

February 2018

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

Don Eilenberger, president@njsbmwr.org

Jerry Schreiber, Vice President

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Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher

Dennis Swanson, Trustee and Instructor General

Don Eilenberger, Newsletter Editor

Joe Karol, Trustee; Roger Trendowski, Trustee; Bill Dudley, Trustee; Dave Rosen, Trustee, Dan Thompson, Trustee

"Winter's not gone yet, if the wild-geese fly that way.
" *William Shakespeare, King Lear (1608), Act II, scene 4, line 46.*

"The February sunshine steeps your boughs, and tints the buds and swells the leaves within." *William Cullen Bryant, Among the Trees*

"February makes a bridge, and March breaks it. "
George Herbert, Jacula Prudentum (1651)

" Up rose the wild old winter-king, And shook his beard of snow; "I hear the first young hare-bell ring, 'Tis time for me to go! Northward o'er the icy rocks, Northward o'er the sea, My daughter comes with sunny locks: This land's too warm for me!" *Charles Godfrey Leland, Spring.*

"Under the snowdrifts the blossoms are sleeping, Dreaming their dreams of sunshine and June, Down in the hush of their quiet they're keeping Trills from the throstle's wild summer-sung tune" *Harriet Prescott Spofford, Under the Snowdrifts*

"The person attempting to travel two roads at once will get nowhere." *Xun Zi quoted in: Errick A. Ford (2010) Iron Sharpens Iron: Wisdom of the Ages*

"The use of travelling is to regulate imagination by reality, and, instead of thinking how things may be, to see them as they are." *Samuel Johnson*

**BMW Motorcycle Club
New Jersey Shore**



President's Message:



US Olympics Sidecar Team – Ventura CA

When last I wrote a President's Column I was in California wishing I was in NJ for the annual January 1st ride.

Turns out I was likely the only club member who managed a ride on January 1st. My oldest friend (dating back about 60 years) Paul Reale lives near where I was staying with my son in Los Angeles. Turns out he collects BMW motorcycles, and was delighted to have me take one out for a New Years Day ride.



I was first going to take Paul's pristine R90S (original paint) out for a ride.. until I swung a leg over the seat. TALL BIKE. Paul had put on a Brown sidestand (non-self-retracting), that I couldn't reach to retract. Paul put it up for me, and I realized I was on my tippie-toes keeping the bike upright. I quickly decided I wasn't going to take the R90S out for a ride since I wouldn't be able to stop or get off it.

Next up was Paul's R69S – another very collectible BMW. Too collectible – so I took a pass on that. Final choice was an R24(? - mebbe R26). Less valuable. Lower. No power. What sort of trouble could I get into with that?

Well – it turns out that the R-single has an Earles fork setup (since they were designed to be easily setup for a sidecar) and a steering damper. I've ridden Earles fork bikes before, and was accustomed to the rising front end on braking – problem with this one is the brakes were merely a suggestion. Dragging my feet would slow it down a LOT faster.



Paul and I contemplating the R24..

Turns out that the steering damper also wasn't doing something right – so instead of self-centering, the steering was best described as “wandering”.

I made it around one block. I guess that counts as a January 1st ride. I left my old ‘stich, some old boots and helmet and gloves in LA.. Yeah, I think I could do without winter.

Ride safe!
Don

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JERRY FRIEDMAN
The Motorcycle Attorney
One Greentree Center, Suite 201
P.O. Box 649
Marlton, New Jersey 08053
www.law4hogs.com
e-mail: law4hogs@aol.com

1-800-LAW-4-HOGS

MOA Rally GetaWays Announced

Roger T, your MOA Board member

The MOA just announced the 2018 Get-a-Way rallies.

MOA members should see MOA-ON magazine, Feb. issue, page 33. Several new GetaWays are added this year due to their success in past years.

GetaWays are regionally-located weekend rallies. They typically include meal(s), tee-shirt, group gathering place, raffle, and cash bar. They are hotel-based rather than camping so as to attract weekend rally goers. Most events start on Friday and end Sunday. Each rally is held at a specific hotel where you make your own reservation and choose your own amenities.

About 80-150 rally goers attend so the crowd is small enough to meet many new friends. The cost of a rally will be \$99; registration and payment is via the BMWMOA.ORG website. Only the Sedona GetaWay is more money due to its location, accommodations and meal costs.

Local club(s) provide support by offering maps of routes/loops, trails and eating places.

Last year Herb Konrad and I attended the Fontana MOA GetaWay which is located near the “Tail of the Dragon” (NC/TENN). (I showed a video of it at our club meeting.) The Tail of the Dragon was excellent as usual especially at 7:30am with no traffic. (This is the third time I have been through the Dragon's 318 curves in 11 miles.

The local club provided a half dozen maps of surrounding routes ranging from 150-300 miles. Herb and I found that these routes were even better than the Dragon.

