.*
- *There will be a few special sites located in urban environments which will be worth more points.*
- *Photos must be from this summer (a date stamp on the photo would be useful - if not the EXIF data should have the date in it.) Email the documentation (photo) to Don to have it counted.*
- *Whoever has the most points is the winner.*
- *Decision of the judges is final (and this judge is going to participate..)*

The challenge end date was set to October 31st so no one would be hard pressed to find the time to complete it. A few minor tweaks were made, such as: increasing some of the sites point values (based on input from people who had been to them, and a good look at where they're located;) awarding points for a useable newsletter article; awarding points for a photo used in the newsletter (only one article/photo is awarded points per newsletter per submitter.) and adding some “bonus sites” in case of a tie.



FluffyButt Ride - June 23rd - OurWAWA

The club voted to authorize \$50 in award money for a prize for the challenge. Cross-Country BMW (thanks Dan!) offered \$50 in a gift certificate toward the challenge. The club \$50 was spent on two \$25 gift certificates. Mr. Mike the mechanic has promised a \$25 gift certificate toward service at his fine shop. I'll be leaning on some of our other sponsors for additional prizes. (Hi Klaus, Hi Johan, Hi Greg!)

There are a million stories in NJ - the following stories are all true, and are the stories of participants in the FluffyButt Challenge:

Boxwood Hall? June 6

R.D.Swanson

I was born on Elizabeth and spent my formative years in the area, but had never visited Boxwood Hall. Washington visited the place, but I had not. That all changed today. Thanks to Don's GPS we found the venerable house in the heart of the city. I probably had passed it hundreds of times and never noticed it. But then I was a callow youth. Now that I have been there, I probably will never find a compelling reason to return. But then I'm now a callow adult.



Dennis and Dan cowering in front of Boxwood Hall - the locals spoke a language we didn't understand.

Elizabeth is really an alien place. The people there stared at us (Dan, Don and I) as if we were visitors from space. They were not in the least helpful but that may have been because they didn't speak English. The drivers would have run us over had they the chance. It definitely is worth the five points.

On the way to Elizabeth we stopped off at the Correctional Facility in Rahway for a photo shoot. You need to be careful about that.

You wouldn't want to be sent there. It's most forbidding. Probably built a century ago it is surrounded by razor wire. It's brick, with small windows and topped by a green dome. It's gritty and grimy and in the center of a wasteland. It is not well-maintained. It has a sign outside that says "Abandon All Hope, Ye Who Enter Here."



Abandon all hope - Rahway State Prison

It's not easy to get there and if you make a wrong turn into the nearby car dealerships you can't get out. It's definitely worth the points.

The Edison Tower gets you one point and that's because it's easy to find and just off the Parkway. It's also in disrepair. Edison would probably weep if he saw it. It's also unremarkable. There is also a museum that looks like a converted caddy shack. We skipped it. If the three of us were in it at the same time it would overflow.

From there it is an easy ride to Cheesequake Park. You probably have seen the signs on the Parkway a thousand times but never stopped. I never had. Actually it looks like a nice park, but we only stopped for photographs. They charge to get in and you know what they say about BMW riders.

Lunch was a Five Points in Union where I thought they had the best hot dogs in the state, but they have slipped to mediocre. I think top honors now go to Max's in Long Branch.

I can't wait to continue this quest. Jersey is a place of vivid contrasts and we certainly saw some of them on this ride.

Timbuktu?

Pillow-Pants McGee (Alex E who is incognito.)

Finding places like Timbuktu, NJ during the FluffyButt Challenge is interesting and educational.

I am almost done with the tags in Warren County and I've got my camera tuned for the timestamps. I'm sorry to put you all through such a waste of ink (and electrons) but, fifty bucks is fifty bucks. As you know, I'm trying to write two hundred words, not just to inform you of the awesome time, but also to get four points towards the game

Considering the cost of gas, this is the cheapest way to get points.

My strategy for the game is to get as many points as possible, as early as possible. This way the rest of you will just continue to sit on the couch and read about the adventures instead of living them. I am well over half way done with the article now. Hang in there, it will be over soon.



Pillow-Pants at Worthington State Forest

Another advantage of participating in this game is how it relates to another motorcycle/tag based game: The Garden State Tag-O-Rama on ADVRIDER.com. With hundreds and hundreds of tags already behind us, folks are complaining everything interesting in NJ has already been tagged. Don's list has provided a couple of

new locations.

