

**November 2014**

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

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## **President's Message:**

It's getting to be the ugly time of year. The leaves are almost a sodden mass on the ground, it's raining all day today, and yuck.

On the bright side, we had a good summer for riding, without the monster heat wave we've had in some past years, and not much rain, either. The farmers may not be happy, but I can't complain.

There's still plenty of riding weather left, just dress a little warmer, turn on the heated grips (an easy retrofit if you don't have them already), maybe a heated jacket liner if it's below 40F, and you can ride right into December.

We've had a bit (too much) excitement in the vintage BMW world, as there's a power play going on in the Airheads BMW Club. If you're an airhead and not yet involved, ask me (or Mike K, or Klaus, or Roger) about it.

We regulars missed going to the Breakfast Club in Farmingdale, NJ for a few Saturdays in October, but generally, we're there \*every\* Saturday sometime between 9:30 and 10:00 AM. We always send a message to the club mailing list, so I know you all (eventually) read about these breakfasts.

How about some more of you make an appearance at these? Sometimes we go for a ride after, (often just down to Mikey's house to waste his time) but sometimes to someplace more interesting. It's a good excuse for a short ride on a Saturday. You can sweep off the sidewalk and mow the lawn later.

President Dud

Always be wary of any helpful item that weighs less than its operating manual. *Terry Pratchett*

I cannot endure to waste anything as precious as autumn sunshine by staying in the house. So I spend almost all the daylight hours in the open air. *Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804 - 1864)*

The only sure thing about luck is that it will change. *Bret Harte (1836 - 1902)*

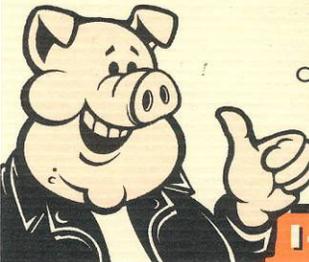
For myself I am an optimist - it does not seem to be much use being anything else. *Sir Winston Churchill (1874 - 1965)*

I made my mistakes, but in all my years of public life, I have never profited from public service. I've earned every cent. And in all of my years in public life I have never obstructed justice. And I think, too, that I can say that in my years of public life that I welcome this kind of examination because people have got to know whether or not their President is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook. I've earned everything I've got. *Richard M. Nixon (1913 - 1994)*

In the garden, Autumn is, indeed the crowning glory of the year, bringing us the fruition of months of thought and care and toil. And at no season, safe perhaps in Daffodil time, do we get such superb colour effects as from August to November. *Rose G. Kingsley, The Autumn Garden, 1905*

The leaves fall, the wind blows, and the farm country slowly changes from the summer cottons into its winter wools. *Henry Beston, Northern Farm*

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## Colors in the Catskills Oktoberfest, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>

Harry Costello

Friday morning dawned clear and crisp as I pulled onto the GSP at 06:30. The Gerbing on its lowest setting made it a perfect riding day and I made it through the Newark area as planned before the traffic got crazy. After an extended stop at the last rest area on the Parkway I continued into New York on the Thruway and exited onto Rt6 toward Harriman State Park. A short way into the park I turned North on Rt295 which takes you along the back side of West Point where it turns into Rt218. The reason for this not so short cut was to ride Rt218 (the old road) over Storm King Mountain, I was rewarded with a vacant fairly well paved twisty road with some great views of the Hudson River.



Storm King

Coming off Rt218, I was in Newburgh a once thriving river town that seems to have fallen into hard times. Early for my destination, the Motorcyclepedia Motorcycle Museum, I scooted West a few miles to check out OCC (that would be Or-

ange County Choppers, the apparent Mecca for the Biker crowd). Arriving on a Beemer outfitted in my ATGATT mode with full coverage helmet I was ignored by the sales staff as I wandered thru the high holy grounds of the biker community. I was surprised that many of the bikes from the show are still sitting in the showroom for sale. Not my flavor of motorcycles but interesting never the less. At 10 AM I headed back to the museum.



Orange County Choppers

Hidden in downtown Newburgh the Motorcyclepedia is surely a diamond in the rough. The \$11 entrance fee gets you into a modern well laid out museum, not Barber but one of the nicest I've been in.



Motorcyclepedia

The Indian collection is the best I've ever seen with an example from each year of production. The rest of the widely varied collection is dis-

played along with motorcycle memorabilia going back over a century through out the clean and well-lit building.

