

August 2012

# NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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"There are two tragedies in life. One is not to get your heart's desire. The other is to get it." *George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950), "Man and Superman" (1903), act 4*

"I hate women because they always know where things are." *James Thurber (1894 - 1961)*

"Who is more busy than he who hath least to do?" *John Clarke, Paroemiologia Anglo-Latina, 1639*

"The best time to plant an oak tree was twenty-five years ago. The second best time is today." *James Carville*

"Slow and steady wins the race, then wastes no time grinding salt-caked glass in your open wounds." *Randy K. Milholland, Something Positive Comic, 11-06-05*

"If you ever reach total enlightenment while drinking beer, I bet you could shoot beer out of you nose." *Jack Handy Quotes*

## FluffyButt Challenge Update

*Don Eilenberger*

We have one member who has visited all the FluffyButt sites – and documented it. Congratulations to Alex Edly. That doesn't mean he wins – since if someone else also visits all the sites, and garners more bonus points for newsletter articles and photos, they can still win.

We have about 10 members who have been

BMW Club  
New Jersey Shore Riders



submitting photos (and some newsletter articles.) Some are taking it at a relaxed pace, some are just doing it to have an excuse to ride, and others are taking the challenge seriously.

Great stuff, I'm really enjoying the photos arriving. Some are really amusing, as are the stories of what people had to do to get them. I'm already thinking about next year's FluffyButt (and no – the name isn't changing – if it's not serious enough for you – well – we don't take ourselves that seriously.)

There will be some differences in the rules next year, which will involve more in-depth visits to the FB sites, plus the sites won't be limited to State owned/run sites. Next year you can expect the unusual and absurd.. but in the meantime, keep those rides going, photos and articles arriving. It's been great fun so far! No one has even gotten arrested – yet.

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

## AC Windmills - July 12

*RdoubleJack Swenson*

I didn't know there were windmills at Atlantic City. That's how long it's been since I've been there. Pretty impressive actually. So were some of the big buildings. Don, Bill Dudley and I were out making points for our club's contest and our first stop was the Atlantic City lighthouse. Somewhere else it might be more impressive, but surrounded by high-rise casinos it's sort of dwarfed.

From there we went south through Ventnor and Margate, two pretty nice towns I had never be-

fore seen. I guess you could say it's another Jersey Shore.



explaining the mobile madness prompted by the Fluffy Butt Challenge. She states "It is good to have an end to journey toward but it is the journey that matters in the end."

That declaration partially explains why over the past several weeks I have spent numerous hours traveling many miles to locations I should have gone to before, but until now haven't. It also gives validity to visiting sites I'd have no reason to return to.

In the plus column is Wharton State Forest. It features a delightful journey along the East side of the Delaware River on a secluded paved road with no gas stations or fast food joints spoiling the scenic ride. The panoramic view from Washington Rock State Park is also quite spectacular on a clear day. I have fond memories of this place from my high school days when it was just a parking lot with a good view.

On the flip side of the coin is the Trenton Battle Monument. It's certainly a magnificent structure but not in an area where you would want to spend the weekend with the wife and kids.

Our next stop was the Somer's Mansion at Somer's Point. It took a while to find this historic spot and if it weren't marked you would just think it was another abandoned building waiting to be razed for a Wawa. It is woefully neglected. If I lived there I might organize a restoration. And then again I might not.

Bill peeled off at this point and Don and I moved west for the Pine Barrens and more points. There was Batsto, Wharton State Forest, Bass River Forest and a couple of other points where we could add to our scores.

The day was beautiful. The temperature was 83 degrees all day and there was a nice sea breeze. We ate at a Dairy Queen. Make one sort of wonder. We had passed so many nice places and never stopped. Could it be that Don's on a diet?

## **U-Turns**

*Don Gordon*

Quoting Ursula LeGuin would be appropriate in



The Walt Whitman House in Camden is in another not so appealing location but it is close to the battle ship New Jersey which offers a unique and interesting tour.



To date I have visited all of the locations North of Int. 78 and a few in the South-West section of the state. I'm looking forward to visiting the locations along the Jersey Shore and I have a few prisons left on the list. Google Earth and the GPS have been invaluable in this quest but I must say the GPS can become confusing in areas of cloverleaves and city blocks. My U turn skills have been thoroughly challenged.

