

August 2014

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

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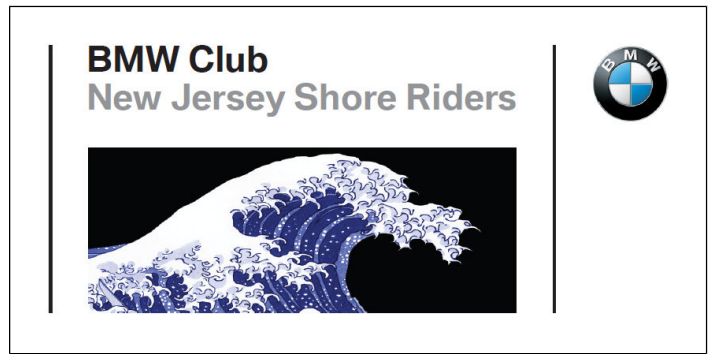
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President's Message:

I hope you're all out riding the wheels off your motorcycles. Precious few of you made the trek to St Paul. I don't know why, as the ride there is interesting, the weather was *perfect*, and what else is more important than going riding for 5 days or so?

Granted, the rally itself is kinda expensive, and I am re-evaluating the value proposition on National Rallies. I'm not so hard core that I have to attend every single national rally. On the other hand, the rally does make a nice excuse to go for a really long ride. And riding to St Paul put me within range of riding to Louisville, KY, to visit my brother, something I should have done before.

There are lots more events in the queue, including the Octoberfest trip to the Catskills, and I'm looking forward to that one. It looks like we're going to have a great turnout for that event, between us and the New Sweden guys (and gals) so that should be a good weekend.

See you at the meeting on the 13th!

President Dud

Ah, summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it. *Russell Baker (1925 -)*

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

Vacation is what you take when you can't take what you've been taking any longer. *The Lion*

You will have more fun on your vacation if you maintain a mental age of 18 or less. Act just old enough to make your travel connections and stay out of trouble. *Joe Schwartz*

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)*

Every man, wherever he goes, is encompassed by a cloud of comforting convictions, which move with him like flies on a summer day. *Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970), Sceptical Essays (1928), "Dreams and Facts"*

The summer night is like a perfection of thought. *Wallace Stevens (1879 - 1955)*

It's a sure sign of summer if the chair gets up when you do. *Walter Winchell (1897 - 1972)*

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

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Finger Lakes Rally Coming Soon – Aug 29th – Sept 1st

Roger Trendowski

I'm a Finger Laker besides being a NJ Shore Rider so I am biased.

On the website <http://www.fingerlakesbmw.org/>, they state: "Year after year attendees to the Finger Lakes Rally say it is one of the nicest, friendliest motorcycle rallies. Again this year, it's held at one of the most beautiful settings ever to park a BMW, set up a tent, and find someone to talk with. Once again, you will be able to camp at the Watkins Glen State Park's Hidden Valley Park or stay nearby in one of the numerous Watkins Glenn motels or B&Bs."

Enjoy three nights camping, two catered dinners, free coffee, two live bands, great door prizes, rally pin and mug, terrific facilities, flea market, vendors, exciting touring, on-site Sunday morning services, bike judging, snack bar, and more. BMW riders and their guests only. Camping areas range from ultra quiet to right near the action. The flea market is huge: bring your motorcycle related clothes and parts and the Finger Lakes club will sell it for you for a small percentage fee.



The Rally, usually with 600-800 attendees, is held over Labor Day weekend... Friday Aug 29th to Monday Sept. 1, cost is \$60 for the weekend, preregistration deadline is Aug 18th for a \$5 discount. See the Finger Lakes Website "2014 Rally Webpage" for details on activities, food, entertainment, motels, vendor list, and schedule of events. It is going to be great again this year.

See you there.

Lines, Symmetry, Balance July 30

RD Swanson

A woman, motorcycle, boat or horse has to have a certain symmetry and balance to be attractive. Curves, color and contrast also matter. Utility might also attract. These qualities make it pleasing to the eye. Whether on the beach or on the road we like to look at those, human and machine, that please the eye and offer pleasure.

It's permissible to stare at a pleasing machine, but a woman is different. Reckless eyeballing can get you into trouble. Perhaps that's why we have motorcycle and car dealerships but no women dealerships. Well, there are some establishments we may frequent that feature women dancing on bars and hanging on poles, but only the twisted go to these places. And they certainly don't tell the warden about these visits. "Where did you go today honey?" "Dad, what did you do this afternoon?"