Moving North from Newburgh on Rt32 was boring so I jumped on the New York Thruway and headed toward the Catskills. The GPS took me to the road going to Crystal Brook but I continued North to check out the Irish region of the Catskills. I stopped at Hartmann's Kaffeehaus for a late lunch (pastry to die for) and headed up the road to Crystal Brook.

I'm sure Don or Dan will expand Crystal Brook Resort. <http://www.crystalbrook.com/>



*Crystal Brook single room*

It's a 50+ year resort and it shows it, but everything is well maintained and clean. The staff is very friendly and the food is about average (IMHO) but plentiful. It has a cozy feeling about it and you feel right at home when you walk in the door. The very authentic Bauhaus (part of Crystal Brook) is less than a football field down the road and a reserved table was there for the group. A great location and reasonably priced.

Sunday I was up early and off to Church, there was an Irish church to the North that I wanted to go to. The very Irish priest picked that day to give an extended sermon on birth control to the congregation that looked like the average age was late fifties, or older, so I missed the window for breakfast at the Crystal. Leaving Church I took a 100 mile loop Northwest/South and then back East, stopped at Hartmanns for brunch and about \$20 worth of out of this world pastries for the troops back home.

Arriving back at the Crystal I found the parking lot devoid of two wheeled vehicles and assumed everyone went over to Hunter to check out Colors in the Catskills. Decision time - wait two hours for lunch and an hour to eat it, or instead of heading straight home I could spend a few extra hours riding the Hudson Valley on a perfect fall day. I can always do with missing a meal, so it was off to the East side of the Hudson and a bunch of little roads with no line in the middle using the go South or toward the river method of navigation. I really like the upper Hudson valley especially in the fall, it's as pretty as any river valley in the world. I crossed the Mid-Hudson bridge the Rheincliff bridge and ended up riding a very back road into the Vanderbilt Mansion grounds. Route 9 something (W/G/K etc) back over Storm King on the new road and I was back at Bear Mountain. I took Seven Lakes Drive over to Rt17 and headed South. An ugly but fast ride down the GSP and I was home. Ride home was 5+ hours.

A great fall ride, and many thanks to Don for finding and sharing the location. I'm surprised more people didn't take advantage of what may be the last overnight ride of the season. To me it's a no-brainer all you need is a couple of changes of clothes/a motorcycle and a couple of hundred bucks, everything is taken care of, and you'll have some memories of a good ride to get through the ugly part of the year.

## **A bit more on our Oktoberfest weekend..**

*Don E*

This weekend event started because a few years ago I needed one last weekend ride before the weather starts closing in, and this area of NY state has some great riding and spectacular scenery in the fall. We've timed it to coincide with the "Colors in the Catskills" event put on by Hunter Mountain ski-resort and MAX BMW.

The choice of Crystal Brook was serendipitous - I'd originally planned to go to Reidlebaurs - another German resort right down the road - but they were full-up, and they suggested Crystal Brook. Turns out Crystal Brook is ideal. For about \$90/night you get a room, three hearty meals a day and reserved access to the very

authentic Bavarian Bauhaus (beer-hall) that's on the grounds. The owners have come to like us and cooperate in offering us suitable lodging and an enjoyable weekend.

The first event was held 3 years ago – and had 4 NJS members in attendance. We all had a great time, and talked about it a bit. Last year the crowd had doubled – but I was absent due to a slightly broken leg. There were more New Sweden members than NJS members.

This year it about doubled again – we had 14 people, about an equal mix of NJ Shore and New Sweden members. It's a great couples event.

Next year I'm going to open it to the Skylands BMW Riders – I think as a three-club event it could be outstanding and we might just fill most of the resort.

I don't have a date for it for 2015 yet – but when we do – you might think about putting it on your calendar. It's a really fun weekend with some great riding and companionship.

If you take highways – it's less than 3 hours from the shore area. The better way to go is via backroads through the Catskill Forest Preserve – which makes a delightful all day ride on great roads. Close, cheap, great food, great riding, great company – what's not to like?

A few pics:



*A rather wet demo fleet from Max's BMW*



*Zhao and Prez Dud relaxing in the lounge at Crystal Brook*



*It rained hard enough Saturday that we caged to Hunter Mountain. A bit cramped in Dud's Toy.. these are not small boys..*



*Bauhaus evening*

## Test Ride - October 18

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RDS

It all started at the Breakfast Club in Farmingdale. Really nice day that demanded a ride, so after eggs and home fries, Dan, Don, Jerry and I decided to head for Xtreme Machines, highway 33 in Millstone. Don led a challenging ride through hill and dale and we all arrived in one piece.

