

**June 2013**

# NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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Thanks to the Interstate Highway System, it is now possible to travel from coast to coast without seeing anything. *Charles Kuralt*

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I--  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.  
*Robert Frost (1874 - 1963), The Road Not Taken*

I wanna hang a map of the world in my house. Then I'm gonna put pins into all the locations that I've traveled to. But first, I'm gonna have to travel to the top two corners of the map so it won't fall down.  
*Mitch Hedberg (1968 - 2005)*

Before he sets out, the traveler must possess fixed interests and facilities to be served by travel.  
*George Santayana (1863 - 1952)*

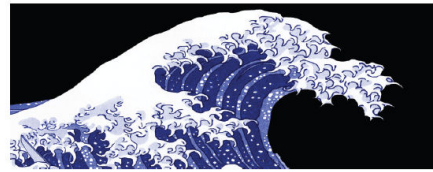
He who would travel happily must travel light.  
*Antoine de Saint-Exupery (1900 - 1944)*

What you've done becomes the judge of what you're going to do -- especially in other people's minds. When you're traveling, you are what you are right there and then. People don't have your past to hold against you. No yesterdays on the road.  
*William Least Heat Moon, Blue Highways*

The man who goes alone can start today; but he who travels with another must wait till that other is ready. *Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862), Walden (1854)*

**Editors note – if there appears to be a theme here, there is..**

**BMW Club**  
New Jersey Shore Riders



## President's Message

**Roger and Me..**

The Great Gatsby wasn't that great.

Now that the film review is completed I wanted to share some thoughts about my big trip. As you know Roger, Jimmy (we hope) and myself are planning to go to Salem, Oregon for the BMWMOA Rally. Roger and Jim are both seasoned long distance riders, I am not due to my work schedule. However, this summer I'm off and going.

I'm very excited about the trip. Having both romantic and realistic notions about the journey I await it with great anticipation. I was warned about riding with Roger (yes Roger you have a reputation!) who suffers from get-there-itis, but we have an understanding.

Jimmy is an ex-marine and teacher so we have a lot in common. I have been thinking about what to pack, clothing, tools, camp gear, whatever. I purchased a Garmin 350LM, new tires and will visit Mike to get the bike squared up.

However, I started to ponder how lucky I was to be able to go. My wife has been super supportive as my two girls have. I do feel a bit guilty about leaving them but they know I have to go since I have been talking about this kind of trip for 25 years. The legendary John Ryan made a life choice which made me reflect on pursuing my own proverbial bucket list.

Well my friends, its very simple, life is short, motorcycling is wonderful, travel provides revelation and nobody on their death bed ever wished they spend more time at work.

Carpe diem! Your Prez, Rev'n Mike

## **Greenwich, NJ or where the flies and gnats rule the air - May 21st**

*Dan Thompson*

After coming home from a great rally and ride to Natural Bridge, VA and having another vacation day to enjoy. I pondered whether to stay home to do laundry, house chores and other spousal obligations or take in another set of Fluffy Butt sites. Was there really any choice?, of course not.

A quick email to Don E. and a heads up to son Colin, and we were headed to an unknown jewel called Greenwich. Not having checked my FB list I wasn't sure what to expect. Taking back roads we found ourselves at the 54 Diner in Buena for lunch. We headed into the diner only to be stared down by what appeared to be the entire Buena Police force. Apparently they surmised we were harmless and went back to their meals.

After lunch and a gas stop for Colin, down to Greenwich. The day was warm and I wondered whether the windscreen we had installed on Colin's Kawasaki was making him second guess needing something to deflect the wind. Well, live and learn. He actually commented later on, that he was less fatigued having had the protection.

I can not tell you what sites in Greenwich we say and took pictures of, because that town has an infestation of flies and gnats that was unbelievable. They choked the skies, our helmets and our enjoyment. The Greenwicheans can keep their little jewel. Off we went to find ice cream, gas and our way home. It was an enjoyable day made even better by good riding companions.