So that's why Captain Don and I went to Cross Country to look at motorcycles. He wanted to go to one of those other places but I demurred. I didn't want to lie about where I had been. Once there we wandered around looking at the 'eye-candy' and trying to find something to buy that we really didn't need.

Then I spied the R nine t! All the above qualities were gathered in one small machine. And I could stare as long as I wanted without being accused of reckless eyeballing. I was even granted permission from on high to plant my posterior on the saddle. It was too much to resist. I asked Maere if I could have one of these. She said I might get one sometime in the future if I made a deposit of a few dollars. So I did.

When I returned home that afternoon and was asked where I had been I didn't have to lie. I said I was at Cross Country and had made a deposit on a new bike. My wife said that's wonderful dear. My kids said 'great going Dad.' Now if I had said I was at a bar where women expose their bodies the response would have been very different.

The moral of the story is obvious. A pure mind and heart brings wonderful rewards.

Our trip to the National in St Paul

Bill Dudley

Sunday, July 20 Zhao and I left for the MOA National in St Paul on my 1977 R100RS. We planned to take 5 days to get out there. We hadn't done a multi-day trip before -- just "day trips", meaning less than one day travel time to the destination, and another day home.

I planned on taking non-interstates as much as possible, and also to try to follow as much of the old Lincoln Highway as possible (or until my patience ran out).

I only made one motel reservation, and that was for the Lincoln Motor Court, just west of Bedford, PA. It's a "motel" built around 1940, and still preserved and operating with all its 1940's goodness intact. The only concession to modernity is that there are TV sets in the rooms. No air conditioning, no wifi, not even telephones. The "rooms" are separate cottages, with asbestos siding¹ that looks vaguely like stonework.



Our cottage at the Lincoln Motor Court, Bedford, PA

So the first day was spent getting out of NJ, swinging south around Philadelphia and up to the Lincoln Highway just east of Lancaster, PA.

1 - (Editor..) *Actually the siding is asphalt, and came from NJ – it was known as "Insulbrick" and if you watched the Soprano's – you saw the long abandoned plant as Tony crossed the Turnpike over the Meadowlands.*

The Lincoln Highway is often coincident with US Route 30, but also, Route 30 has been modernized, straightened, widened, etc. until all the fun has been taken out of it. The trick to following the old Lincoln Highway route is to stay on the old "business" route that passes through the town centers, (which in PA means driving around the all but inevitable war memorial in a plaza at the center of town).



The Shoe House just west of York, PA.

There are books on the Lincoln Highway, that give you maps to the old sections. Some are the "business" route through town, some are almost abandoned dead ends. If you choose to follow all these little detours, it can make for very slow going.



Dunkel's Gulf (Art Deco gas station), Bedford, PA

Which is why, after just two days of the Lincoln Highway, I was glad to abandon it in Lima, OH and head north into Michigan. The Ohio pieces were pretty boring, being mile after mile of unre-

lenting arrow straight road across the farmland of central Ohio. But I will give Ohio credit: they do mark the Lincoln Highway pretty well, even going so far as to point out different "alternate" sections that were used during different periods of the route's history.



The Steel Trolley Diner, Lisbon, OH

Somebody in the club recommended we take the ferry across Lake Michigan, rather than driving through (around?) Chicago, to get to Wisconsin.

So on day three we rode north from Lima, OH, to Ludington, MI. We found a nice "Mom and Pop" motel, the "Viking Arms Inn"; cheap, with an outdoor pool. There we met a couple from Flint, MI, riding a K-something-LT to the rally.

They were old hands at this ferry boat business, and advised me that the boat didn't supply tie-downs, and I'd have to supply my own. So I hurried to an auto parts store and bought a pair of tie-downs, which galled me as I have a dozen pairs of them at home. Turns out you can buy tie-downs at the ferry boat, so the last minute trip to the auto parts store was unnecessary. I was also advised to book tickets online that night, and did, which did make things go smoother when it came time to board. Cost was about \$180 for bike and two "seniors".

Next mornings trip was uneventful. That ferry boat is *big*, it was designed to carry railroad cars full of heavy things like automobiles, so it didn't rock much at all in the swells in Lake Michigan. The ferry takes about 4 hours to traverse 100 miles of lake, so it moves at a pretty good clip.

Once on the other side (in Central Time Zone -- ooooh) we tagged along with the couple from

Flint and rode with them across Wisconsin to La Crosse, where we found a mid-priced motel within walking distance of a restaurant.

Thursday, the last outbound travel day, we rode the half-day up along the Mississippi to St Paul, where we parted company with our new friends. We would see them later at the rally.