Also, in getting some of these points for Fluffy Butt, I've accumulated additional Bruces for the GS-TOR. The next report should cover Mercer County, so stay right there on your couch while I rack up some more points.

Editors Note: Alex has a sound (but sneaky) strategy in trying to get a definitive lead on the point count early – in the hopes of discouraging other riders, but it just isn't working. Lots of riders are out there racking up lots of points. Don't be a slug – get on some of the rides and find yourself in parts of NJ you never knew existed.

FluffyButt Tips

Bill Dudley

In visiting my vast number of FluffyButt locations, I have also made some discoveries, which I now share for the benefit of you late-comers.

1. Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park runs along two rivers, so you can find photo-worthy signs in many locations, including about four on the part that runs in the strip of land between Rt 29 and the Delaware River. D&R Canal State Park also houses four other points/buildings, the locations of which I have not yet researched.

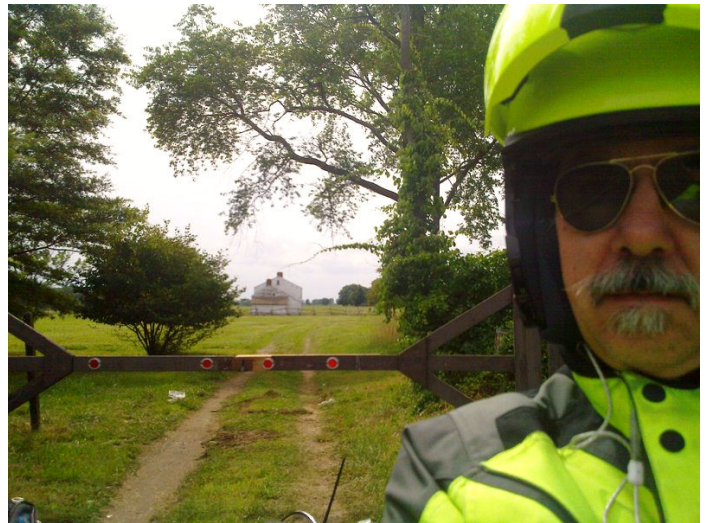
2. There are three points to be had at Washington Crossing Park; I've only gotten the easy and obvious one. The Johnson Ferry House seems to be on the north bound side of Rt 29 about 1500 feet north of the stop light at Washington Crossing Pennington Road.

Washington Crossing Park admission is free on weekdays, \$5 on weekends.

3. Monmouth Battlefield Park also has three targets: the State Park, the Battlefield, and Craig House. The State Park has a sign. The Battlefield, none that I could find, and the visitors center is torn down and a new one under construction. So for the Battlefield, I just shot a picture of (me in a) field.

Craig House is more complicated. Google maps will tell you that it is in the middle of the Battlefield, but it isn't. More googling will reveal that it is at the western end of Schibanoff Road in

Freehold; there is a commuter parking lot there and from there you can see Craig House, which is a square white building. You can't visit it, the road to it is fenced off, so you can either climb the fence and walk, or just take a picture of it in the distance.



Craig House - Monmouth Battlefield

I tried to get clever and get to Craig House from the west, as there's a Park Department road that runs there from Rt 524. You can get there that way, if you don't mind ignoring all the signs saying "Authorized Use Only", and the Park Department employees. I don't think this approach wins you much, picture-wise.

Monmouth Battlefield State Park admission is free.

4. Princeton Battlefield has two targets; the State Park, easy to get the a picture of the sign from the road, and Clarke House, which as far as I can tell has no sign, and it's away from the parking lot in the trees, so you'll have to actually get off the bike and walk a bit to get a recognizable picture.

5. Trenton State Prison is at the intersection of Cass St and Rt129. There isn't much room to stop and take a picture; I was lucky and got away with just stopping my BMW in the entrance to the employee parking lot and snapping a quick piccie. Exiting prison workers didn't give me a second glance.

Not having Don's entire list with me, I totally missed the Trenton Battle Monument. Oh well, next time in Trenton.

Returning to Rt 29 on Cass St, I found that the stop lights won't trigger for a motorcycle. I made a "straight on red" and a "left on red" maneuver at the ball park, or I'd still be there.

An Urban Inferno, June 20

Luigi Bosconi

Temperatures were predicted to be in the nineties but actually did reach one hundred. How soon we forget how uncomfortable it can be on a motorcycle with these temperatures. And so we decided that this would be the day we would visit the Walt Whitman House in Camden and earn the five points. Visions of urban riots danced in my head as Cap, Bill Dudley and I headed west from OWW.

