

**November 2020**

# NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

**Ed Gerber, President** ([president@njsbmwr.org](mailto:president@njsbmwr.org))  
**Ben Paraan, Vice President**  
**Joe Karol, Treasurer & Trustee**  
**Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher**  
**Don Eilenberger, Newsletter Editor; Trustee;**  
**Dennis Swanson, Trustee; Trustee; Roger Trendowski, Trustee; Bill Dudley, Trustee; Dave Rosen, Trustee; Dan Thompson, Trustee; Joe Karol, Trustee.**



## **November Meeting? Virtual..**

*Editor*

Due to the increase in Covid activity the officers of the club decided November's meeting will be a virtual on-line meeting. Details will emerge as the date draws closer via the club email list.

## **President's Message**

*Ed Gerber*

I was watching "Long Way Up," Ewan McGregor and Charlie Boorman's latest documentary about a transcontinental motorcycle trip when I was hit with a sense of sadness, a realization that I didn't take one multi-day motorcycle trip this past year.

I know some of you have braved the pandemic and at least took overnight trips but with my wife threatening that I would have to self-quarantine for 10 days if I spent the night anywhere but home, I acquiesced and limited myself to destinations no further than Hot Dog Johnnies. But Long Way Up really got to me.

The movie traces a ride from the Southern tip of South America to Los Angeles. It's not as good as their previous movies. Boorman and McGregor as well as their support crew made the entire trip on pre-production prototype electric vehicles. The support trucks were from a new start up company and the bikes were Harley Davidson Livewires.

The photography is often spectacular of such places as the Southern Andes and Machu Pichu. But too much of the movie was taken up with the self-imposed difficulties of taking unproven electric vehicles into remote areas. Nevertheless, the photography alone makes watching the movie worthwhile.

A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing. *George Bernard Shaw*

Suppose you were an idiot, and suppose you were a member of Congress; but I repeat myself. *Mark Twain*

I base most of my fashion taste on what doesn't itch. *Gilda Radner*

Why do you have to be a nonconformist like everybody else? *James Thurber*

All I ask is the chance to prove that money can't make me happy. *Spike Milligan*

Do one thing every day that scares you. *Eleanor Roosevelt*

If you're offered a seat on a rocket ship, don't ask what seat! Just get on. *Sheryl Sandberg*

If everything seems to be under control, you're not going fast enough. *Mario Andretti*

Don't limit your challenges. Challenge your limits. *Unknown*

Every election is determined by the people who show up. *Larry J. Sabato*

Never put off till tomorrow what may be done day after tomorrow just as well." *Mark Twain*

In the meantime, here's looking forward to some of our own real two-wheeled adventures next year.

Ride Safe, Ed

## **Schedule of Events – 2020**

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*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 July August Fall~~ Winter 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.**

- **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. On-line – ZOOM meeting. Details will be on the email list.
- **November 14** club breakfast – didn't happen
- **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. Harrigan's Pub, Rt 71, Sea Girt NJ
- **December 5** club breakfast at approximately 9:45AM, loc. TBD
- **December 9** club meeting virtual meeting details will be on the email list.
- **December ?** Annual Club Dinner – TBD
- **December ?** Annual Toy-Run ? TBD

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*Note on the Club Calendar – obviously all items listed on the calendar are subject to change thanks to Covid-19. We can only hope a working vaccine is found before we draw up next years calendars.*



SERVING THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY SINCE 1977

**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**

## **Minutes of the NJ Shore BMW Riders Meeting, August 12th**

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*Jim Thomasey, Secretary*

Our September meeting was held in person doing social-distancing – at Simkos in Neptune, we met on the outside patio. Food was excellent as was service.

The treasury holds a bit under \$1600 and our membership still shows 64 paid members and 7 Emeritus members.

## **Election of Officers - 2021**

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*RD Swanson*

Our annual election of Officers for 2021 will take place during our November (virtual) meeting.

The nominating committee will present a full slate of officers at the next meeting. They are as follows:

Rick Shapiro, Pres.; Ben Paraan, VP; Joe Karol, Treasurer; and Jim Thomasey as Secretary.

We will also entertain nominations from the floor at our meeting – prior to voting.

## **Dues are Due**

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It's that time of year. Dues are due for 2021 in November of 2020.

There is an attached form for renewal (that should be mailed to our club Secretary Jim Thomasey, or you can go on-line and do it at:

<https://www.njsbmwr.org/Membership/application.html>

Please do it soon so we don't have to nag you!

## 50 Years on 2 Wheels

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Eric Suhr

The title of the cover story in the October issue of American Motorcyclist, the magazine of the American Motorcyclist Assn., is "A Lifetime on Two Wheels". It occurred to me that I, too, have spent virtually my entire life riding motorcycles. You see, 2020 marks my Golden Anniversary.

