#### June 2020

# <u>NEW JERSEY</u> SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

<u>Ed Gerber, President (president@njsbmwr.org)</u> 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.

A republic cannot succeed, till it contains a certain body of men imbued with the principles of justice and honour." *The Voyage of the Beagle, Charles Darwin, 1839* 

"This is all very confusing, especially when we consider that even though we may consistently consider ourselves to be the outside observer when we look at the rest of the world, the rest of the world is at the same time observing us, and that often we agree on what we see in each other. Does this then mean that my observations become real only when I observe an observer observing something as it happens? This is a horrible viewpoint. Do you seriously entertain the idea that without the observer there is no reality? Which observer? Any observer? Is a fly an observer? Is a star an observer? Was there no reality in the universe before 109 B.C. when life began? Or are you the observer? Then there is no reality to the world after you are dead? I know a number of otherwise respectable physicists who have bought life insurance." Richard Feynman, "On the Philosophical Problems in Quantizing Macroscopic Objects"(ca. 1962-1963)

"Driving a Porsche in London is like bringing a Ming vase to a football game." As quoted in "Don't Panic: The Official Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy Companion" (1988) by Neil Gaiman (Douglas Adams)

"Hell, if I could explain it to the average person, it wouldn't have been worth the Nobel prize." *Richard Feynman* 



### 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, June'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

This is the prime time of year for motorcycle rallyes and trips. Instead we are stuck at home practicing social distancing. Nevertheless this past month a number of club members have been getting out mid week for picnic lunches and all day rides on the weekends while still preserving social distancing and wearing face masks. Last Sunday was no exception. Larry Edelman, our newest member, invited us to join a ride he was leading for another club, the Hillel's Angels, From Route 18 East Brunswick to High Point State Park and back. Everyone was to pack a picnic lunch.

The day before the ride Larry emailed everyone that he had problems with his 1600 GT. It had a dead battery and when he went to jump start it, he somehow reversed the cable's polarity and now the bike won't run. He urged everyone to join the ride anyway. Larry was ultimately rescued when Angels member, Mitch Kane loaned him an immaculate, restored and updated Daytona Orange R 90 S for the ride. Just seeing the bike was a highlight of the trip.

Roger, Yannis, Henning, the two Gregs, Joe and myself joined the ride. Allen Kane of the Angels led the ride. After slabbing it to Green Brook we took winding Chimney Rock Road up Watchung Mountain to Martinsville, through Liberty Corners and in a reverse of last week's ride took winding, narrow Ravine Lake Road and continued on a series of twisty narrow roads along the North Branch of the Raritan River almost into Succasunna, where we stopped at a Dunkin Donutsgas station, only to find all the rest rooms in town were closed. Accordingly, we used self help in the back of the station.

From there our route took us along Lake Hopatcong with it's numerous coves and inlets. Then took Route181 north of Sparta and onto a series of delightful back roads to route 519 with its constant curves and sweepers. Finally onto Route 23 and a short ride to High Point.

After lunch we realized that if we continued on with Larry's planned ride home it would take another four hours.

So with Henning leading, we slabbed down Routes 23 to 517, then to 17, 80, 24, 78 and the GSP. I made it home to in Interlaken in 1 hour 50 minutes and did 225 mile for the day.

We thank Larry, Allen and the Hillel's Angels for a great ride.

GPX files are available for this and the other rides we've taken this past month.

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 June brings a lessening of the danger of the virus – but there is no guarantee.

#### Keep track of announcements on the club

#### SERVING THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY SINCE 1977



email list to find out what's actually happening in 2020.

Club meeting or breakfasts, moribundi, etc. in June will be done via ZOOM. See emails for details!!

- June 17<sup>th</sup> first ice-cream run of the year! Tooties in downtown New Egypt (Rt 528 aka Main Street), 6:30PM. Be there or be square!
- 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 Adelphia 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 Adelphia 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 Adelphia 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 Adelphia 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 Adelphia 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 Adelphia Road, Farmingdale



### Minutes of the NJ Shore BMW Riders Meeting, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Jim Thomasey, Secretary

A "ZOOM" meeting of the NJSBMWR took place the evening of May13<sup>th</sup>. About 10 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 and didn't.