## **Spring Fling – A ride report in Four parts. May 16th-20th**

*Don Eilenberger*

### **Day 1 - Going West.. and getting out of NJ:**

We're at the beautiful and inexpensive Comfort Inn in Stephen's City VA. Rosa's Italian/Greek restaurant delighted us again.

By US - it looks like at the moment there are 13

people staying here tonight. It's a banner turnout from the shore members. Ride over started out wet, dried up nicely as we got south in NJ - and was dry all the way across MD/WV/VA. According to Klaus (who keeps these sort of records) - we did the trip in 5 hours 21 minutes. Last year was 5 hours and 17 minutes (but we had a quicker lunch last year.) 278 miles from my house, so not a bad average speed. Lots of great backroads across MD/WV and into VA..



*. Obligatory Dinosaur Pic at Stephen's City*

Tomorrow is possibly damp in the afternoon, but we may beat the weather to Natural Bridge. Saturday is predicted as very wet - the forecast guess maps show an arrow of wetness aimed right at the rally site. I haven't heard if Al Peirson drove down, but given the weather vector it wouldn't surprise me. Since Saturday is still a guess until around 11:59PM tomorrow, I'm not losing any sleep over it. Tomorrow we have a choice of 3 routes I worked out, and it wouldn't surprise me at all to see people splitting up and people taking each of them.

The gang sez HI.. and we're having a great time. Good riding, good food and good conversation. Doesn't get much better than that.

Your on the scene reporter and ride leader.

### **Day 2 - Doom and Gloom - Not.. BRP south.**

Despite weather guessers forecasts of doom, today was a great day for riding. Around mid 70's in the lowlands and high 60's on the Blue Ridge. Almost no traffic on Rt 340, or on the BRP that we jumped on at Waynesville VA. Grant and the fast crowd headed west. Somewhere around Ohio someone (I think Dave



Rosen) suggested it might be time to head east toward the hotel. They arrived about 5PM or so.



*Doom and Gloom - NOT - along the BRP*

Nice ride for us - just about 200 miles of all back roads. Had lunch at the Cadillac Diner in Natural Bridge. Got the Presidential suite in the hotel, only problem is we have to strike the flag at night (our patio is right over the main entrance.) Good brats/burgers dinner with light and dark beers.



*Pink Cadillac Diner - Natural Bridge VA*

14 people in our group - you could have been here too..

Tomorrow is forecasting crappola weather, but given the accuracy so far of the weather guessers I'm betting it will be just fine.

### **Day 3 - Ride'm..**

Despite the best efforts of the weather guessers, we managed a great 200 mile ride through western Virginia. Rt42 north, lunch, then the roller coaster Rt252 and Rt39. Up, down around and back. Saw my taillight sort of roads. Some loose gravel made it even more interesting. Jim

McFadden and I found these roads by accident last year.. luckily I found them again this year.



*View from the Presidential Suite balcony at Natural Bridge*

Cocktails and dinner start soon. Dan, Klaus and Farida and I will be heading home by backroads tomorrow and Monday. I think we'll head into West Virginia to head north. We might get west of any weather that way.

### **Day 3 & ½ , 4 & 5 - Rally Ends and Heading Home**

Saturday evening was Morton's big banquet. Grant cannily selected a table for us that was the very last one called for the buffet. There was some food left when we got up to the buffet.



*"Underbone" Bikes - 101cc, went around the world..*

The speakers for the evening were a young couple (well to me - young, mid 40's) who rode two 101cc bikes around the world (27,000+ miles) just because they wanted to. Their talk was supposed to be about 30 minutes - turned out to be close to 90 minutes, and everyone in the room was fascinated by it. Great story, great



slide-show, I'm hoping someone writes it up for the newsletter.

After dinner it was shortly off to bed for most people since we were all starting for home in the morning.

Sunday was another day the weather guessers were predicting doom and gloom. It's good I've just decided to ignore them. Weather will happen. Nothing they say will make it not happen. If you were to listen to them you'd never get the bike out of the garage. Being prepared, and done right - rain riding can be a lot of fun and a new dimension in motorcycling.