I was a lucky kid: on Christmas morning 1970 I came downstairs to find a bright red Honda CT70 next to the tree! WOW! There was snow on the ground but my parents helped me shovel a path around the yard so I could get out and ride it that very day. Boy, did I love that bike. My mother's family still owned a farm not too far away and my father fashioned a carrier for the bumper of the station wagon. I would tear around the fields and the service road under the high tension lines that ran through the adjoining fields and woods. What joy! From that first glorious Christmas morning I felt the freedom that little bike offered. I was hooked...

After a few years I graduated to a 1973 DKW 125 Enduro. That Sachs 2-stroke was stout and when it came "on the pipe" the feeling was nothing short of intoxicating. We took that bike to Vermont and I explored most of our friend's 600 acre dairy- and tree farm, and even hauled it to Wyoming on a family vacation and rode miles and miles of logging roads to my heart's desire.

I came by motorcycling honestly, though. My father had a motorcycle in high school as he couldn't afford a car at the time. When he got out of the Navy he still couldn't afford a car so he bought another bike. Both were Indians, a Scout and then a Chief, eventually sold in favor of a more sensible form of transport. My mother rode a Lambretta scooter around town before I was born. In 1972 my father got back into riding, and he and my uncle bought identical BMW R75/5s. Beautiful "curry" (gold) with the bright chrome toaster panels on the gas tanks. My mother wasn't satisfied riding on the back so she got her motorcycle endorsement and a 1972 Honda 500 Four. She eventually owned a number of bikes, including a MotoMorini 3-1/2 Sport and a BMW R1100R. Mom rode with us to the BMW Owners Assn. rally in Charleston, WV and was recognized as the Oldest Female Rider at age 76.

When I got my driver's license I often commanded Dad's R75. Rode that to high school every chance I got. My best friend Chip also rode his Suzuki 185 to school and the janitor let us park our bikes in a cool little covered portico at the side of the building. Between our junior and senior years of college, Chip (having bought my mother's Honda 500) and I took an epic trip down the coastal roads to FL. Had to run the tolls on the GSP on the way home because we ran out of money. We coasted into the driveway on fumes with about 75 cents between us. We also took a memorable trip to New Hampshire, getting lost somewhere in Massachusetts (I think...), nearly running out of gas at 2am. Fortunately we noticed a tow truck leaving a gas station down the road so we waited for the driver to return. He took pity on a couple of hapless college kids and unlocked the pumps so we could fill up. The station's guard dog, however, was none too happy to have company at that hour. I rode the R75 exclusively until 2000 when I acquired my then-dream-bike, a 1994 BMW R1100RSL.

I was blessed, too, that my wife showed an interest. Debbie got her license soon after we were married and we took some great trips together: West Virginia, New England, Canada, and even met up with my folks for a week of touring western North Carolina.

Fast forward through a couple of BMW GSAdventures to 2020. FWIW, here are a few things I've learned over 5 decades on 2 wheels:

- Always have enough gas (and more recently, don't pass up too many restrooms!)
- Be patient with people who approach you, even if it's to tell you that their cousin's best friend's uncle's neighbor had to "lay it down" and lost both his legs. They're interested and curious but don't really know how to relate. I just thank them for their concern, ask them where they're from, tell them where I'm going and ask if they know if any good places to eat along the way, and wish them a blessed day.
- Engage the kids. If I see a child looking at the bike I'll say Hi to the parents and ask if it's OK if I show it to him or her. Sometimes the parent will even ask if the tike can sit on it, and if I'm sure they'll be safe from any of the hot bits I'll oblige. Show them the controls, what makes it stop and go, and let their imagination take over. We must

keep this sport alive and a simple gesture might just light the spark.

- Take a class, whether it's a refresher training course or a track day. I did my first track day about 20 years ago and learned more about myself and the bike in that one day than in my prior 30 years of street riding. In short, it showed me that the bike is a lot more capable than I'll ever be. That's a good thing: while I always try to ride well within my limits, if I do get in a little over my head I know the bike is up to the task.

- Slow your roll through small towns and neighborhoods. I enjoy a spirited ride as much as the next guy, but be respectful of the locals. We're all ambassadors whether we realize it or not. Be a good one.

- Join a club. I enjoy riding solo but I love sharing my passion. I've met and become lifelong friends with some of the kindest and most generous people on the planet through this great sport. What I've learned from airline pilots and truck drivers, landscapers and university professors, corporate execs and plumbers alike, could fill a book. Truly a gift.

- Embrace the challenges. Out on a ride and the skies open up? Learn something. How's my gear holding up? How does my bike handle on wet roads? How do I better prepare for the next time? On one such ride in NY State we got caught in a deluge and passed a pig farm. The muddy - and manure laced - runoff was pouring across the road at the same time a truck came the other direction and splashed me with the smelly mess! Fortunately it kept raining for awhile and eventually rinsed me off. "Stuff" does actually happen occasionally. Stay calm and roll with it.