One thing that we (Zhao and I) learned from this was that we're good for 300 to 350 miles a day of two lane roads. That's useful to know when planning future journeys.

As far as the rally itself: the weather was good, not oppressively hot, due to weirdness with the Jet Stream; the venue, the Minnesota State Fair Grounds was good, lots of room, lots of buildings for talks, vendors, etc, and plenty of space to park.

As you read on the club mailing list, Zhao and I got third place for "oldest rider and passenger and motorcycle ridden to the rally", at 166 years total age. Silly, I know.

After the rally, we decided to head south to Louisville, KY, where one of my brothers lives, to pay him a short visit. That took three days, trying to follow the Mississippi (and US Route 61, "Highway 61" as the songs call it) as much as possible, which turns out to be "not that much", to St Louis, MO, and then following the Ohio from St Louis to Louisville.

Two nights and a day with my brother and his wife, and we were getting homesick, so we took two days to ride back to NJ from Louisville. I think those were the best riding days, as we had to ride across West Virginia, and up across southwestern PA to US 30 near Bedford, PA, and I don't think there's a boring road anywhere in West Virginia.

Bridgeport, WV provided the only "motel surprise" of the trip. I drove up to a Super 8 motel and it was actually FULL. On a Thursday night. I asked if there was some kind of event happening, and the clerk said, no, it was just oil workers. I guess the fracking thing is turning into a real boom, when you have small towns in West Virginia overrun by oil workers. The motel clerk did recommend another motel that had vacancies, and we booked that, and that turned out to

be better, as it was right next door to a China Buffet, so we ate like kings that night.

The last day was a long-ish one, but because we were going home, there wasn't much point in getting a motel room in Cherry Hill, so we pushed on. Hit a little rain that last bit near home, but hard to complain about 10 minutes of rain in an 11 day trip. (There were other small rain events, but none amounted to much.)

RA in Birmingham.. May 29th- June 1st

*Don Eilenberger
Continued from last issue..*

Last issue was the ride to Birmingham. We spent 3.5 days in Birmingham enjoying the Barber Museum, and poking around the area.



The museum is simply outstanding. It is likely the best motorcycle museum in the world. The grounds surrounding it – Barber Motorsports Park – are equally outstanding. A superb race track surrounded by grassy manicured hillside seating.

The museum itself – takes at least 2 full days to

even get a good overview of. We spent one day wandering the museum and then went back the next day for a more in-depth look at some of the bikes and exhibits that interested us.

I won't bore you with the tons of photos of neat bikes that I took. I ended up picking up on something I've done before, which is closeups of manufacturer's tank emblems, logos. On almost every motorcycle this is the spot where the manufacturer got to display their best effort on design. The change in logos as years went past also fascinates me - some remained the same for decades, others changed with the trends of the time.

What else did we do? Well – we had 3 great club dinners. Two at the steak house next door to the motel, then one around the corner. The food was good – the company was even better.

We took a tour of downtown Birmingham. I'd been there about a month before and noticed that it seemed a ghost town, even mid-week. Well – weekends it was even more deserted. The few people who worked in the city deserted it on weekends leaving wide empty streets with wonderful parking and no traffic at all.



Touring the deserted streets of Birmingham

It took a while for me to locate them (it seemed like aimless wandering around, but it did have an aim, just didn't get to it quickly) – but there were two spots I thought might be interesting to the people on the ride.

The first was the original Birmingham Public Library building (now the Linn-Henley Research Library.) The building was outstanding due to the interior murals in the various reading rooms.

MOA National Rally, St Paul

Roger Trendowski

The MOA Rally is well-attended every year... sometime larger, sometime not. This year we had more than 5800 which included MOA members and nonmembers, vendors, and kids.

It was held in St . Paul MN which is roughly 1200 miles from the NJ Shore. Instead to slabbing it heads-down over interstate 80, 90, 94 via Chicago, I decided to spend a couple nights at our Finger Lakes cottage near Syracuse, then meet a fellow-Finger Lakes BMW club member in Rochester.

We then headed due West on the NY State Thruway I90. After what seemed to be hours (actually 30 minutes in heat) we crossed into Canada at Niagara Falls and took the CN 403 and 402 to the Michigan crossing located at the base of Lake Huron. The border crossing into the U.S. was even longer than coming into Canada. From there we went through Flint and Cadillac Michigan and ended the day's ride on the East side of Lake Michigan.