Outside this large motorcycle dealer was a tent and an assortment of motos ready for the taking. I chose a Triumph Thruxton, a snappy brown color with a racing stripe. After a few formalities I was on the road with this surprisingly delightful machine. If I had not just purchased a new ride I would have considered this baby. Having two motorcycles is enough for me. (I know that many of our members have multiple rides and one can never have too many of a good thing).



I also looked at their selection of Arai helmets. They have plenty in stock and a knowledgeable young lady to provide assistance. She was also willing to adjust pricing.

Dan was going to take a test ride but someone dropped the bike and rides were suspended.

Too bad.

Next we decided to visit with Klaus and rode out to his shop, but it was closed.

So great minds decided to visit Cross Country. And what a delightful ride it was. The Fall foliage along route 18 in East Brunswick was delightful and was exceeded only by the beauty of the surroundings along route 1 in Edison. New Jersey has so much to offer the serious rider. The ride was outstanding!

Cross Country was a hive of activity and we wandered around making nuisances of ourselves. Don bought something. Imagine that! They really do have a lot of motorcycles including the new R nine t and the S1000 r. Both are very nice to look at. Dan and I tried unsuccessfully to find new gloves. Dan tried to have a Dr. Pepper.

As we were leaving Maere came out to wish us farewell and I ended up by going back in with her to purchase an extended warranty before the original on my R12r expired. I think that means it's not for sale anymore.

My ride home was a blast! Having a radar detector sort of saved me. The warning light started flashing so I moved over and some hot-shot from New York passed me. About a half mile down the road a trooper appeared from nowhere, ran him down with flashing lights and pulled him over. Brought a smile to my lips.

## **Impressions on the Harley Davidson Livewire Electric Motorcycle**

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*Ben P*

Project Livewire is Harley Davidson's foray into electric motorcycles. They were testing their engineering capabilities to produce a motorcycle quite unlike any they have made before. Then they took this motorcycle on a whirlwind cross country tour to show the masses, motorcyclists and the Harley faithful, and to try to gauge their reception, collect feedback and eventually decide if they will go into production. The Project Livewire caravan stopped by Brian's Harley Davidson in Langhorne, PA and I was there to try it.

Being a motorcyclist and electric car owner, I was eager to see what HD would come up with. I recall seeing their first teaser ad on YouTube where a bike whizzed by with nary an exhaust sound. Suddenly the internet was abuzz with Project Livewire. I wasn't quite sure what I saw in that ad but eventually it became apparent that it was an electric motorcycle. The Old Guard is surely going to be up in arms about this. I was wearing a big grin.



I tried to sign up online for a test ride but the website stated that all the slots were taken. I went to Brian's Harley anyway (on my big K Bimmer, of course). There were all kinds of riders there, maybe just 60% Harlistas. They had an impressive display area outside. One Livewire bike was on static display, another had its rear wheel on a roller to show throttle response, various big screens and iPads. Photographers were taking pics and giving cards with a QR code so riders can view and print their Livewire photos. At the end was a covered area where about 6 bikes were waiting for the next set of riders. Behind the trailer were several charging stations.

I managed to weasel into a test ride. When I hopped on, I realized that this was a small bike about the size of a BMW R NineT. It was a beautiful bike, with all the details able to stand up to close inspection. We received operating instructions, notably the start up procedures and how to interpret the iPhone-like display. The seating position is like an R1200R, definitely not cruiser-like. Weight was just north of 400 pounds, I believe. The main controls were the throttle and brakes but no clutch or shift lever. We were instructed that regenerative braking does not activate the brake lights so we had to tap the mechanical brakes to warn those behind

us. The only rules were to keep both wheels on the ground and to never pass the ride leader. So off we went.

Basically, the "ride" was just around the block with a few turns and areas of varying speed and several stops to feel the brakes. Acceleration is awesome. Not scary fast but very lively. Since electric motors develop full torque everywhere, there was no wait for the torque curve to build up. Throttle response was spot on. Steering was fine and so was the suspension. The brakes were very good. The regen brakes were often enough to rein in the speed. The mechanical brakes (single disc front and back) were robust enough to bring the proceedings to a quick halt. The seat was low and a bit hard. The mirrors are beautiful and utterly useless. Crawling at 1-2 mph was easy despite the lack of a clutch lever. It was easy to use the throttle at such slow speeds. By the way, it makes a sound akin to a jet engine, no earplugs needed. The numbers: 0-60 mph in >4 seconds, 74 hp, 52 ft/lbs of torque, 56 miles range.