## **FluffyButt Follies – July 22nd**

*Harold Gantz*

Once again, FluffyButt Creator and Ride Captain Extraordinaire, Don Eilenberger put out the notice for fellow riders to accompany him on his quest for points on Sunday, July 22. The weather forecast looked good for the upcoming Sunday and I'm really low on FluffyButt points so I made plans to join Don.

Dan Thompson and his buddy Steve Manning

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Don Eilenberger, Editor – John Malaska, Publisher

would also be players. Don planned the first stop for photos would be at Fort Mott State Park. The meeting place was going to be the usual WAWA. Once again, I didn't see a need to ride sixty miles east before riding south so I planned to ride directly to Fort Mott and hoped I would meet Don, Dan, and Steve down there without anybody having to wait a long time.

I've been playing with some old Hondas recently and have been neglecting my BMW. With the excellent weather predicted for Sunday I prepped the K75S the night before. Sunday started out clear and sunny. I left myself an hour and a little extra time to ride from Mt. Laurel to Fort Mott, hoping to meet the shore contingent down there at 12:30pm. I haven't been to that part of south Jersey in a while and I forgot which exit to take to get off I-295 at the southern end without screwing up and crossing the Delaware Memorial Bridge and having to turn around in Delaware to get back into New Jersey. Well, I got off I-295 too early and spent about fifteen minutes finding my way back to route 49 to get back on course for the park. I arrived at the park and didn't see any other motorcycles so I took my picture in front of the park sign, parked the bike, and visited the comfort station.

While walking back to my bike, Don, Dan, and Steve were arriving and taking their photos at the entrance to the park. Then they rode to the parking lot and stopped at the WELCOME sign, dismounted, and did some sort of dance in front of the sign. I don't know what they were doing, but it looked like Huey, Looney, and Dewey were pointing in three different directions taking more photos of themselves. Later Don commented the picture reminded him of the Three Stooges. You decide for yourself.



### ***Three Stooges?***

The next destination was going to be Hancock House, a state historic site in Salem County. I

thought we all agreed to ride through the town of Salem on the way to Hancock House and stop at the Salem Oak Diner for some food. Don's GPS, Doofuss, had other plans and routed us around Salem directly to Hancock House. We got our photos there and then it was off to Parvin State Park, hoping to find a diner along the way.



The ride to Parvin was through southern South Jersey farmland. Somewhat scenic, straight, a few hills, and virtually no other traffic. And no diners. As we got pretty close to Parvin State Park we came across Anderson's Country Store. Boy, was it. Upon entering we saw a sign that read No Checks, No Credit/Debit Cards, No Restrooms, and No other things that I've forgotten. But there was a sandwich counter in the back so we ordered a bunch of sandwiches, selected some drinks, paid in cash, and took our lunch feast outside and sat on the two wooden benches on the front porch.

The store and proprietor were rustic but the sandwiches were really good. And apparently slippery. Half of Don's BLT on rye toast slid off his Aerostiched lap onto the ground. Actually it looked like it was catapulted out of his lap. Well, no point crying over spilled BLT. It made its way into the garbage can and Don suffered on. By the way, if you're looking for Anderson's Country Store, it's directly across the street from Ye Olde Centerton Inn.

When the feast was over, we rode about two or three miles to main entrance to Parvin State Park, did the photo dance, and set course for Bayside State Penitentiary. Getting photos of the penitentiary can be exciting or dangerous,

depending on your outlook. We stopped on the shoulder of the road across from the pen and the other three guys got their photos quickly. I couldn't get mine framed properly so I took a whole bunch of pictures, making the other guys uneasy, as if the guards from the pen would descend upon us and invite us in for a long visit. Luckily we escaped.



***Harold posing for the DOC officer about to arrive in the car in the background..***

Onward to Belleplain State Forest. By this time we had crossed most of southern New Jersey, from the Delaware River to within striking distance of the shore. At the entrance to the State Forest, four wild and crazy BMW riders took photos of their mugs, bikes, and signage. Three of us are kidding ourselves. I think Don is going to win this competition. I think he secretly goes out by himself to get more points that we have no knowledge of. These groups rides are just a decoy to make the rest of us feel like we have a chance to win something. I don't know any of this for a fact, but I'm just sayin'.

At this point I was running out of time for the day. Don, Dan, and Steve were going to follow Doofuss to Corson's Inlet State Park near Ocean City. I turned north on route 50 to head homeward. I stopped in Mays Landing for a comfort stop and some liquid refreshments and to make a phone call telling my wife that I was about an hour from home. I rode route 557 from Mays Landing to Hammonton, then route 206 to Atsion, then Atsion Road to Medford and home.