The next morning we headed north along the scenic highways Routes 22 and 119 which hug the shore... eventually crossing the Saginaw Bridge to Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Scenic highway 119 is also called the tunnel of trees... it's a narrow two lane road that winds through the hills high above the lake. These two roads are reported to be the best riding highways in Michigan.



Linn-Henley Resarch Library

The second was the memorial Kelly Ingram Civil Rights park. The park is located across the street from the 16th Street Baptist Church, the site of a Klu-Klux-Klan bombing in 1963 where four young girls were killed. This one incident triggered protests including the "Children's March" where dogs and firehoses were turned on children marching. The park has a path tracing the important events in the civil rights protests in Birmingham with large bronze sculptures illustrating the events.



Kelly Ingram Park

After getting lost heading back to Barber, we eventually got there, and resumed our museum visit. The next morning (Sunday), bright and early we started our ride back north.

To be continued next month..

2014 MOA Rally – St Paul MN



On the West side of the lake, I headed south a hundred miles or so then due west toward St. Paul. Once I left the west side of the lake there were gentle rolling hills almost all the way to the Rally city.... lots of medium size softwood trees and farms.... and advertisements for Wisconsin Cheese.

and Ron Scibetti who I gave a lift one night from the showers to their camp site (at least a mile across campus). Luckily I had use of a golf cart all week since I headed the MOA registration process.



Josh Asher and Cy Young greeting rally attendees.

The Minnesota State Fair Grounds rally site was the largest rally venue I have seen. Once the rally started, attendees pitched their tents for well over a mile from end to end. Just ask Kelly



Look familiar..?

Registration this year for the first time was streamlined through automation. We used 8 PCs with credit card readers and ticket scanners to quickly register attendees; some of my registration team also used Apple iPhones to scan tickets for immediate check-in. See the pix of people we know in our registration tent.

I left for home (cottage in the Finger Lakes) after rally closing ceremonies on Saturday evening. About 200 miles got me to Madison Wisc. and wound up staying in the worst motel ever... but at midnight, who can be picky with all hotels filled.

Sunday was excellent riding on I94 and eventually I80/90 around Chicago, Toledo and Cleveland. As I left I80 to follow I90 toward Erie Pa and Buffalo, the sky opened; heavy downpour, cars parked on the side of the interstate, 20 mph flashing lights in all lanes. By this time I was too close to my destination (Syracuse area) to stop so I finished the 900 mile day at about midnight Sunday night.

After a good 6 hour sleep, breakfast with my brother and fellow riding buddy, I rode to Pittsfield MA (another 200 miles on Monday) so see my new granddaughter who was born while I was away.

I finally arrived home in NJ (another 200 miles) on Tuesday just before the afternoon traffic pile-up on the GSP. Total miles for the two week trip = 3000; no breakdowns, no falls, no blisters.

Club Picnic – August 17th – Noon

The annual club picnic is planned for August 17th at Art Goldbergs estate in Freehold NJ. The club will be providing the picnic basics (hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, etc.) Club members are asked to bring deserts. Soda and water will be provided. It is a family event..

The picnic is free to one club member and significant-other. To attend you MUST get \$10/person to Mike Kowal by August 15th. There are NO exceptions to this. The \$10 will be refunded when you get to the picnic. If you pay and don't attend, the club will keep your \$10 since we spent money for food for you.

See Mikey at his shop, or send him a check, or come to the meeting on the 13th. Checks can be made out to **NJ Shore BMW Riders**, and mailed to:

Mike Kowal
40 Vienna Road
Howell NJ 07731

Tankslapper Protection Kit Preliminary Review

Ben P.

After a year on my bike's panniers, the 3M spray on protection film has dulled, bubbled, gotten scratched and looks quite ugly.

I saw a post on one of the forums about tankslapper.biz protection kits. The Tankslapper kit film is more substantial than the spray on film. Tankslapper kits are similar to the 3M kits that the dealer installs and charges \$400-500 for. I watched the video tutorials and decided I'd have a go at it.

Tankslapper has kits for quite a few motorcycles and my K1600GTL was one that was listed. I haven't completed installation of the whole kit (so far I've installed the left pannier top, headlight and front fender lip) but it has been quite easy specially on parts that don't have much contouring on it. The kit I received was well cut. I had to order the 3M Blue Squeegee but I should have ordered the Turbo Squeegee too. You can also buy the kit and take it to a window tinting service and have them install it.

By the way, after I peeled off the left pannier's spray on film, the paint underneath was still like brand new. It cost me about \$50 for the 3M spray on kit at Autozone but it was only enough for the 2 pannier tops. The Tankslapper kit plus squeegee set me back \$89 for the whole bike kit.