Our first stop was some backwoods park reached by a dirt road and ending on a muddy river beach out in the pines. Was it Rancocas Park? Whatever it was, it wasn't worth a return trip.

From there Don said it was only fourteen miles into Camden so we said, why not? He didn't say anything about the forty-three traffic lights at which we would stop on the way. In any event we made it in fairly short order.



Luigi guarding the bikes in Camden

The house is right in the center of the city, but in an area where everything else has been demolished. The exception would be a prison across the highway from the house. The original wood-frame house has been preserved and recently renovated. A very nice ranger gave us a tour of the house and the back garden. It's much the

same as when Whitman left it in 1892 when he died there. The furnishings are close to original. The bed on which he died is in the bedroom. He was laid-out in the living room and autopsied soon after his death. He apparently died of tuberculosis and only had about one-eighth lung function and three gallons of fluid in his body cavity. (Well something like that)

When we came out our bikes were still there although a large mob had gathered and surrounded us. They demanded to know why we were there. I don't know how we did it, but after a lot of threats and shouting they let us go. Never had I been more relieved to have a fast motorcycle and to be on my way.

Next stop was Hammonton and some famous tavern which was closed, but secured us another point. Just down the street was a nice Thai restaurant where we had a delightful lunch and about five gallons of tea.

From there it was out into the sun-baked pines and the Wharton State Forest where we would garner another point. Last stop was Brendan Byrne Forest and one more point. All the time I was thinking how far ahead in the points game I was and how Alex could never catch up.

The temperature which had been in the mid-nineties all day would top one hundred on route 70 in Bricktown. It was nice to get home, have a nice shower and a couple of beers. My wife said I was nuts.

Fluffy Butting in Beautiful Downtown Camden

Harold Gantz

A few weeks ago with temperatures hovering near the 100 degree mark, there was no way I was going to gear up and ride a motorcycle into Camden (the concrete jungle) to snag a Fluffy Butt photo of the Walt Whitman House with Don, Denis, and Dan. With age comes wisdom, the wisdom that I don't tolerate heat well anymore.

I waited a few days and picked a cooler Sunday morning to snag the Whitman House five point destination. I decided to ride my naked bike, a 1974 Honda CB350F (four cylinder) to Camden to minimize getting too hot in the sun. There was no traffic on routes 38 and 30 on this morn-

ing so I would ride the little Honda at its "sweet" speed of 50 mph without being impaled by the hood of an impatient commuter tailgating on my rear fender. Having lived pretty close to Camden most of my life (I actually lived in Camden when I was little) I know my way around the city. I got off route 30 at the Federal Street bridge exit and navigated the access roads between the old Sears and Roebuck building and the new Campbells Soup corporate center. This was how my Dad used to drive to Sears (about three times a week) back in the old days with me riding shotgun in the family station wagon. From the back of the former Sears, all you have to do is follow your nose to the huge "Cooper" emblazoned on the top of Cooper Hospital and you will be on the old Mickle Blvd which is now the new Martin Luther King Blvd.

MLK Blvd has been heavily urban-renewed over the past twenty years. Most of the abandoned houses (and winos) are gone. Even the city prison is new. The Walt Whitman House is on MLK Blvd between 4th and 3rd streets on the eastbound side. I rode by the house on the westbound side of the boulevard and noticed there were no parking spaces available anywhere in the block. The only way I was going to get a photo of the Walt Whitman House sign with my bike in the shot was to park on the sidewalk. No problem. I'll just ride up on the sidewalk from the 3rd Street corner. Wrong. There was a Camden City policeman parked at the curb across the street from the House. I figured he was not going to let me ride down the sidewalk on a motorcycle without engaging me in a discussion after the fact. Great.

I rode back and forth on MLK Blvd a few times hoping the cop would leave. He didn't. So I rode to the corner of MLK Blvd and 3rd Street, turned off the bike's engine, dismounted, and then pushed my bike half a block down the sidewalk to the Walt Whitman House sign. I put the bike on the side stand, unpacked my camera, took a couple of photos to make sure the sign, my bike, and my head were in the shot. Then I packed the camera back into the saddle bag, pushed the bike down the curb, mounted up, started the engine, and rode away. As I did, I noticed the cop was still sitting in his car watching me the whole time. I hope he enjoyed the show.



I'm glad I took the little Honda. It's lightweight and pushes easily.

An Unusual Sunday Ride

Don Gordon

Let me preface this account by expressing my belief that anyone riding a motorcycle in the Newark / Rahway area willingly, by choice, should consider psychiatric evaluation.