It was a fun day. The weather remained perfect, not too hot for me. The wilds of southern South

Jersey is a very relaxing place to ride, mainly because the traffic is so light. Other than a short Doofuss directed blast on route 55, we spent all of our time down there on empty two laners.

Oh, If you stop at Anderson's Country Store for a sandwich, hold on to it with two hands.

*Editors note: At the stop for Bayside State Pen, the road had numerous signs on it saying "No Stopping, No Parking, No nothing! 24 hour closed circuit TV monitoring." The rest of the riders saw this, quickly pulled over and took a fast snapshot. Harold pulled over, dismounted, posed, studied his photo deciding he needed to take some more. Meanwhile, I'm waving him to get back on the damn bike, as there was a DOC car coming down the driveway toward us. Somehow we got away unscathed.*

## FluffyButt Tips - II

Bill Dudley

**1. The Johnson Ferry House** in Washington's Crossing State Park is accessible by entering the park proper. If you go on a weekday, admission is free. If you show up at 3:45 on a Saturday, like I did, the nice lady in the booth let me in for free since the buildings all close at 4:00.



**Johnson Ferry House**

You could also get to the Ferry House by parking on Rt 29 or across the street in the part of the park by the river, and then walking across the pedestrian over Rt 29 to the Ferry House. But you'd have a long walk to the visitors center, so why bother.

Just as a note of interest, the visitors center on the PA side is closed for renovations, so the big painting of General Washington crossing the Delaware (a copy of the real one in the Metropolitan in NYC) is "in storage" and you will have to be content looking at a tiny little print thumb tacked to the wall of the trailer that now serves as PA visitor center.

**2. The Washington Crossing (NJ) Visitor Center** is also in the park, and if you ride the loop road out to Johnson Ferry House, is on the return leg. Washington Crossing Park admission is free on weekdays, \$5 on weekends.

**3. Trenton Battle Monument** isn't that hard to find, the tricky part is finding a place to park the bike while you snap a picture. I used the sidewalk across the street from the monument. (Note: a later visit approaching from the east had plenty of places to stop on the wide street. My first approach was from the north.



**Mid-State Correctional Facility**

**4.** While it is true that **Mid-State Correctional Facility** is inside Fort Dix, you can get close enough to photograph it. Approach Fort Dix from the south (Rt 70 to Rt 530). You can hit Whitesbog Village off of 530 as you head north towards Browns Mills. (Even though the roads inside Whitesbog Village are sand/dirt, the access road to the Village is paved all the way to the front of the General Store.)

Continue north on 530 to Browns Mills. When you get to the fork at the lake, where 530 bears left, continue straight on Trenton Road. This eventually passes a couple of brick entrance

markers, where it becomes Texas Road. Continue north until you get to the intersection that is about 100 yards south of the Fort Dix guard shack. Turn right on what I think is "Range Road". Drive (25mph) East about a mile or so, until you reach an intersection, and the prison will be in front of you (and also across the road). Trying to be subtle about it, (no tripod, please), snap your picture and turn around and get the heck out of there.

Nobody paid the slightest attention to me, but your mileage may vary.

**5. A.C. Wagner Yout' Correctional Facility** -- is on Ward Avenue in Bordentown, which bridge over the Turnpike is currently closed, so if you approach from the east, you'll have to detour south to 528, cross the Turnpike, and then detour back north. I didn't try to find a nice sign to photograph after my earlier experiences at Southern State Correctional Facility, so I just snapped a quick piccie from across the street by the corn field and skedaddled.

This prison is only a few miles west of Allentown, so it was convenient to hit it after ice cream at our recent (July 25) ice cream "run".

## **Jenny Jump - July 25<sup>th</sup>**

*Luigi Bosconi*

Doesn't sound like a name for a state park, but then it's not much of a park anyway. You get there and all you can see are weeds and trees. I thought I would see where Jenny jumped or something. Nope, just trees and weeds and Don.

Well the area around there is somewhat scenic and there are even some roads with sweepers but not curves. It would be along route 46 just a little east of Butzville, an aptly named architectural wonder typical of the state. But nearby Hope is another of those little New Jersey towns that you wouldn't believe existed. It should be in Vermont.. It's also on route 519 which is possibly the best motorcycle road in the state. We would take it south to 29 and then 195.

Don and I took advantage of a nice summer day sandwiched between steamy scorchers to pick up some "fluffybutt" points. We are closing in on Alex in the quest for the gold. We added a

couple of other parks and reservoirs whose names escape me. It could be because I was trying to escape from them.