Riding can be exciting, relaxing, invigorating and restorative, but is always simply fun.

One big reason I love riding is that it forces me to be "in the moment". I've been told not to ride when I'm stressed or distracted. I find it to be the opposite: I'm so focused on the task at hand that everything else melts away. I love hitting the apex of the turn, shifting at just the right RPM, the art of a smooth downshift. The sound of the engine is music enough for me, and the smell of honeysuckle in the spring time is nothing short of glorious.



Roger T..

The Long Way Up video series debuted on Apple TV on September 18, 2020. It presents a motorcycle journey undertaken in 2019 by Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman, from Ushuaia in Argentina through South and Central America to Los Angeles in the United States.

It's a follow-up to 2004's Long Way Round movie where they rode from London to New York and then again in 2007 Long Way Down, when they rode south from Scotland through eighteen countries in Europe and Africa to Cape Town in South Africa. The first three episodes of Long Way Up premiered on Apple TV on, September 18th, and seven new episodes are rolling out weekly through November 6.

The journey covers 13,000 miles, through 13 countries over 100 days starting in September 2019 and finishing on December 14.

Unlike the first two movies where they ride BMW adventure bikes, in Long Way Up they ride Harley Davidson LiveWire electric bikes. The road support crew (4 people) ride in two custom Electric Adventure trucks by Rivian. (research this movie and the Rivian on Youtube to see product background and movie trailers.)

The first episode focuses on "getting ready" for the trip where they and the support crew bounce between the US, England and Europe to acquire equipment, support and make plans. Unlike their first movie Long Way Round, they must have had a huge budget to pull it off. They utilize helmet and bike video/audio cameras, drone/camera, top notch communications systems, satellite phones, and the Rivian company installed many charging stations along the route. Some stations are located in B-level hotels and cafes along the way, probably selected because of the 100 mile bike range. I suspect that the success of the first two

movies helped secure both financial and product support for this one.

The second episode shows their arrival in Argentina (in the winter time because September, their start, is summer in the US, but opposite in southern hemisphere.) Of course electric vehicles have significantly reduced battery capacity in cold weather so their adventure initially focuses on their charging and limited distance problems. Their activity is not pure bike riding, but visiting local people, communities and historical sites along the way. They do a good job in describing background and significance of these places, eg. Machu Picchu and Panama Canal.

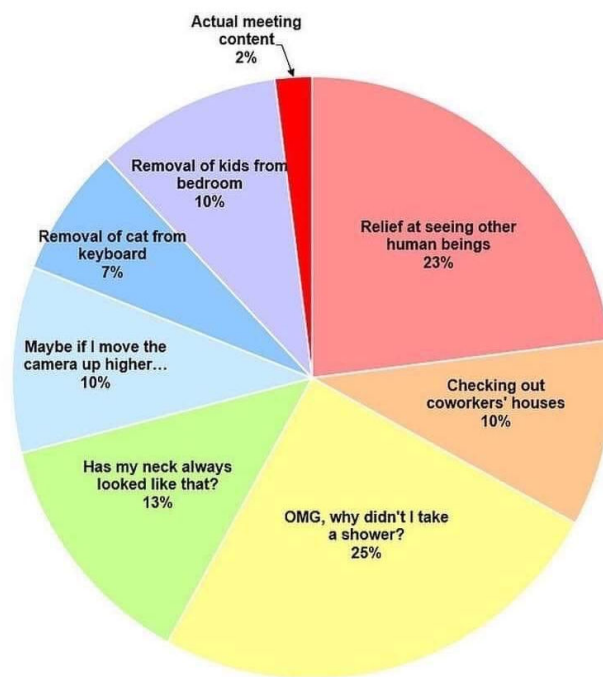
Along the way, they experience one major bike failure, where Ewan McGregor has to ship/and accompany his bike from Columbia to Costa Rica where HD send replacement parts and technicians to do repairs.



Roger's always experimenting with packing..



### Diagram of Zoom Meeting Attention Span



I am part way through Apple TV's release of episodes. Even my wife watched several and found them interesting. I assume that the entire movie will be released soon after their contract with Apple TV is finished.

<https://www.longwayup.com/>

# New Jersey Shore BMW Riders Inc.

## Membership/Renewal Application – 2021

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

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

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

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

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

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

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Changed?: [ ]

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

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

The club runs a private mailing list – only open to paid club members..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 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 NJSBMW email list: **Yes [ ] No [ ]**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

There are three options for newsletter delivery The amount of your dues are dependent on what you select:  
(1) mail only \$25/year (2) mail and email \$25/year (3) email only \$20/year/

I want: Mail only \$25/year [ ] Mail and email delivery \$25/year [ ] Email only delivery \$20/year [ ]  
(Pick one)

Please forward this application **with** a check for **\$20 or \$25** 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