The Fontana Village Resort was also excellent....

Rustic looking hotel lodge, motel buildings, cabins and large building for the MOA dinner and event gathering.

I am definitely going this year and then tour around Northern Alabama and Eastern Tenn afterward.

Details on the MOA GetaWays will be in the March MOA-ON issue. Registration will be on the MOA website in early February.



- ◆ Fontana - April 20-22 - Fontana Village Resort, Fontana Dam, NC
- ◆ Coeur d'Alene - May 11-13 - Idaho (see website or magazine for details)
- ◆ Cedar Breaks - June 1-3 - Utah
- ◆ Grand Targhee - June 15-17 - Wyoming
- ◆ Eureka Springs - August 17-19 - Arkansas
- ◆ Copper Mountain - August 24-26 - Colorado
- ◆ Pine Mountain - Sept 7-9 - Kentucky
- ◆ Sedona - Sept 7-9 - Arizona
- ◆ Tomah - Sept 21-23 - Wisconsin
- ◆ Kerrville- Nov 9-11 - Texas

Schedule of Events – 2018!

Please send additions and corrections to the editor!

February

- February 7th – Moribundi Lunch
- February 14th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold

March

- March 7th – Moribundi Lunch
- March 14th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold
- March 21st – movie night at Crown?

April

- April 4th – Moribundi Lunch
- April 11th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold
- April 15th – **Gathering of the Nortons**, Washington Crossing State Park, PA

May

- May 2nd – Moribundi Lunch
- May 9th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold
- **May 18th -20th – Morton's Spring Fling, Natural Bridge VA. See Don for details.**

This is a favorite of shore riders.

https://www.mortonsbmw.com/springfling_2018.htm

- May 20th – British and European Classic Motorcycle Day, Clarksburg, MD

June

- June 2nd – Moribundi Lunch
- June 13th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold

July

- July 4th – Moribundi Lunch
- July 11th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold
- July 12-15th – **BMW-MOA Rally**, Des Moines, IA
- July 20-22nd – **BMW-RA Rally**, Wellsboro, PA

August

- August 1st – Moribundi Lunch
- August 8th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold

September

- September 5th – Moribundi Lunch
- September 12th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold
- **Sept 14th 16th – NJ Shore Oktoberfest 2018 – Crystal Brook Resort, NY**

October

- October 3rd – Moribundi Lunch
- October 10th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold

November

- November 7th – Moribundi Lunch
- November 14th – Meeting, Park Nine, Freehold

December

- December 5th - Moribundi Lunch
- December 8th - **Club Dinner** - RD Swanson
- December 9th - **Toy Run**, Children's Hospital - Jim Thomasey
- December 12th – Meeting -Park Nine, Freehold

The calendar is also available here, with more detail: www.njsbmwr.org/calendar.cgi

There are also the regular Saturday morning "Breakfast Club" meetings, announced via the club email group list.

Moribundi lunch locations are announced via email, and are at 12:30PM, the first Wednesday of every month.

Remembering Don Gordon

Roger T

Last Saturday Jan 20th several club members joined over 350 friends and relatives of Don Gordon at services located in Clinton NJ.

Don was well known by members our NJ Shore Club and was a long time member of NJSBMW. He was very active in supporting Skyland's BMW Club activities that involved our Club e.g., the annual Washington's Crossing Norton Rally, Three club Rumble, Chili Chilly Karen Ann Quinlan Jan 1 Rally, cross country rides to regional and National MOA Rallies, and more. One year our 3-club rumble was held in his airplane hangar at Sky Manor airport; He volunteered on several occasions in the Registration function at the MOA National Rallies. At Matheny Children's Hospital event, Don gave kids great joy by offering rides on 4-wheelers and side-car rigs The picture shown here is from Matheny.



New to me was that Don was a scuba diver, had helicopter certification in addition to pilots license, was an avid volunteer and supporter of neighboring volunteer fire department, church, and community.

Friends from all of these groups attended the services that his wife, Mary Ann and his family pro-

vided at the Clinton Holiday Inn... a place large enough to hold the estimated 350. They hosted a nice buffet luncheon in the hotel following Services. Apparently there were some folks who missed the Services since cars were lined-up back to I78 or were turned away at the Hotel due to parking limitations and perhaps facility crowd maximums. From our Club was: Dan Thompson, Zhao and Bill Dudley, Klaus Hueneke, Mike Kowal, Eric Suhr (who gave a speech), Joe Karol, Dennis Swanson, and Kesic Zlatko & Mrs. Zlatko. There probably were others that I didn't see. I even met my neighbor who lives 1/2 mile from me in Middletown. My neighbor, a restorer of antique MCs, meshed with Don's interest and large collection of unusual bikes. I had no idea that they knew each other.

We all will miss Don.. God Bless.

