

May 2020

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

Ed Gerber, President (president@njsbmwr.org)

Ben Paraan, Vice President

Joe Karol, Treasurer & Trustee

Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher

Don Eilenberger, Newsletter Editor;

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

He who postpones the hour of living rightly is like the rustic who waits for the river to run out before he crosses. *Horace (65 BC - 8 BC)*

We try to grab pieces of our lives as they speed past us. Photographs freeze those pieces and help us remember how we were. We don't know these lost people but if you look around, you'll find someone just like them. *Gene McSweeney, Grey Water Photography, 06-04-2006*

Saying what we think gives us a wider conversational range than saying what we know. *Cullen Hightower*

Camping is nature's way of promoting the motel business. *Dave Barry (1947 -)*

It is good to be without vices, but it is not good to be without temptations. *Walter Bagehot (1826 - 1877), "Biographical Studies", 1863*

I was the kid next door's imaginary friend. *Emo Phillips*

There's no room for facts when our minds are occupied by fear. *Hans Rosling (born July 27, 1948 - 7 February 2017)*

All the world's a stage and most of us are desperately unrehearsed. *Sean O'Casey (1880 - 1964)*

The more severe the pain or illness, the more severe will be the necessary changes. These may involve breaking bad habits, or acquiring some new and better ones. *Peter McWilliams, Life 101*

BMW Motorcycle Club
New Jersey Shore



All Members: COVID-19 and the club

The Officers of NJSBMWR have decided to suspend all formal activities of our club for the present.

Accordingly, Saturday morning club breakfasts, May's Moribundi lunch and Club meeting are canceled.

Members may schedule ad-hoc lunch gatherings, but do so on their own and at their own risk and responsibility. They will not be considered club events. Please keep them small.

We'll keep you posted. Stay safe.

Ed Gerber, Club President

President's Message

Email: edgerber1@verizon.net



Author Robert Pirsig and his son Chris in 1968

After last month's review of Shopcraft as Soulcraft, Henry S. Farber, an admitted "club lurker" commented that Princeton University has an annual freshman seminar in which students rebuild a 50's-60's era Triumph Cub and are required to read 'Shopcraft' as well as "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance."

'Zen' has sold 5 million copies and is the best selling philosophy book of all time. I read it over forty years ago (It was published in 1974) and barely remember it; I'm not even sure if I finished it. So I read it again.)

The book is structured around a cross country motorcycle trip Pirsig took with his son in 1968 .Several themes are intertwined throughout the book. It is part travelogue, part critique of classic Greek philosophy and part meditation on motorcycle maintenance.

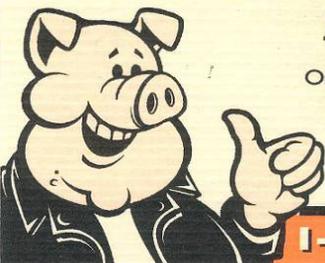
Pirsig he had pursued a Ph.D. in philosophy while employed full time as a college instructor. He had growing doubts about the tenets of classic Greek philosophy (particularly those of Aristotle) and the classification of thinking into two distinct irreconcilable realms - Romantic and Classic, i.e., artist and scholar or, as defined by Pirsig, artist and technology. He believed there is a more fundamental innate factor in our thinking he called "quality". Pirsig became obsessed with study and analysis.

Pirsig's work load became overwhelming and he suffered a mental breakdown. He was diagnosed as a catatonic schizophrenic. As part of his "therapy" he was repeatedly subjected to electroshock therapy and lost much of his memory. Once Pirsig recovered, he embarked on the motorcycle trip in a search for meaning and to reconnect with his past and his son. He visited old friends and places where he had lived and worked.

Pirsig also returned to his old study of classic Greek philosophy. Pirsig believes the distinction between technological thinking as opposed to romantic thinking is false.

Through the teachings of Buddha and Zen he found a way to access "quality" thinking which encompasses both analytical and aesthetic thinking. The Zen way seeks a quiet or "empty" mind which allows one to perceive "quality" in all things.

SERVING THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY SINCE 1977



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By example, a skilled mechanic, in diagnosing a mechanical problem, will become quiet; his mind will be free of all distractions. His entire focus is on the machine, Such concentration allows the mechanic to access his sense of "quality"- what is the best way to proceed to find and resolve the problem.