We rode there mainly up route 31 which used to be 69 but was changed because people kept stealing the signs. I wonder why? We met Don Gordon just south of Washington and had lunch at a pretend Italian restaurant. Don E had an iceberg lettuce salad. I thought they were only served at the New Sweden meetings in the south Jersey swamps. Don G is nearing completion of his handmade boat and will have to find a new project. He had some photographs to show and it is a wooden beauty. He left us as we headed toward Jenny Jump, quite wisely it seems.

We left at ten and were home by five. The low point was rush-hour traffic at Trenton. The high point was 519.

## **The Cost of Competing**

*Pillowpants McGee*

I've reached my goal for the FB in July but at a cost.



**Fort Mott State Park and Historic Site**

This tour of NJ takes a lot of time. It takes time to assemble an accurate map of destinations (below). It takes time to plan an efficient day's route and get them into the GPS, time to travel, time and money to gas, time to take pictures, time talking to locals, time preparing the pictures, time to write a newsletter article (if you want to have the most points). This month, I needed a tire change which again is time and money. Like I said, it takes a lot of time.

Yes, there were some very cool things along the

way. I received a private tour and was told stories about the slaughtered Patriots at the Hancock House from Alicia, the energetic park ranger.

Where 5 miles of sand met pavement, I was startled by the rattle of a Timber Rattlesnake in Penn State Forest near a swimming hole. I learned more about blueberry production than I really wanted to know. Near Fort Mott, I discovered NJ has a land border with Delaware.

To save you some time, here is my map of the FB points. It is provided as-is. Let me know if you see a correction and I'll update it. <http://alturl.com/wmbh2> or scan the code if it gets included.



Spending all this time trying to complete the FB, I forgot to spend time on other, more important things and now she is gone...again. So, take your time and enjoy the ride.

## Club Activity and Events Calendar - 2012

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- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **August** - Ice Cream Runs continue.
- ◆ **August 1st** - Moribundi Lunch
- ◆ **August 8th** - Regular Club Meeting.
- ◆ **August 17th-25<sup>th</sup>** - Montreal-Quebec City and Quebec Province Ride – Contact Don if interested. There will be NO camping.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **December sometime** - Annual holiday party. Location and date TBA. RD Swanson is party captain.

## Sedalia MOA 40<sup>th</sup> Anniv Rally

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*Roger Trendowski*

"Howlin' at the Moon" was the rally cry for the 40<sup>th</sup> annual MOA International Rally.

It was hot but not muggy like Bloomsburg PA last year. Temperature hit 103 degrees and then 105 the next day but without humidity it wasn't too bad. The day the NJ clubs worked as volunteers in the registration tent I worked the 12-4 shift followed by the 4-8 shift. Exhausting, hot, but not sweaty hot. More about the Rally later. I left NJ on Friday afternoon 7/13. My overall trip objectives were to 1) visit a coal mine, 2) enjoy the Corvette plant & museum, 3) have dinner & beer on the Mississippi (at Missouri's

heel), and 4) of course make it to the Rally. With minor exception I achieved them all.

I chose the Interstate 287 – I78- I81 route to avoid Friday afternoon traffic near Baltimore and Washington. Verona VA was my first night. I arrived about 7pm but easily could have made 100+ more miles to Roanoke but my reservation was past the cancellation time. At a downtown convenience store I asked for recommendations for local “southern” restaurants and chose an excellent bowling-alley looking one that served up fried steak atop mash potatoes, black-eyed peas, sweetened coleslaw... all downed with what seemed like a gallon of sweetened ice tea. You have to get off the beaten path and ask locals to find places like this.

The next morning I motored past Roanoke VA and Johnston City- Bristol TN area on I81 then took a right toward Kentucky and my underground coal mine named Portal 31. By line-of-sight the coal mine was only 63 miles from I81 but via multiple roads and twisties up/down the mountains it was about 110 miles. I didn't realize it until this trip but the mountains in this area of Kentucky are individual mountains and not a range of mountains like the Virginia/NC Blue Ridge.



Riding to the mine was actually more fun than the underground mine itself... (riding vs. looking: which would you prefer?) I traveled up and down several mountains to Lynch KY where Portal 31 was located. (See my video of some of these mountainous roads-- to be shown at a club meeting.) There were several operating and abandoned mines on route... most of them

you could only see the transport belts/tubes crossing the highway with the actual mine and processing plants located some distance away.