The majority of the group (the gainfully employed ones) had to scoot for home in one day. A few of us had the leisure time (retired, employed, and self-employed) to take an extra day and make a ride out of our ride home. It was myself, Dan T, Klaus and Faridah. Good company all, and fun to ride with.

We left just about 9AM on Sunday under cloudy skies.. heading north without a particular destination set, just see how far we feel like going. Originally our plan had been to head west into West Virginia, but fog stopped us. There was dense fog on top of all the mountains and passes both to the east and west of us, so off we went up Rt 11 to Rt 340. Both were fine routes for the parts we took. All the good VA folk were happily ensconced in a multitude of churches we passed, parking lots full, leaving the roads almost empty, which made for a fun ride. We ran through a few sprinkles, nothing worth stopping to put on rain gear for.



Stop for \$4.09/gal gas in WV.. dunno what Klaus is doing.

Eventually our butts started getting a bit sore, so we decided to head for the Cozy Inn/Restaurant in Thurmont MD. We arrived about 3:30, in time for a nap if so inclined. The Cozy is where the major news networks house their reporters when the President is at Camp David. Apparently their per-diem isn't a lot since the Cozy rooms are a throwback to the early 1960's.. but they're clean, beds aren't awful, and it's cheap. Plus there is the Cozy Buffet right next door where you can stuff your face with unlimited amounts of fattening food for as long as you want. It perhaps explains the number of large-butt women we saw in the area.



Three cozy bikes resting at the Cozy Inn.

After dinner and waddling the 30 feet back to the motel rooms, we sat on the front stoop of the motel rooms in plastic chairs doing our Internet duties. That was the only spot we could get WiFi. It was a rather odd sight. But no odder then much that we saw at the Cozy.

This morning (Monday) we were up and at'm bright and early and pulled out of the Cozy at 9AM. Took my usual backroads route across the top of Maryland into Delaware and over the Delaware Memorial back to NJ. The change in attitude by drivers was immediately apparent as we were cut off, charged into, held back, tail-

An advertisement for Jerry Friedman, The Motorcycle Attorney. It features a cartoon pig character in a leather jacket pointing upwards. The text includes: "SERVING THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY SINCE 1977", "JERRY FRIEDMAN The Motorcycle Attorney", "One Greentree Center, Suite 201 P.O. Box 649 Marlon, New Jersey 08053", "www.law4hogs.com", "e-mail: law4hogs@aol.com", and "1-800-LAW-4-HOGS".

gated and generally experienced all the other charming road behavior that is common in NJ. Welcome back to NJ. (NJ drivers really suck. Eggs. Big-time.) We stopped for lunch at the F&M deli in Cherry Hill (HI Harold! HI Al!) where we had a great lunch.

Back home by 3PM. 1,000 miles for the weekend, or 1/3rd the way to Oregon. Piece'a cake. Next big ride is probably the RA in Asheville.. I'm thinking of some routes..



*Seen at the Spring Fling - the lights are sure to give Roger light-envy..*

## **Cass Rally - May 24-26th**

*Harry Costello*

Just got back. This is a great rally especially for someone that likes to use up his/her tires from side to side. The club that puts this on has less than ten members but manage to put this on year after year, it will be a shame when they can no longer do it.

Bad news is that riding with guys from W. Virginia can cause drastic changes to your riding style. First 50MPH means it's OK to do 60. The double lines are only for cars. The second day you start to ignore the 35MPH turn signs and the third day you usually ignore the 25MPH signs. It's a great way to break in a new set of tires.

The new road this year was the Highlands Scen-

ic Highway (RT150) south of Greenbank. Not a particularly twisty road but great views and a manicured road surface, didn't ride it fast because I didn't want to miss the spectacular views.

Used GPS to get to Helvitia (a hangout for West Penn BMW guys) and ended up on CR(number something) 13 miles of what appeared to be a washed out creek bed. Funny thing was we ran into just regular people coming the other way (on the one lane road), to them I guess it's just a regular road.

Bad news was it rained all the way down and I was on brand new tires and the temperature at night got down to the mid 20's every night. Good news - every day down there and the ride home were perfect riding days and the real good news was that there was hardly any gravel on the roads.