This type of concentration is no different than a Zen meditation. We inherently can see what is "quality" in any subject. We only have to quiet our minds.

The book is not light reading and some will find it pretentious. It is over 45 years old and some of it is dated, but overall there is much in the book that is worthwhile. If you have an interest in philosophy, I recommend it.

Ride Safe, Ed

Schedule of Events – 2020

Due to the Covid-19 Virus and the limitations on any gatherings that has resulted – chances are a lot of these events won't be happening. We can hope that May brings a lessening of the danger of the virus – but there is no guarantee.

Keep track of announcements on the club email list to find out what's actually happening in 2020.

- **NO club meeting or breakfasts, moribundi in May!**
- **June 3** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **June 6** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Lakehurst Diner, 401 Route 70, Lakehurst
- **June 10** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- **June 13** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc.

- MaeBerrie, 504 Main St., Avon
- **June 20** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Marigold Cafe, 2003 Highway 71, Spring Lake Heights
- **June 27** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- **June 25-28** BMW MOA National Rally, all day, loc. Great Falls, Montana
- **July 1** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **July 4** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Meemom's, 3541 1825 NJ-35, Wall
- **July 8** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale
- **July 11** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Shore Good Pancake House, 34 Lanes Mill Rd, Brick
- **July 18** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. On Third Cafe and Coffee Co, 1300 3rd Ave, Spring Lake
- **July 17-19** Black-Diamond Beemers Rally, all day, loc. Chets Place, Endless Mountains, PA
- **July 25** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Park Nine Diner, Rt 9 and 524, Freehold
- **August 1** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Princess Maria Diner, 2044 State Route 35, Wall Township
- **August 5** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **August 8** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Shore Good Pancake House, 34 Lanes Mill Rd, Brick
- **August 12** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale
- **August 15** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Acropolis Cafe, 506 Main Street, Belmar
- **August 22** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Buttered Biscuit, 700 Main St, Bradley Beach
- **August 29** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- **September 2** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **September 5** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Kitchen @ 35, 2601 Route 35, Manasquan
- **September 9** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale
- **September 12** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Mariner's Cove, 712 Union Ave, Brielle
- **September 19** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Ray's Cafe, 523 Washington Blvd, Sea Girt
- **September 17-20** BMW RA National Rally, all day, loc. Waynesville, NC
- **September 26** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Mug Rack, 70 W Veterans Hwy, Jackson
- **October 3** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- **October 7** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **October 10** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Peach Pit Cafe, 152 Main St, Manasquan
- **October 14** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale
- **October 17** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Turning Point, 2150 NJ-35 #3, Sea Girt
- **October 24** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Toast Asbury Park, 516 Cookman Ave, Asbury Park
- **October 31** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- **November 4** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **November 7** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Corner Post Diner, 2791 Hooper Ave, Brick Township
- **November 11** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale
- **November 14** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. John's Cracker Barrel, 1 S Riverside Dr, Neptune
- **November 21** club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- **November 28** club breakfast at approximately 9:45AM, loc. TBD
- **December 2** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **December 5** club breakfast at approximately 9:45AM, loc. TBD
- **December 9** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale

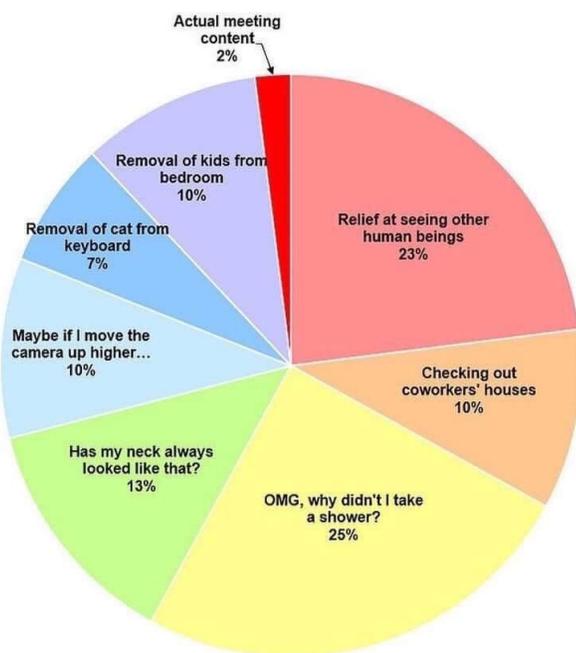
Minutes of the NJ Shore BMW Riders Meeting, March 11th, 2020