Portal 31 mine started in the 1920's and was the first to open a tour. Visitors can walk into the horizontal mine entrance and then take a 2000' ride on a typical battery operated transport car. You sit in a very shallow (low) car because the mine shaft ceilings are very low. Temperature in the mine was at least 20 degrees cooler than outside.



After another great southern-menu lunch in a nearby town, I traveled roughly 250 miles west and a bit north to Bowling Green, KY home of the GM Corvette assembly plant. It was closed on Saturday but the National Corvette Museum was fully open. On display was virtually every model and year Corvette since their 1950's beginning. By the way, I found these two tours as well as many others listed on <http://www.factorytoursusa.com/> e.g., distilleries, beer companies, speedways, china & pottery companies.

From Bowling Green, I traveled southwest to Interstate 40 in Nashville (raining several hours) and halfway to Memphis (Jackson TN) where I spent my second night. The next morning I turned off Interstate 40 and headed northwest toward the Tennessee–Missouri–Arkansas border. This point is located in Missouri's “heel.” Look at a Missouri map.... The state has what is referred to as a “women's shoe-heel” located in its most southeastern boundary. On my map this point appeared to be located on the Mississippi River and I assumed there would be restaurants

and beer joints where I could sit and ponder Huck Fin's adventures on the Mississippi. No restaurants. No gas stations; only run down properties on the MO side of the border. The Tennessee state line was actually located in the middle of the river and looking south into Arkansas also looked desolate.

To my surprise, after heading south into Arkansas for a few miles, I discovered a number of huge factory complexes, including steel, chemical & food processing. The economic base between MO and AK was so dramatic that I finally asked "why?" at a local lunch spot. It seems that years ago AK implemented very aggressive policies and created tax incentives to attract business. They obviously succeeded.

Ten miles west of these businesses was the moderate size town of Blytheville AK (on Rt 18) which is where workers live and spend money. I continued northwest for about 150 miles through northern AK and southern MO to Springfield MO then north another 100 miles through the Lakes of the Ozark and on to Sedalia and the Rally site. It was Sunday night.

## The Rally

We set up the Registration tent on Tuesday and Wednesday morning with about 20 volunteers; transporting pallets of rally books, registration forms, tables, chairs and signs.

Over 1500 Rally volunteers and early rally arrivals were registered by evening and the MOA staff put on an excellent "BBQ buffet" for all volunteers on Wednesday night. By Rally's end, we registered over 5500 but sold many more Superstakes II tickets.

The Superstakes raffle was a great 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary idea and was so successful that the MOA said they will continue it next year. They gave away 12 motorcycles and other major prizes on Saturday night between major entertainment events. The \$100 SSII ticket included free rally entry ticket as well as a single bike raffle.

As with other MOA rallies there were over 100 vendors all in air conditioned space, vendors changing tires and installing accessories outside, vintage exhibits, and numerous food vendors. Some Park food vendors even offered

indoors air conditioned restaurant seating.

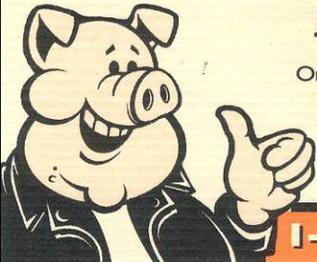
Rally closing ceremonies were held in the air conditioned arena where video presentations were used for vendors and awards. Entertainment lasted 1 hour as did the actually closing ceremonies. An R1200R and many touring trips and accessories were given away as part of the Rally entry ticket. One of the video screen presentations stated: "No flamethrowers this year."

Awards included: Dave Swisher for 1.6 million BMW miles; Long Distance Solo Rider= 1740 miles starting from Honduras; Oldest combined age of bike and Rider = 187 years on a 1963 R100/2 from Vernon, Tx; Oldest male rider = 88 yrs; Oldest female rider=80 yrs; Youngest non-licensed passenger = age 3; Youngest male rider =16 yrs; Youngest female rider = 22 yrs; See my club meeting video for more the details. I left early Sunday morning for Pittsfield MA and then home on Tuesday. Total miles=3120.



*Editors note – thanks to everyone who made this another great issue! Without your sharing your rides and adventures, we'd have little to print! Don*

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**MEETING – Weds – August 8<sup>th</sup>  
Schneider's, Main St. Avon-by-the-Sea**

**NJS-BMW-Riders Inc.**

John Malaska, Secretary

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