We'll be continuing this through June since restaurants won't be open until after our meeting.

Hopefully July will find us meeting face to face.

### FOR SALE!

Due to the untimely death of a Gentleman in NJ -Prostate Cancer, not Corona - two bikes are looking for a new home.

BMW R9T first year K 100 RS - '85 - blue, probably +50,000 miles

I realize it is not the best time for a sale or visit etc., but if you are interested contact me via email to <u>klaus@epmperf.com</u> or 732-786-9777 at work 9-5. I have no financial interest in it just passing on information. Klaus Huenecke

### **Short Newsletter**

Editor

The newsletter relies on member contributions to make up the great content we've had.

The contributions have been somewhat sparse for the past few months due to CoronaVirus – hopefully they'll pick up sometime soon.

### Weather Riding

Editor and others

The idea was brought up that to create some interesting content for the newsletter that we ask for the experiences of the members of riding in inclement weather.

Here are a few of the offerings:

#### Difficult Weather: frog strangler

Bill Dudley

Zhao and I were riding across the country, and we were nearing the end of the day's ride. We were heading to a Super-8 in some small town in fly-over country. As we approached the town, the sky to our west got very dark and threatening. I was quite worried that we'd be caught in it, because we were riding through farmland, and there was no shelter at all out where we were.

We got to the motel without event, checked in, and got settled, and then it hit. The town lost power right away, and the rain was blowing sideways. I was standing by one of the exit doors, watching and hoping that the bike wouldn't blow over. I had to lean against the door and push with all my strength to even move the door against the wind.

The storm lasted about 15 minutes, but I was fearing that the bike would be blown over for the entire time. I wanted to go outside and try to move the bike to a more sheltered location, except (a) there wasn't a more sheltered place, and (b) I didn't think I could move the bike in that wind without being blown over.

Have you ever had one of those "near accidents", where you narrowly miss getting clobbered? You get that "shakey relieved" feeling afterwards? I was getting that; what if we'd been 15 minutes slower in getting to the motel? What would have happened to us if that storm had found us on a 2 lane road between farm fields? Would we have been hit by lightning? Would the bike have been blown over into the ditch on the side of the road? How would we have ever gotten it out of there again?

We've had a couple of other similar events, getting to the motel just before the huge storm arrives, but this was the big one for us. The risk is there every time we ride across the country (9 times so far). I don't know what preparation we could have done to survive a storm like this unscathed.

**Editors comments:** I've also experienced this sort of frog-strangler weather when going crosscountry and once coming back from Nova Scotia. I know it's bad when cars start pulling off under overpasses.

The one in Nova Scotia (I remember Herb Konrad was on that ride, and probably Bill D) – there was about 2" of water flowing over the Trans-Canadian, and all the cars had pulled off the road.

We didn't – I somehow had decided that a moving target is harder for lightening to find, and there was plenty of traction at about 15 MPH.. so we continued on. Drove out of it after about 10 minutes, the good part of the storm was it was short and we got through it safely.

#### Cuddling up in Nebraska

Roger T

It was somewhere in Nebraska I never thought hunkering down with women (and others including men, kids and dogs) would be so unenjoyable.. but heading to Billings Montana with fellow club member Mike Lamberti 2015 was the scariest. Mike and I stopped for the night at a hotel on I 80. There were very few towns on this stretch.... but alone on the prairie was the only motel we had seen for hours.

Soon after checking- in, a siren blasted from the local fire department. The counter person said that it was a special ring... his demeanor was urgent enough that we thought might have to bend over, grasp our ankles and kiss our xxxx goodbye.

Everyone in the hotel bounded to the hallway and sat butt down. .kids, adults, pets, and other. The siren meant that a tornado had set down within 10 miles.

Of course a few Bikers including Mike and I headed outside to see the funnel, buckets of water streaming 4 feet off the end of the roof and to check if our bikes were floating down steam yet.



I learned a couple things that night....the most important was that hotels MUST admit all travelers for safety, regardless if they are staying for the night. The second is that dogs don't sit still and like people sitting.

The next

morning as we headed West on the interstate, we found that a low portion of the interstate was covered by debris.