Jim Thomasey, Secretary

A “ZOOM” meeting of the NJSBMWR took place the evening of March 11th. About 15 people were zooming in. Joe told us we have enough money, Jim told us we’re doing OK on memberships. No 50-50 was held. The general topics of discussion were about rallies that weren’t happening due to Covid-19, and get-togethers we’d loved to have had.

There is talk about doing this again, if it does happen it will be announced on the club email list.

Diagram of Zoom Meeting Attention Span



Harbor Freight Apache 3800 as Top Case

Henning von der Wroge

Here’s another Pelican imitation case project... The low price of the Apache plastic cases from Harbor Freight make those cases attractive for motorcycle use. A month or so ago, Ed Gerber showed us the side mount he used. I thought I’d share with you how I mounted a case to the upper rear rack rails of my BMW R1200 GSA. Goal was to have the case quick removable, to be able

to use the case “stand-alone” without anything protruding, and to be able to use the rack rails normally with the case removed.



I decided to use Tenax fasteners – these are self-locking quick release fasteners, also called Loxx. I have used Tenax fasteners with my tank bag for many years, and only had a good experience.



All I needed were four Tenax fasteners and four insulated cable clamps. I bought the Tenax hardware from an English-language online store in Germany (Tenax.de). This store has the hardware available à la cart and you don’t have to buy super large quantities. Payment through Paypal; shipping from Germany is about \$6.50 - not bad at all! The case plastic is about 1/8” thick so I chose Tenax fasteners for thicker material (2 to 5 mm). For the lower part mounted to the

Two of Several Stay-At-Home Rides

Roger T

As everybody has experienced, this past month has been tough because of reduced or no riding. I convinced Ginna that “breathing in my helmet” was no different than breathing the air in the house or walking around the block. Riding with one or two friends is the same... but maintaining 6 feet between bikes is tough since I haven’t ever intentionally ridden that close (joke). Actually the house air is cleaner since I have to continuously disinfect my foul helmet.



Sandy Hook - Fort Hancock, looking north-west

Since late March I’ve tried to get out at least once per week. First was Sandy Hook where I explored the access roads and the old Coast Guard buildings at the tip of the Hook. Sitting under the picnic pavilion overlooking the river was a very peaceful place to eat my bagel lunch.

The next weekend, Henning and I linked up for a back road ride from Middletown to Highlands, Atlantic Highlands, and Twin Lights. Again, there are numerous residential roads rather than Rt 36. In particular, we tried to navigate an old road between Highlands and Atlantic Highlands. I rode this 1 ½ lane paved route 10-15 years ago. Bayside Drive is now blocked by road construction blocks. In the recent past this road was partially blockaded but you could squeeze a motorcycle through the restricted area if your panniers weren’t too wide. (To tell you how long ago I rode through here... it was with Dan Thompson and John Welsh just after purchasing John’s

R1150GSA. Dan was definitely there because I side-swiped his bike pannier with my new bike’s extra wide panniers.)

Bayside Drive, low route between Highlands and Atl Highlands



Blocked low road between Highlands toward Atlantic Highlands

The county has now set a series of blocks across the road so that only a child stroller or bicycle can wiggle through. Henning and I backed out of the blocked road and went via Ocean Blvd (the high road) to Atlantic Highlands and lunched



by the fishing boats under nice covered bench seats. The next time you ride the high road, Ocean Blvd where the old German Restaurant was located, try riding some residential side streets rather than sticking to the main drag.)

Our next stop was back toward the Highlands and up to Twin Lights. Again, there are several back roads that lead you to Twin Lights and surrounding sites like Henry Hudson Regional School (on the hill next to Twin Lights) and Battery Lewis -the old Army/Air bunker in Hartshorne Woods Park.