Don Gordon – January 20th

RDS

Attended a "Celebration of the life of Donald Robert Gordon" today. Drove up with Dan and Tom. Mike, Dud, Klaus and Joe were already there. Roger came by motorcycle. It was in the Holiday Inn in Clinton.

Those in attendance easily numbered over two hundred. It was both solemn and joyous ceremony and a wonderful tribute to Don. A minister from Don's church told of his multi-faceted life and the many ways he contributed to his community. Readings from Ecclesiastes 3:1-14, and Luke 6:37-38, the Lord's Prayer, and the singing of the "Old Rugged Cross" provided a religious context.

Three friends reminisced of his business life, his aeronautical life and his motorcycling life, the latter delivered by Eric Suhr. This in part was very emotional but also celebratory.

Don's wife ended the ceremony. She spoke of their long life together and of his many qualities as a husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many.

There was a closing prayer and an invitation to remain for a luncheon.

Much more could be written, but to appreciate the affair you would have to have been there. Most

people I didn't know, but many I did know and they were mostly friends from the Skylands Riders and Cross Country.

It was a great tribute to an extraordinary man and a friend of mine.

February 2018 Meeting Agenda

- 1 - Call to order (7:30 - Don)
- 2 - Welcome new/returning members (Don)
- 3 - Treasurer's Report (Joe K)
- 4 - Secretary's Report on Membership and renewals (Jim T)
- 5 - OLD and CONTINUING BUSINESS
 - a) Breakfast Club (Don)
 - b) Website Updates (Bill D)
 - c) 2018 Planning Session – Lets set a date!
- 6 - NEW BUSINESS
 - a) The Gathering of the Nortons – Bill D/Klaus
 - b) Morton's Spring Fling – discuss
 - c) Club Oktoberfest – discuss.
- 7 - Open Floor - Anyone
- 8 - 50/50 drawing (Joe K)

END - Adjourn and stand around talking for 30 minutes or so.

Shortest Distance to Chili

Roger T

Some was hot, some was spicy, some made with chicken and other with Angus and some had no meat at all. This proves the case that you can make great tasting Chili out of anything.

After the Saturday morning club breakfast on 1/27, I headed over to Montgomeryville Cycle Center (aka Montgomeryville BMW) in Hatfield PA. It's located west of Doylestown about 15 miles or so. My path from Jackson where we had Breakfast at "The Mug Rack" to the BMW dealer was not quite straight forward since there is no simple straight road to get there. From 195/29 in Trenton, I crossed the Delaware on US Rt 1.

Once in PA, my trusty GPS tried to put me on the PA Turnpike for a couple exits then north.

This made no sense since I knew the Dealer was located due-West of Lambertsville. So I reset my GPS from "Fastest route" to "Shortest." Probably

20 roads and turns later I finally arrived. The "Shortest Route" function provided the most interesting and picturesque back-road way to get there. I passed an old gigantic steam shovel exhibit in front of a quarry, many historic stone buildings and barns, and rode on a 1-lane road (but no dirt). I traveled through Doylestown PA which is a large historic town much like Lambertsville and Frenchtown.

Montgomeryville Cycle handles several brands of cycles in addition to BMW: Yamaha, Ducati, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Honda.



The attraction today was the Chili Cook-off where a dozen individuals competed for one of three cash prizes. The serious "chilliers" offered crackers to clean your pallet before tasting their small cup of unique concoction. Peppers and onions were common with most offerings... but spices, type of meat, and other unrecognizable items made the differences.

Saltines were also good for cooling off the spicier recipes.



While in the showroom I saw a BMW 310cc GS bike that was just introduced. Nice bike!

After leaving the dealer I left my GPS on

shortest route and specified the Rt 202 bridge near Lambertsville as an intermediate way-point. Once again, it took me across the country via many secondary roads .

After hitting Rt 202 in PA the route home was fast....Rt 202 to Bridgewater then I287/GSP home.

Total miles =180.

Winter Blahs – January 2nd

RD Swanson

So what do you do when the Arctic winds blow and the temp plunges into single digits and the ice forms? When the roads are so salted that they look as if they are snow covered. When the forecast predicts more of the same. When you can't seem to get warm. When it's dark at 4:30 and the lake freezes over.

Well you put some stabilizer in the tank and plug

in the battery charger, then tumble into bed, turn the electric blanket up to its highest setting, assume the fetal position, stick your thumb in your mouth, close the shades and wait for Spring.

Or if you are a red-blooded BMW rider you go out and buy a new ride. BMW has so many different models these days. You could sit on them in the showroom and pretend you're riding and go "wroom, wroom." Will it be a touring model or a roadster? You could consume a couple of weeks just jerking around salesmen, dickering over price, haggling over details and deciding about extras.