## **More random notes from the FluffyButt II contest.**

*Bill Dudley*

The "Big Bruce Head" turns out to not exist. It was part of a temporary sculpture exhibition that ended sometime in the last six months. So the best you'll be able to do here is visit Kennedy Park and take a picture of the creepy Kennedy bust and the blank spot in the south-east corner where the Bruce bust was located.

The "intelligent whale" (Civil War era submarine) that is in the Sea Girt Coast Guard's "Militia Museum" is difficult to see, as it's not "on display". If you're nice you may be able to talk the staff into letting you have a peek at it -- it's squirreled away in a warehouse behind the museum, and they're reluctant to let you in there.

The "Palace of Depression" is way cooler than I expected. It's pretty easy to find; once you get on the right road, just ride along and you'll see it on the side of the road. It's big and you can't miss it. Don E. and I were lucky enough to meet Janey, the friend/partner of the guy who is "running" the project to rebuild the Palace, and she gave us some background.

The short version of the story is that the Palace was built during the Great Depression by an ec-



centric guy who was also pretty good at getting publicity for his creation, such that the Palace was a tourist attraction during the Depression. After he was jailed for leading the FBI on a "wild goose chase" for a kidnapper, the locals (in Vineland) tore the Palace down. Today it is being "rebuilt" from donated rubble by a small team of enthusiasts. Original photos are being used as a guide but I think there is also a lot of improvisation being done.



*Ticket Booth at Palace of Depression*

The Roebling Museum is more interesting than I expected. I had no idea that there was a major steel mill on the NJ side of the Delaware (across the river from the steel mill that is on the PA side, south of Morrisville and north of Bristol.) There were actually two large factory complexes; one to make steel, and one to make wire rope (the original product of the Roebling company). The wire rope, of course, was what made possible the suspension bridges like the Brooklyn Bridge and the George Washington Bridge.

## **Morton's Spring Fling**

*Bill Dudley*

Don led a bunch of us down to Virginia on Thursday and Friday. There was a bit of rain as we left "Our WaWa", but mostly we had good weather on Thursday. I'd never done this trip before, and really enjoyed Don's route.

The motel in Stephen's City was perfectly adequate. Friday's ride the rest of the way to Natural Bridge was shorter at about 150 miles, so we arrived mid-afternoon. I had enough time to pick up my registration materials, walk through the (small) vendor area, and then ride over to "Foam Henge", snap a picture there, and then

take a tour of Natural Bridge Cavern.



*Foam Henge - Natural Bridge VA*

Saturday, the weather was threatening rain, but we suited up and went for a ride anyway. Don led us on a fun ride north and west of Natural Bridge and back again. After the lunch break, I discovered that my R90S wasn't charging, so I headed straight back to the hotel to work on that problem.

The result of that analysis was that I had re-wired Mike K's installation of my Enduralast charging system using a fuse holder that wasn't rated to carry the needed 30 Amps of current that the Enduralast needs. As a temporary fix I eventually wired up another fuse holder for that circuit, and this fix was good enough to get me home.

Saturday night's banquet was quite entertaining, as we had a slide show and lecture by a couple who had ridden around the world on a pair of 100cc "motorcycles".

These bikes are Taiwan made copies of Honda 100cc motorcycles, which in turn are descendants of the "original" 50cc Honda CA100s that were Honda's first import into the USA. There were a couple of dozen door prizes handed out, but nowhere near enough that everybody got one.

Sunday AM, several of us had to "beat feet" back to NJ, so we took off at the crack of 7AM and spent 7 lovely hours riding on the interstate. Don and whoever else didn't have to get back by Monday took two days to ride home.

## Square Route, May 31<sup>st</sup>-June 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Don Eilenberger*

A miracle! A first for Square Route in living memory..It DIDN'T rain. At all. Not a drop.

Amazing. Just got home - 515 miles of smiles.. some nice riding getting there, some nice riding yesterday and great riding home. Temps were warmish (mid 90's on Friday, low 90's on Saturday, 75-93F today) - fine with the Roadcrafter opened up all the way and on a roadster. Less muscle aches is a plus. Sleeping temps were around 68-70F - perfect!