After excellent picture-taking opportunities at the Twin Lights, we ventured back to Middletown via GPS shortest route. Try that feature without any GPS route restrictions... be prepared to hit some dirt

Modifying My Sport Tourer

Bill Dudley

As many of you know, I like older, possibly "quirky" motorcycles. My newest motorcycle is a 1993 Moto Guzzi SP111, which I bought from a guy in Phoenix, sight unseen, about 5 years ago. I was a bit worried that I'd have trouble fitting into the bike, as it's got a full fairing with lowers, and I have "long-ish" legs.

Zhao and I rode the bike from Albuquerque to Los Angeles, and then back home to New Jersey, and while the bike did really well, it is rather a tight fit for the two of us on there in all our riding gear. (The airbag vests make us bulkier than we are with just riding jackets.)

So, it's been bothering me a bit that the bike is such a tight fit for the two of us. If I'm alone on the bike, I can slide back and have plenty of room, but with Zhao riding pillion, my knees are right up against the fairing. That gets old on a long ride, much less a week's worth of long rides.



Last year, I experimented with surgery to the fairing, in which I cut holes about 5 or 6 inches in diameter, and glued in some stainless bowls, so that there was some relief for my knees. This was not all that successful, in that when I'm wearing riding pants with knee armor (which is always), the armor rubs up against the edge of the cutouts. Still annoying on a long ride.

I've been mulling this over for months and months, thinking about cutting away more of the fairing, and then forming new fiberglass that has

more relief for my knees, but I'm not all that confident on my fiberglass skills, and then there's the painting, etc., so this sounded like a big project.

Then, a couple of weeks ago, I had an epiphany: I could just cut away all the offending bodywork and leave nothing there in its place. There's no reason that the Guzzi's valve covers need to be covered. My BMW R100RS has the fairing formed in the same way; there's nothing between the gas tank and the side of the fairing, and you can see the cylinders from the saddle.



I went to work, and cut away the fiberglass on the left side. I had to make a new bracket, as there was a bodywork support bracket that now supported air. The new bracket had to move to the other side of the valve cover and attach to the part of the fairing that I hadn't cut away. Since one of the original brackets had broken, I made the new bracket much stronger. I'm not a very good welder, but a flux wire welder is so easy to use that I didn't have a hard time making my bracket. I ground down the worst of the weld spatter, threw on a coat of paint, and it looks fine, especially since you can't see the ugly welding without getting on your hands and knees.

Now, if only the pandemic would end, we could take the bike on a few long rides to see how it does. I took it for a short ride to meet Roger, Joe, and Hennig for lunch in Farmingdale, but riding solo for only 25 minutes isn't any kind of test.

I've since modified the right side as well. I think

it looks almost factory. Pity I didn't take photos before I started cutting it up, so you'll just have to imagine all the fibreglass that isn't there any more.

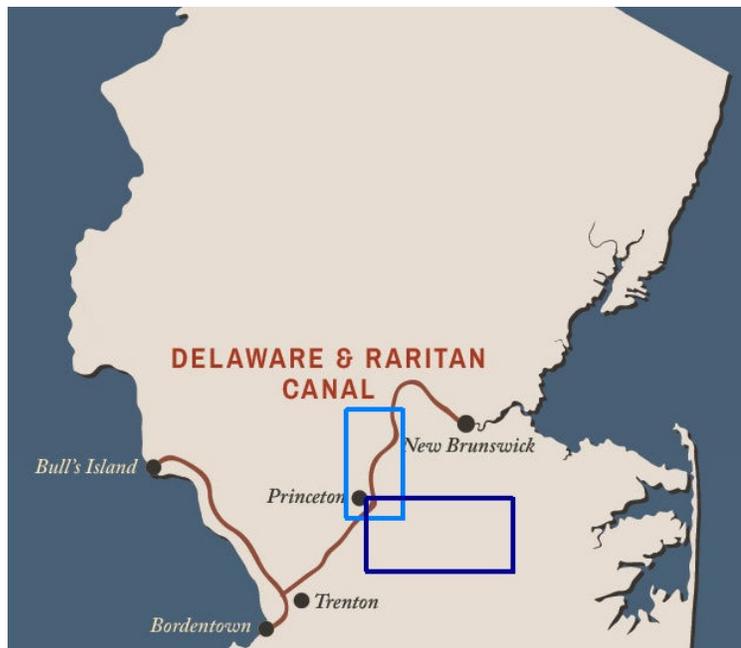


Delaware and Raritan Canal Ride - 05/04/20

Henig von..