Or you might consider a classic. Talk to Klaus or Mike, they might even sell you one, highly doubtful but you never know. They certainly could steer you in the right direction.

Or you could buy new gear. Klim or Aerostich? Leather or fabric? Wool or electric? New gloves or boots, new helmet or new electrics? There are a multitude of possibilities.

So don't despair Shore Riders, warmer weather surely will return. With so-called global warming February could be warm and balmy. But don't count on it. A better bet would be with Donny in California or Skip and John in Florida. Or you might take a trip with Carl to India.

Motochristmas 2017 (Gear Previews)

Ben P

Dante's ninth circle of hell descended on New Jersey in late December and kept the shore riders constantly gnashing teeth in the icy landscape. This frozen hell dissuaded the foolhardy from venturing out on two wheels. So, devoid of any motorcycling stories, the most I can do is wish for warmer times so I can try out the new gear that Santa brought me.

My 4-year old BMW Gore-Tex summer gloves may have finally exceeded its service life. It left my hands pickled during an all-day soaker from West Virginia to New Jersey in July. To further justify replacement, I recently noticed a small hole on the outer textile material. Also, while my Vanson engineer gloves seem to be doing quite well, the perforated leather displays some cracking in places and it is devoid of any measure of protection other

than the thick cowhide. Safety first, I say when riding, so a-shopping I will go.

It's not my nature to follow the herd regardless of my ride. While I wanted Euro gear from Euro sources, getting the sizes wrong, dealing with shipping and taxes makes it more complicated.

So I perused the web pages of Revzilla and Sportbike Track Gear.com. Aha, Knox gear seems exotic enough. This British company is well known for motorcycle protection technology and has received a lot of good reviews in the press. I cross-shopped the 2 websites and found that STG had closeout pricing on the Knox Covert leather waterproof gloves and Knox Orsa Leather gloves.



The Knox Covert Hand Armor is a waterproof, all-leather glove. It features a OutDry membrane bonded to the leather on the inside. Its protection scheme includes knuckle protection and foam inserts. The best protection features are hard plastic sliders on the base of the palm that prevent the hand from grabbing the pavement in a crash, preventing wrist injury. While its waterproofness remains to be seen, it is indeed a Brit glove. It seems to be an improvement on my BMW Gore-Tex gloves in protection and feel. It fits very snug and has minimalist interior lining.



The Knox Orsa Leather Hand Armor gloves are all

leather summer gloves with short cuffs and an impressive array of protective features. It has more robust armor and upgraded palm sliders. The main feature of the Orsa is the BOA wrist closure, which promises to be much better at keeping the gloves on your hands than Velcro, snaps or zippers. Extensive use of goatskin foretells that these are going to give great control feedback. It has a modicum of perforations so it may be warmer than the Vanson gloves.

Knox Covert Gloves Update 2/1/2018

I finally had an opportunity to ride on a mild day. It was dry and in the low 50s. Put on the Covert gloves instead of my usual winter gloves (Sliders winter gloves from Competition Accessories). The Coverts haven't broken in yet so it was understandable that fit is still very snug. The gauntlet is very low profile so it was quite easy to tuck inside my jacket sleeve.

As I was riding, I noticed that my hands were very comfortable as far as temperature is concerned. Very windproof and felt warmer than my BMW Pro Summer gloves (my former mild weather gloves).

The Coverts are more form fitting than the puffier profiles of the Pro Summer and Sliders which boosts control feel. Still need more break-in time.

Editor's Note:

As usual – ran out of space for a few submitted articles, which will roll over into next month's newsletter. One in particular was Bill Dudley's report on the Aerostich "Pop-Up" store. This was of particular interest to me since I ordered a new 'stich at the Pop-Up in Cherry Hill this fall.

If you're considering an Aerostich, and are at all not a standard size – seek out a PopUp store. It made all the difference in the fit. My new 'stich fits great. That required taking inches out of the sleeves and legs – but not just at the bottom, also at the top of the sleeve/legs – to keep the elbow and knee pads in the right position.

As usual – Riderwarehouse service was exemplary – and the 'stich arrived on time. Lots of small improvements from my old one. I think I'll enjoy taking this one 100,000 miles.

Motorcycle Insurance from a fellow club member and rider!

Contact Greg Wright for all your motorcycle insurance needs. Greg is an active club member and supporter. He understands your needs when it comes to motorcycle insurance.

The Wright Agency will provide at least three competitive quotes while making sure you're adequately covered.

More than just buying insurance:

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See the difference personal service makes!



Greg Wright
greg@johnbwright.com
www.johnbwright.com
800-224-6693

Monthly Meeting – February 14th

Valentine's Day – Bring SWMBO!

Park Nine Diner

NJ-9 and Rt 524

3320 US Hwy 9 Freehold, NJ 07728



Eat @ 6PM

Meeting starts at 7:30PM