#### **Difficult Weather: heat stroke**

Bill Dudley

A few years ago, Zhao and I were riding from Tucson to LA. We had budgeted 3 days for this, and on that trip, we were staying at AirBnBs. As is normal for June out in the southwest, daytime temps were well over 100F. It was late afternoon, and we were riding through Yuma, AZ, heading to our AirBnB. Zhao spoke to me over the intercom: "I can't see!". Zhoa had gone blind.

I found a parking lot behind a bank so we could get of the main road, and found a small tree that we parked near. Zhao climbed off the bike, and laid down in the shade of the tree. As Zhao was recovering, a Yuma police officer drove up. The officer asked about us, and I explained that my wife was a bit overheated but we'd be on our way soon. The officer called an ambulance, who dutifully arrived and checked Zhao's vital signs. By this point, Zhao had recovered; drinking water, sitting in the shade had worked.

We declined a ride to hospital, as I knew that would turn into an endless pageant. After everybody left, we saddled up and rode the 10 minutes worth to our AirBnB, where Zhao was able to further cool off. Eventually, we were able to walk to dinner at a nearby restaurant.

Ever since then, Zhao has understandably been quite worried about heat stroke. We've had no further incidents since I started taking the following precautions:

1. Start early (7AM) and stop riding around noon, when the temps get over 100F.

2. Wear cooling vests. Soak it in water, and it cools through evaporation for about an hour or two (depending on local heat and humidity).

I advise you, if you ride in temps greater than human body temperature, to read about heat stroke and the ways to avoid it. It can hurt your ability to function in different ways. We were lucky that Zhao had a mild case and that I was (only slightly) affected.

#### Editor - a few more hints in hot weather riding

(from someone who never gets on the bike early, having left Las Vegas for the Mohave Desert at about 11AM once..):

Cooling vests are great, but in really hot dry weather they may not last too long since the water evaporates quickly. A few things that help this:

- Freeze the vest. I carry a vacuum packing bag for the cooling vest. If you put the vest in the vacuum packing bag with some water, push out the air and toss it in the motel freezer overnight – it lasts for about 3 hours – even in the Mohave desert at 110F..

There are different grades of cooling vests. The one I have – no longer made unfortunately – used hollow core fibers for the filling. Why hollow core? Water will be drawn up into the fibers by capillary action and slowly release while I'm wearing it. Dunno what, if any vests now use this technology. Mine was expensive (around \$100) but I'm still using it 25 years after I bought it. The moral is - get a good cooling vest.

Close your riding-suit vents. Once the ambient air temperature is above your body temperature (98.6F) air blowing through your vest will HEAT you up. It will also deplete the cooling vest quicker. You'll be hotter with the vents open.
Even in heat below body temps – closing vents will make the cooling vest last longer.
The vacuum bag lets you quickly recharge the vest at a rest stop.. If you can get a cup of ice – even better. I toss about a bottle of water into the vacuum bag, close it up with the vest inside and then push out as much air as I can. I leave the vest while I'm hydrating myself. Usually 10 minutes or so – the water will have disappeared in the bag, it was all sucked into the vest.

- Be prepared for very odd looks at the rest stops. For some reason people don't understand a motorcyclist with a full aerostich on, zippered u, taking off what looks like an insulating vest and putting it in a bag and pressing on it.

- Frozen water is good. The usual disposable plastic bottle of water tastes much better if it's cold. Freeze them in the motel freezer overnight, right next to the cooling vest. If you pack them wrapped in something for insulation, they will still be at least cool even hours later.

- Frozen milkshakes are a great body cooler. The mass of the milkshake, combined with the cold can really decrease your temperature quickly if you're too hot. Almost every fast-food place has one. Subway's are pretty good, but in a pinch a McDonald's isn't awful.



### Which MC Video Camera to Buy?

Roger T

My existing motorcycle camera technology and capability is old.... and like a fun house mirror, it is an industry leader look-a-like (like GoPro) with similar but not exactly the same features or quality. Mine works Ok but videos show a vibration due to motorcycle revs. Articles on the web say that 2 cylinder bikes vibrate cameras worse than 4 cylinder ones, no matter how good the camera is. What I have found over the years (and making long videos of my long distance rides) viewers get seasick watching my videos after a few minutes.