That said, I left on a beautiful Sunday morning to gather points for the Fluffybutt Challenge. My plan was to visit all the state prisons on the list starting in the North East and working my way South. So, hop on the GS and head to Northern State Prison in Newark.

The prison entrance is at the end of a dead end street so I drove up to the guard house and told the guard I wanted to photograph my bike in front of the sign affixed to the guard house. He would have none of it. I asked if I could take his picture and he said if I did he would smash my camera. Taking the hint I left and went up on the highway where there was a view of the prison and took the photo.

As I was close, I blasted off to Liberty Park and took a photo by the park entrance. Had I done my due diligence I would have realized there were several places in the park for accumulating points and needless to say another trip is required to get them.

Next off to East Jersey Prison in Rahway. No problem there. I rode into a far parking lot, took the photo and got the hell out of there.



Liberty State Park - Terminal

The Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center in Avenel is close to the Rahway prison but has an entirely different atmosphere about it. Actually I thought it to be some kind of hospital as it had a nice entrance with a circle drive, flowers Etc. I placed the GS next to the entrance sign, took a photo and casually stood there emailing the photo to Don. Big mistake. Five uniformed guards descended by foot and another in a car pulled up by my bike. They were not happy. Demanding to know what I was up to I gave them my best explanation of the FluffyButt Challenge and showed them the destination sheet on which I had printed all the GPS coordinates of my planned stops. The Sargent took the sheet, crumpled it up and told me I should quit playing the game. He lectured me about prison security and reprimanded me for taking photo's. He didn't take my phone nor did he threaten to. I was glad to get out of there.

Now,not having the destination sheet my journey was shortened. I knew where the prison was in Trenton so I blasted South West and took a photo by the ugly prison wall. No problem there but it's sure not in a nice section of town. With a good deal of the day remaining I went to the airport and flew my plane over a couple of local prisons that are not on the list. I took aerial photo's of both The Woman's Maximum Security prison in Clinton. Former home of Joanne Chesimard from which she escaped and

shuffled off to Cuba. Also the Boys Reformatory in Annandale.

All in all an interesting ride but I'm looking forward to some of the sights in the North-West part of the state.

Fluffy Butt Rally 2012

Dan Thompson, Ex Prez, Team 3D

Having been to numerous sites in glorious New Jersey over the past few weeks, it is difficult to remember every minute detail. Could it be old age, the heat, the switching off of rides, R or K...R or K? I'm not really sure. But I ,digress, Let me try to give you all some of the more memorable highlights.

One the first day of point gathering, I gather up my neighbors Josh and Doug to go to CC BMW or is it CC Cycles?, no matter, it did not matter they had chores to do and family obligations. I talked them into taking a ride up for some factory demo rides. Upon meeting up with was to be the other two members of TEAM 3D, I dropped my neighbors like hot potatoes to begin our quest. I think they are still there picking out their next trusty steeds.

After being questioned by DOC officers at Rahway about our questionable destination choices, Capt. Dennis got turned around in what was a maze of a car dealer parking lot. I followed him deeper and deeper into the bowels of this maze knowing how unsettled he was getting, he whip around at another dead end, and as he rode by with wild eyes he yells "**we're never getting out...never.**" I think he was window shopping for his next economy stirring purchase.

Finally catching up with Don E., We visited diverse Elizabeth, NJ where the locals thought we were aliens, legal of course, from Mercury, he kept asking, are those fireproof? tugging at Don's stitch.

On yet another warm and sunny day, Don E., myself, Brother Rob, Frank F, Jerry R. and Colin (on his own ride) rode to the sites of Burlington and Atlantic counties. I had convinced brother Rob, that he needed to ride his LT with us and that only smooth and well marked roads would be taken by the group. So.....being the wild man that Don is with his new R bike, he leads

us into what was to be another, in an endless series of stops and picture snapping park stops, only to have it turn into the Don E. Bass River Enduro, a five mile stretch of sand, rocks, bogs and water hazards that would swallow a LT whole without a second thought.

Who would've thought that when Don asked the man in the four wheeler, is there pavement ahead? he meant only about 100 yards of pavement, not in a 100 yards.

Don forged ahead being the risk taker that his , GPS was leading us back to safety, Colin still swears he saw the Jersey Devil, Bigfoot and Manbearpig(1/2 man, 1/2 bear and 1/2 pig). Brother Rob was concerned about the parts we had to kick to side of the road, that had fallen off his LT. We assured him Bigfoot would collect them and send them back via UPS.