Rally food was better than prior years, and a few of the talks were really excellent. Got to hang out and ride with the New Sweden guys who still ride, and with some friends from the BMWBMW area (WDC area.) Good German beer - restricted myself to 2 a night, good stuff. Even had a comfortable bunk (they finally got some new mattresses at Camp Westmont.) Did my off-road riding for the year getting up and down the dirt/gravel/boulder road to/from the campgrounds.

Hot water was good for my shower this AM, was on the road before 8AM. RDS would'a been happy - I was in bed before 11PM last night.

Managed to work out a route that only involves about 40 miles of slab riding, the rest was all back roads. I think I can cut that back to around 20 miles for the next ride out there (in a few weeks for the RA Rally in Asheville.) I've almost got my front tire to where I can justify putting the new one on.. just have to do some Fluffybutt rides this week (supposed to be super nice on Tuesday and Weds.. you working stiff's eat your hearts out..)

BTW - as always, I took my heated gear - and for the first time in a very long time never felt the need to put it on at any point in the trip.

## 2013 Event Schedule

Please email the editor with additions/corrections.

### June

**12th - Regular Meeting**, Schneiders/Avon  
**20th to 23rd - BMW-RA Rally**, Asheville NC.  
Located just a few miles off the Blue-Ridge Parkway. Don will be leading a 3 day ride to the

rally, probably including roads in West Virginia and the BlueGrass Parkway in Virginia.

### July

**3rd - Moribundi Lunch**, still breathing? Join us!  
Location TBA

**10th - Regular Meeting**, Schneiders/Avon  
**12th to 14th**. Lunatic Fringe Rally, Alberta, Canada.

**18th - 21st** - BMW MOA International Rally, Salem, Oregon. There are several club members planning on riding to/from the rally. Come to a meeting for details. Roger Trendowski is looking for NJ club member volunteers to help in registration on Friday - please see Roger.

### August

**7th - Moribundi Lunch**. It's hot so cool off with the cool guys. Location TBA

**14th - Regular Meeting**, Schneiders/Avon

### September

**4th - Moribundi Lunch**. It's cooling off, so it's time to join us! Location TBA.

**11th - Regular Meeting**, Schneiders/Avon  
**20th to 22nd 10-billionth New Sweden Last Chance Rally**. Join our friendly souf'Jersey club, the New Sweden BMW Riders at campground in Elmer NJ.)

### October

**2nd - Moribundi Lunch**. Old and tasty. Location TBA.

**4th-6th - Oktoberfest/Bavarian Weekend**. Round Top NJ, Crystal Brook German Resort. An all-meals included weekend, timed to coordinate with Colors in the Catskills in nearby Hunter Mountain. \$83/night/person includes a real bed (and shower) and three huge meals per day. Hard to beat! Reservations are made by the members directly with the Crystal Brook. More info will be available as the date gets closer.

**9th - Regular Meeting**, Schneiders/Avon

### November

**6th - Moribundi Lunch**. Old and wrinkly. Location TBA.

**13th - Regular Meeting**, Schneiders/Avon

### December

**4th - Moribundi Lunch**. Old and cold. Location TBA.

**11th - Regular Meeting**, Schneiders/Avon  
**22nd - Annual Toy Run**, Children's Hospital, Toms River

### LONG TERM:

**April 1<sup>st</sup> - October 31<sup>st</sup> - FluffyButt!** Get out and RIDE! Watch for ride announcements via the Yahoo group email.

## Motorcycle Insurance from a fellow rider and club member



Contact Greg Wright for all your motorcycle and other insurance needs. Greg is a club member, fellow rider, and club supporter.

The Wright Agency can provide at least 3 competitive quotes while making sure you're protected!

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**800-224-6693**

**Meeting – Weds – June 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Schneider's German-American Restaurant, Main St. Avon NJ**

**NJS-BMW-Riders Inc.**

John Malaska, Secty.

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