Funny thing, not me I guess because I'm use to it and know where to look as it waves move across the screen. I think this is akin to "all mothers think their babies are beautiful." When I pull in the clutch or reach operating speed, the vibration affect goes away and the video looks pretty good. The second thing that bugs me about my camera is that it goes to sleep after a few minutes and I have to reach over to the left handlebar and press the ON button then wait a few seconds and press the RECORD button again. On the back of the camera is a small 1" screen that I can't see very well from my upright riding position. There is also a tiny blue LED recording light that is barely visible. What I want in a new camera is a bigger screen or one that shows in realtime on my iPhone (also on my handlebars). I would like a remote control switch to easily turn it ON and OFF and Record. Most of all, I want the vibration effect in my video to be minimal.

With regard to camera vibration, Henning tried relocating his camera on several places and found that mounting it onto the front low part of his windshield was the best spot for minimal vibration. Because it's not easy to reach, a remote control is necessary; his camera system has one. With my old camera I experimented with various RAM mount locations and arm lengths . The longer the RAM mounting arm, the more vibration. It is the Pendulum effect. A camera mounted on a long extension arm will tend to vibrate more than on a short arm. That is why a helmet or body mounted camera is good since your body absorbs engine vibration and smooths the ride video recording. Most cameras can be mounted on helmets with some specifically designed only for helmets. Some cameras have microphone inputs or wireless connections to your communications system. These generally cost more than generic sports cameras.

So last week I started looking around for a camera system... just a rectangular generic low cost one with a lot of features.... You know.. a \$500 camera with all the features for <\$100.

There are many types, many brands, and many different mountings. There are helmet mounts, body mounts, and mounts for handlebars, axles, rear fenders, frames. Many of the cameras are similar and look like one of the industry leader, GoPro. Some camera systems are for full time recording (DRV) for accident recording just like for your car. These can have two cameras for front/rear accident protection and record continuously. My requirement is for a Sports Camera to occasionally record road scenes and riders in front. When I return to home from a long ride, I usually produce a 20 minute video mixing handheld camera video and still pictures with my bike camera videos. There are many GoPro look-a-like sports cameras on the market with different features and capabilities. Almost all are manufactured in China but with different seller/product names. Clearly the look-a-likes are cheaper and probably produce similar quality video since most of the technology was stolen shared between companies or one company produces a unit for numerous wholesalers and sellers.



Here is how I analyzed six cameras at Amazon and Walmart. I first jotted down my major requirements in 3 categories: Must Have, Like to Have; Don't Really Care. Must Haves: electronic stabilization, zoom 4X, remote control, viewing on iPhone w/app with Wifi, and waterproof. Secondly my "Would Like to Have" capabilities: Touch Screen and screen size. Third, I am not concerned with battery size/life (most come with 2 batts), field of view (170 degrees width is fine), external mic/input, hdmi output to TV, external/internal battery charging, # mountings, still picture megapixes (12M, 16M or 20M is more than I need because I don't take many still pics with this camera), and video recording rates (cameras have similar rates).

Because there are so many manufacturers and product variations out there to consider, I started with a hand drawn spread sheet with features listed down the left side and products listed horizontally across the top. I then focused on the two sellers that I trust for delivery and returns (Amazon and Walmart). The list of camera features/ capabilities are what I discussed above in addition to delivered cost. The challenge is to fill in the blanks. It took a lot of reading the ads to interpret each camera's capabilities especially since one company had 5 models, each with different features and cameras looking identical.

Most had the identical mounting hardware. Reading the "buyer's feedback" was important to understand both camera operations as well as weaknesses.

Contact me if you would like my analysis spreadsheet... but I only analyzed a total of 6 cameras from two manufacturers and two retailers. My final decision was for Dragon Touch Vista 5... it was the highest priced of the product alternatives. When I calculated in 64G fast SD card and shipping, Amazon was less expensive than Walmart on the same unit...It came in at only \$80. I didn't consider the industry leader GoPro because the comparable unit was at least \$200 more. If you search on these two seller sites for "motorcycle sports video camera" you will be amazed how many different types of units they sell; many from different manufacturers look identical. Amazon's listing goes on for 20 web pages. I'll write a follow-up after getting some experience with it.



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

Our House Restaurant : 420 Adelphia Rd., Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727 . Tel # 732.938.5159



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