Again, think BMW R Nine T or a small Ducati Monster when comparing Project Livewire. I came away impressed. My wife told me to put down a deposit (they weren't taking any). We all know how expensive it is to keep a bike in good running order. This one has no valves to adjust, no oil to change, brake pads that last and last, no clutch and transmission worries, no fuel system problems. A friend of mine who has gone across the US on his Zero electric motorcycle also came away impressed with Livewire. I just hope they get the range up in line with the Brammos and Zeros at around the 120-mile mark. I'm actually looking forward to this Harley.

**Editors note** – *the pic was from the Interwebz.. in searching for a photo – at least half of the photos of the Livewire that had riders on the bike had women (usually with no helmets) riding them. Is HD going after a new demographic, or is the old HD stereotype of "That's a girl's bike" being exhibited? It would seem the range of 56 miles would be adequate for the usual manly HD ride from bar to bar..*

*BTW – going coast-to-coast on a bike with a 56 mile range would take even longer than doing it with me..*

## 2014 Event Schedule

Please email the editor with additions/corrections.

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- November 8<sup>th</sup> - Flemings Junkyard Bike/Car Show – Pumpkin Run, Mays Landing NJ
- November 12<sup>th</sup> - November Meeting – Schneider's (Election of Officers). Your dues must be current to vote.
- November 15<sup>th</sup>, Snowmobile Museum Trip
- December 10<sup>th</sup> - December Meeting – Schneider's
- December 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> – NY Moto Show. We usually go in on Friday
- December 13<sup>th</sup> - Annual Holiday Party
- December 14<sup>th</sup> - Annual Children's Hospital Toy Run

## Annual Toy Run and Some Holiday Cheer

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*Jim Thomasey*

The cooler weather is finally here. The riding is better because you can now see through the trees, making the roads seem clearer and the air feel crisper. All the expense of buying winter clothing is justified and best of all, we begin the busy time of our BMW club. December has many things in store for us including the NY Bike show, our club holiday dinner and the toy run for the Children's Specialized Hospital in Toms River.

Everyone looks forward to the NY bike show and this year it is again being held before the holidays. I suppose all the traffic from the gift returns in January convinced the promoters that less than 2 weeks before Christmas is the optimum time to stage a show in NYC. The show is a perfect time to spend some time with friends, see all the new models offered by dozens of manufacturers, and another chance to be reminded that pretzels in NY are expensive.

One of my earliest motorcycling memories was attending the bike show with my grandfather when I was in grade school. After seeing the motorcycles I asked why there were so many and he responded that people need variety. "If we all wanted to the same thing, everyone would want to F&#@ grandma." I chose to ask fewer questions after that response.

Being exposed to a variety of bikes continued into my high school years. Unlike me and most of my other riding buddies, one of my friends was able to buy bikes without having to sell the one he already had. A luxury that neither I nor my other friends had.

This friend had an unpronounceable first name that seemed chosen by a cat walking across a Russian keyboard. Lots of backward R's and zeros with a slash through them and possibly some numbers too. While no one correctly knew his first name, we could say his last name, which was Lhoda. He always rode in the front so we nicknamed him Leader. In the early 1970's he had what I thought to be an impressive stable of bikes including Triumphs, BSAs, a Norton Commando and a few Japanese bikes. A lot of these bikes are now the subjects we see each year at the Gathering of the Nortons in PA. He was able to afford the "buy and not sell" method from his business of mounting ladders and scaffolding onto trucks in an efficient and mechanized manner. I didn't know the details then and still don't now, but it must have been quite profitable. There will be more about Leader Lhoda's ladder loader later.

This December also brings the annual Holiday dinner which will be discussed elsewhere in this newsletter. Reserve and buy your tickets early.

The day after the dinner is the Toy Run to benefit the Children's Specialized Hospital located at 94 Stevens Rd, Ste 2, Toms River, NJ 08755. We will meet at the DMV station located on Route 70 west in Lakewood for discussion, coffee and donuts, then proceed to the hospital with our unwrapped toys and/or any monetary donations you would like to make.

In years past some of the riders then meet for lunch at a nearby eatery. We would like to see everyone at the toy run, but understand that not all will be able to attend.