GoPro3 – White Edition Review

Don Eilenberger

During the ride to Birmingham in May there were several points in the ride where I wished I had a photo, or a video of the ride we were taking. Along Rt 42 (Bluegrass Trail) in VA there was a mile or so of white fencing on both sides of the road over rolling grassy fields that was simply wonderful to see. It needed a video to capture the joy of riding through it.

So – for my birthday – I asked for a GoPro3, White Edition.

The “White” Edition is the cheapest GoPro3. It

differs from the Black and Silver editions by having a slightly lower maximum resolution, but it still has full hi-def capabilities, and even super hi-def. Since the chances of my needing better than this is nil to non-existent, the \$100 savings over the Silver edition (and \$200 over the Black edition) made it the one for me. SWMBO bought it for me, and she bought a 32GB memory card (the other ones come with a memory card) and an extra mounting kit. Base price is \$199 with the waterproof case and helmet and flat surface sticky mounts.

The GoPro mounts easily to the mirror stem on my R1200R using the kit that Eileen bought me. It mounts securely, and the controls are easy to access even with riding gloves on.

The GoPro3 has three buttons. One in the front is used for power on/off, one on the top is used for start/stop recording (or photos). There is an additional side mounted button that switches on the WiFi that allows you to connect to the GoPro3 with your Android or iOS device. There is a small display on the front of the camera, that shows the battery level, the number of recordings or photos taken, and is used for various settings menus.

The good:

- The GoPro3 produces excellent HiDef video. I'm using it in 720P resolution (1280x720) which is what most hi-def TV's will play (over-air cable is typically 720"i" which is a lower quality signal.)
- It has multiple modes – video, camera single shot, camera burst shots, camera time lapse.
- It's small, and waterproof when in the case.
- It's easy to use on the bike IF you can see it.
- It has an Android app that allows you to control (and view what it's looking at) remotely.
- Has a downloadable Windows video editing app that seems quite competent (but requires a powerful Windows machine to run well.)

The Other:

- It breaks recordings into 2GB file segments. Nothing is lost – this is due to DOS based file size restrictions. Not a big problem.
- Used on a helmet it would seem difficult to confirm if it's recording or not. To do so would require using the Android app (perhaps with the phone in a tankbag map pocket), but touch-screens don't work that well through a thick map

window.

- Battery life seems to be about 3 hours. I bought a multi-charger with two spare batteries. It's not real obvious, even with it mounted in sight when the battery has run out.
- The function display on the front is too damn small for any eyes over 30 years old. All these settings can be done with the Android app.. but..
- When used in WiFi mode (for the Android app) the battery is used much faster. There is also a remote control available for it – which has the same downside, it requires the WiFi mode to connect.

Conclusions:

- I've been using it regularly. If anyone pulls out in front of me – I've got evidence.. I will be taking it to Europe with me, and may have more conclusions when I return.

2014 Event Schedule

Please email the editor with additions/corrections.

- August 13th - August Meeting – Schneider's
- August 17th – noon – Club Picnic at Goldbergs
- August 29th – Sept 1st – Finger Lakes Rally, NY – See Roger for details.
- September 10th - September Meeting - Schneiders
- September 13th – AMA Races – NJ Motorsports Park, Millville NJ
- September 21st – **3 Club Rumble, Sandy Hook NJ (we are the hosts this year!)**
- September 26th – 28th New Sweden Last Chance Rally:
http://www.newswedenbmwridders.com/New_Sweden_BMW_Riders_of_South_Jersey/Last_Chance_Rally.html
- October 3rd- 5th – Oktoberfest Weekend, Colors in the Catskills, Round Top, NY
- October 8th - October Meeting – Schneider's (Nomination of Officers)
- November 1st – DUES ARE DUE!
- November 2nd, Flemings Junkyard Bike/Car Show – Pumpkin Run, Mays Landing NJ
- November 12th - November Meeting – Schneider's (Election of Officers)
- November 15th, Snowmobile Museum Trip
- December 10th - December Meeting – Schneider's
- December 13th - Annual Holiday Party
- December 14th - Annual Children's Hospital Toy Run

Motorcycle Insurance from a fellow rider and club member



Greg Wright

greg@johnbwright.com

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**Meeting – Weds – August 13th (Eat 6-7:30PM, meeting 7:30PM)
Schneider's German-American Restaurant
Rt 71-Main St, Avon NJ**

NJS-BMW-Riders Inc.
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13 Oaktree Lane
Ocean Twsp, NJ 07712