Getting out of the house and away from the home office with its computer screens is a highlight these days.

The forecast for the last Sunday in April sounded great. Roger T. suggested to get out for a ride together – “you come up with a ride...” Joe K.



was up for a ride, too. Well, the sun really came out, the roads were clear and pretty empty. But where do you lead two guys that know almost every road in New Jersey???

For a good number of years I worked in Bridgewater and Branchburg and I remember taking the River Road or the Canal Road along the Delaware and Raritan Canal (D&R Canal) going to Princeton. The D&R Canal was built in the 1830s and served to connect the Delaware River with the Raritan River. At that time, the canal was an efficient and reliable means of transportation of freight between Philadelphia and New York City. I hadn't been back there in over 15 years, and we had a destination!

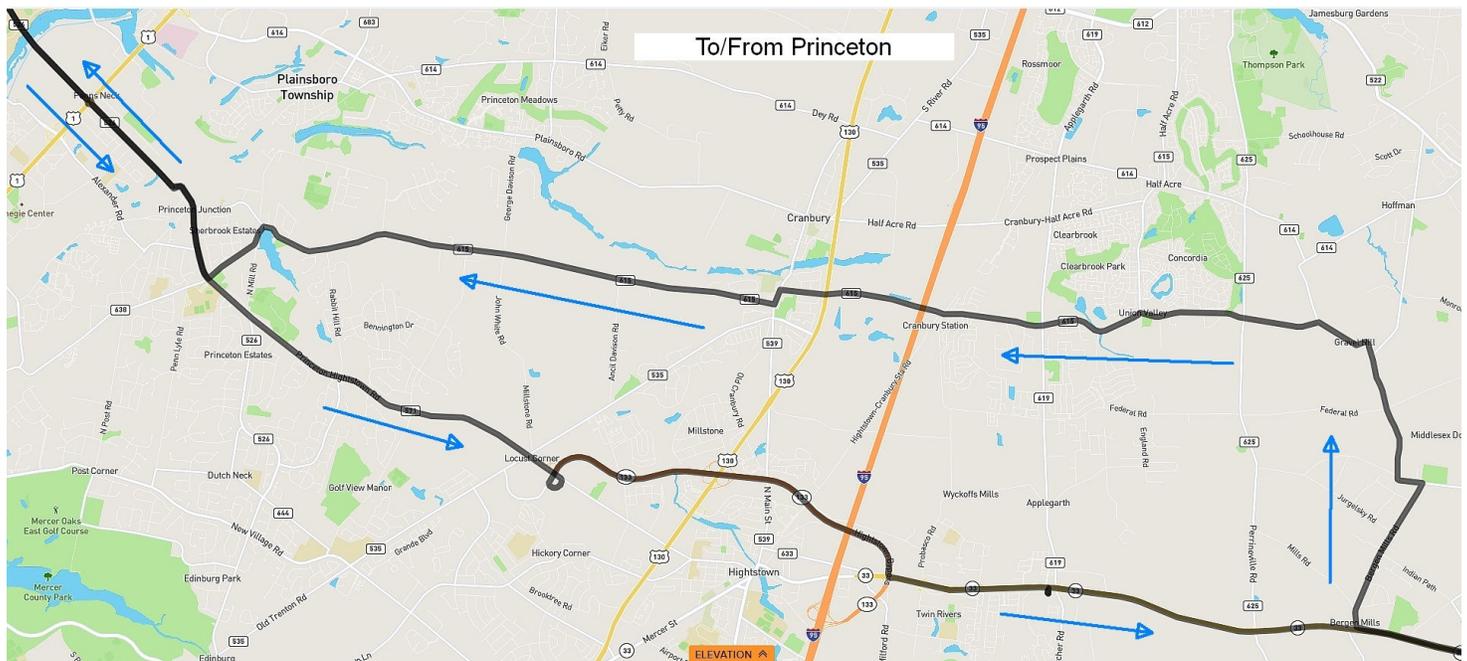
We met at the Wawa near the intersection of 33 and 34. From there we took 33 west for a boring half an hour, rode past Freehold and took Bergen Mills Rd North for a few miles to cross over to Rt 615.