Still on another day, Don, who had his nerves frayed, on can you believe a 90 degree plus riding day, turned into his curmudgeonly self, insisted that the picture of me in front of the



Acceptable!

Bikes and Blues June 23

Roger Trendowski



Not Acceptable..

Rockingham house without helmet was not proof of me riding to the site, regardless of the fact I followed him to this site. I know he was concerned that my points may come into question, so I relented and took the appropriate shot.

The moral is get out and ride, even if it with another group, ride Mr. Pres?, and it is all about the points, ehhhh... the ride, ehhhh..... the points.

Thanks to Harry Costello's email on the 20th, I decided at the last minute to head for Tinicum Park which is located on the PA side of the Delaware River, south of Frenchtown.

The vintage Bike and Blues rally is relatively small gathering of vendors, maybe a dozen shade tents, but with 500 or more bikers. Besides Harry, I saw Bill Dudley, George Hickman, Miles Cannon and Al Peirson. There were several Skylands guys there too.

For the hour or so I attended, the loud "blues" music was performed by a talented group of teenagers/young adults. Several classes of bikes were spread out across the treed park... Norton, BMWs, Hondas, Triumphs, etc.

Safety First!

Rev'n Mike

Over the past week there have been a number of accidents involving cars and motorcycles. What is so disturbing is the on going comments coming from the automobile operators, "I did not see the motorcycle"!

I know you know the many stories, dangers and the facts. However, as VP of the legendary BMW Shore Riders I want to share some thoughts. I know a few of you dislike wearing the new super HI-VIZ clothing and some of you including myself don't always wear protective clothing. My friends, I would like us all to reconsider what we wear when riding given the increase in accidents. Visibility is the key to accident avoidance. Along with good riding skills these new Hi-Viz products can significantly reduce the potential for an accident caused by a driver who is not observant.

I just purchased a HI-VIZ summer airflow jacket at Cross County Cycles and my daughter said that I look like a big ball of color going down the road. That's a good thing! We are all to old to worry what we look like so please consider Hi-Viz next time you upgrade your clothing. Ride long, ride smart, ride safe!

Club Activity and Events Calendar - 2012

- ◆ **Regular Club Meetings** - 2nd Weds of the month at Schneiders. Meeting starts at 7PM, come earlier to eat.
- ◆ **Moribundi Lunchs** - for the old, infirm, retired, unemployed. It's a chance to get out of the house. 1st Weds of the month, 12:30PM at a restaurant to be decided by the chief Moribund RD Swanson. Input for locations is gratefully accepted.
- ◆ **Ice Cream Runs in June, July, August** - Locations to be announced. Bill Dudley will announce time and location via Yahoo group email.
- ◆ **July 11th** - Regular Club Meeting.
- ◆ **July 19th - 22nd** - BMW-MOA National Rally in Missouri. Roger T is organizing registration and hopes club members attend and

help out. *This will be the hottest weekend on record in the entire USA.*

- ◆ **July 25th** – Wednesday night - Ice Cream Run. Location Allentown NJ
- ◆ **August** - Ice Cream Runs continue.
- ◆ **August 1st** - Moribundi Lunch
- ◆ **August 8th** - Regular Club Meeting.
- ◆ **Late August** - Club weekend ride to somewhere nice - perhaps Bennington NY or that general area.
- ◆ **August 31** - September 3rd - Finger Lakes Rally, Finger Lakes NY.
- ◆ **September 5th** - Moribundi lunch.
- ◆ **September 12th** - Regular Club Meeting.
- ◆ **September 21st - 23rd** - Last Chance Rally, Elmer NJ. See Harold or Don for details. Support our brother club - New Sweden BMW Riders!
- ◆ **October 3rd** - Moribundi Lunch
- ◆ **October 10th** - Regular Club Meeting - and nominations for officers for 2013.
- ◆ **Late October** - Colors in the Catskills - Hunter Mountain NY, date to be announced. Anyone interested in making a weekend of it let us know. Great time to visit the Catskills.
- ◆ **November 7th** - Moribundi Lunch
- ◆ **November 14th** - Regular Club Meeting - and annual officer election.
- ◆ **December 5th** - Moribundi Lunch
- ◆ **December 12th** - Regular Club Meeting.
- ◆ **December sometime** - Annual Toy Run to Children's Specialized Hospital, Toms River, NJ.

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MEETING – Weds – July 11th
Schneider's, Main St. Avon-by-the-Sea

NJS-BMW-Riders Inc.

John Malaska, Secretary

18 William Lane

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