**DUES ARE OVERDUE! If you haven't renewed use attached form, and mail or bring it to a meeting!**

# New Jersey Shore BMW Riders Inc.

Membership/Renewal Application – 2015

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Others Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**BMW-MOA Member?** Yes [ ] No [ ] If yes - membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

**BMW-RA Member?** Yes [ ] No [ ] If yes - membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

Don E runs a private mailing list – only open to paid club members – on Yahoo. It is used to arrange spontaneous and planned rides, announce club events, remind you of meetings and any other club functions. The list is not used for idle chat, and you can select to receive no email from the list with the exception of administrative email (which is infrequent). You can also select to get the email as single messages (recommended since the volume of mail is very low) or in a daily digest. In order to be a member of this list you must REQUEST to be on it – and have a good Email address.

I would like to be on the Yahoo email list: Yes [ ] No [ ]

**EMAIL address for the Yahoo list (only if different from above):**

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in: Overnight Rally's [ ] Longer Distance Touring [ ] Tech Sessions [ ] Day Rides [ ]

Other \_\_\_\_\_

*(Select as many as you want)*

By signing this application, **you** accept full responsibility for any injuries you or any guests may incur during a NJS-BMW-Riders Inc. club activity. You accept that motorcycling is inherently dangerous, and that the club officers and members are not expected to accept any liability for injuries suffered by you or any guest you invite to an activity!

I've read the above paragraph and agree to hold harmless all members and officers of NJS-BMW-Riders Yes [ ] No [ ]

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please forward this application **with** a check for **\$20** made out to NJ Shore BMW Riders Inc. or bring it to a meeting.

**SEND TO:** Jim Thomasey  
13 OakTree Lane  
Ocean Twsp, NJ 07712

<b>Treasurer - Secretary's Use ONLY</b>		
Cash: [ ]	Check: [ ]	Date: _____
Amount: \$ _____		
New: [ ]	Renewal: [ ]	Updated: [ ]

# 2014 Holiday Party

## The menu:

- Soup du jour
- Tossed and Caesar salad
- Stuffed flounder with crabmeat
- Chicken Marsala
- Beef tenderloin carving station
- Roast loin of pork
- Penne with vodka sauce
- Vodka pomadora with shrimp and broccoli rabe
- Mixed vegetables, roasted potatoes
- Black and white sundae, tea and coffee
- Cash bar

The annual Holiday Party is being held on December 13<sup>th</sup> 2014 at Rod's Shadowbrook, in Sea Girt NJ. We've had our last few parties at Rod's and have been very pleased with the food and the location.

All of the menu items above will be available – buffet style. The club subsidizes the cost to the members and one significant other accompanying the member. The cost total is \$36.95 per person including the tax and gratuity. The cost to a member is \$35 per member/significant other – with \$10 per member/SO refunded at the dinner. So – that means the cost for two people is \$50 out of pocket, and that anyone attending with a significant other is getting their dues back in the refund. Can't beat that with a stick. To attend the dinner/party you **MUST** be a member in good standing with your dues paid in full for 2015.

One of the highlights of the party is the annual Dubious Awards Ceremony – hosted by none other than Mike the Wrench Kowal. Please contact Mike ASAP if you have any award suggestions (along the lines of “It seemed like a good idea at the time” events.) There will be SOLID GOLD trophy's awarded that can be displayed with pride on your mantel. Roger will be awarding the annual mileage contest awards – always a highlight.

Please use the form below – and mail it to Dan Thompson, or bring it to the November meeting. **The deadline for signing up is NOVEMBER 30TH** (NO exceptions, and NO payments will be accepted at the event.)

## 2014 Holiday Party Reservation

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending at \$35/each: \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed (x\$35) \$\_\_\_\_\_

**The cutoff date for registering for the party is NOVEMBER 30TH.** When you arrive you will receive a \$10 refund for a member and a significant other (if you brought one.)

Make checks payable to: **NJ Shore BMW Riders Inc.** You can mail this reservation to Dan Thompson at:

**NJSBMWR, Inc.  
c/o Dan Thompson  
4 Barbara Lane  
Oakhurst, NJ 07755**

Or bring to the November meeting.

## Motorcycle Insurance from a fellow rider and club member



**Greg Wright**

[greg@johnbwright.com](mailto:greg@johnbwright.com)

[www.johnbwright.com](http://www.johnbwright.com)

**800-224-6693**

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!

More than just buying insurance:

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- Quick, fair claims processing.
- We're there when you need us.

When it comes to insurance, our philosophy is simple – the broadest coverage at the best price, fast claims response and the advantage of a local agent.

See the difference personal services makes!

**Meeting – Weds – November 12th (Eat 6-7:30PM, meeting 7:30PM)  
Schneider's German-American Restaurant  
Rt 71-Main St, Avon NJ**

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