Rt 615 is nice alternative to get to Princeton Junction, crossing over the Turnpike without having to deal with any traffic and with some nice scenery. We made it to Princeton, had a quick stop to check in on each other, and continued on north to Rt 206.

Once we passed the Princeton Airport it was time to make a right turn and exit Rt 206 towards Millstone River Road. No more traffic lights!



The D&R Canal runs side-by-side the Millstone River for a good number of miles. The roads on both sides of the canal offer great riding – for motorcycles and bicycles. I prefer the clockwise trip, going north on Millstone River Rd and south



on Canal Road. That way you always have the river or canal on your right and hardly any cross-traffic. Bicyclists especially like Canal Road as there is almost no elevation change along the canal.

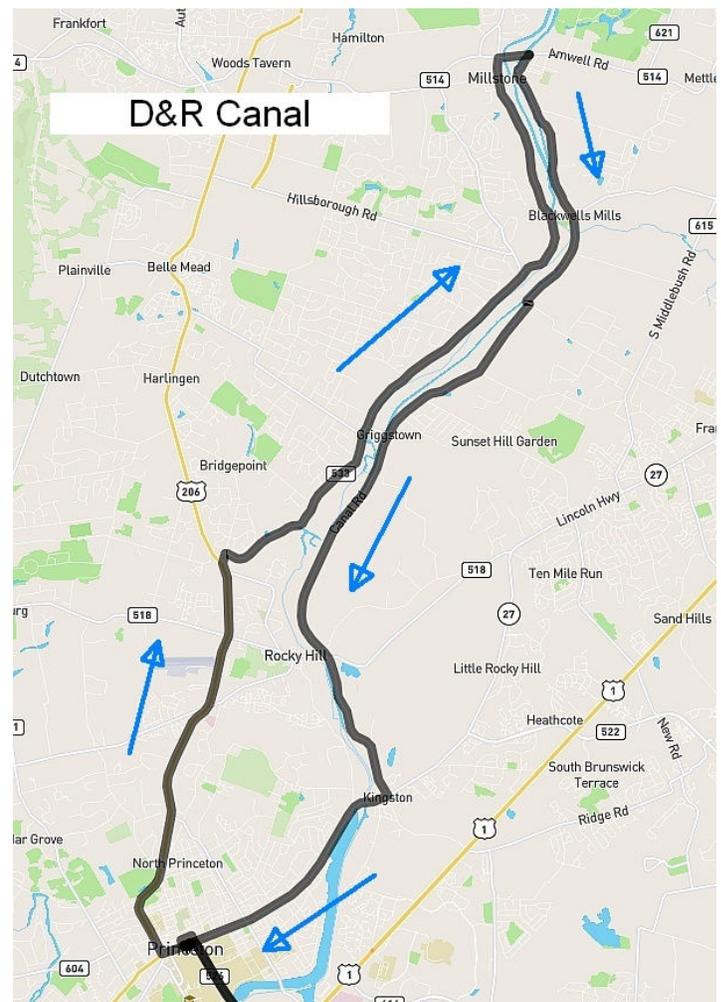
In Millstone we left Millstone River Road, made a right turn onto Amwell Road and crossed both the river and canal bridges. Once across, we made an immediate right onto Canal Road and followed it all the way to Kingston.

We turned onto Princeton Kingston Road which – you guessed it – got us into Princeton. This time we stopped downtown to pick up sandwiches and a coffee at Panera. “Online orders only” wasn’t exactly what we had expected, but a friendly Panerian offered her help and took our verbal orders.

We found a bench to sit down in the sun and enjoyed sandwich and coffee while watching some copper craftsmen doing some old-fashioned repair work on an old timber structure building.

Well, finally time to head back. In the interest of time, we decided to take Rt 33 all the way back and parted ways just south of Freehold.

If anyone is interested in the GPX data of the ride, please reach out and I’ll be happy to email!





Roger's Latest Try at Packing Light



The last try.. didn't work so well, turning was an issue

Next meeting date - UNKNOWN
Our House Restaurant
420 Adelpia Road (Rt 524), Farmingdale, NJ

Our House Restaurant : 420 Adelpia Rd., Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727 . Tel # [732.938.5159](tel:732-938-5159)



~~Eat @ 6PM~~
~~Business meeting starts at 7:30PM~~