

April 2023

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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The more you find out about the world, the more opportunities there are to laugh at it. *Bill Nye, Interview with Wired.com, April 2005*

[Spring is] when life's alive in everything.
Christina Rossetti (1830 - 1894)

An optimist is the human personification of spring. *Susan J. Bissonette*

If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome. *Anne Bradstreet (1612 - 1672), 'Meditations Divine and Moral,' 1655*

A little Madness in the Spring Is wholesome even for the King. *Emily Dickinson (1830 - 1886), No. 1333*

A generation of men is like a generation of leaves; the wind scatters some leaves upon the ground, while others the burgeoning wood brings forth - and the season of spring comes on. So of men one generation springs forth and another ceases. *Homer (800 BC - 700 BC), The Iliad*

To be interested in the changing seasons is a happier state of mind than to be hopelessly in love with spring. *George Santayana (1863 - 1952)*

BMW Motorcycle Club
New Jersey Shore



President's Message

Rick Shapiro, Co-President

It's the time when our hard-working Newsletter editors, in the most kind of ways, remind me my Co-President's Message deadline is quickly becoming a memory. I know folks look at me and think this guy exudes wit and has the most engaging banter, but I have nothing besides this apparent sarcasm. So what better way to get the creative juices going, or more specifically, a better way of procrastinating than heading for a ride to nowhere? Why nowhere? If I cannot think of a topic for the Newsletter, why add to the stress by committing to a destination?

A clear sky and a forecasted high of 60 degrees are more than one can ask for on the first Sunday of Spring. Before I leave the house, my wife asks me where I am going, and I give her the vague and unsatisfactory answer of "Northwest." It may be vague, but it is the truth and the best I can do. I hop on the bike and change my GPS screen to display only a compass. Heading Northwest inevitably takes me through Hunterdon, Warren, and Sussex counties and the Delaware Gap area, and some of the best day-trip motorcycle riding in New Jersey. My parameters for selecting roads are to look for roads I've never been on, roads that run along farmland and forest, are headed towards higher elevations or valleys and run north or west. It is a glorious ride, and 70 percent of the roads I've never been on before. Rides to nowhere are one of my favorite ways to spend a day.

Life is filled with complications, obligations, decisions big and small, and endless planning. Riding to nowhere can transcend that, and I highly recommend it.

I have taken a break and sit here at a café in a small town of which I'm unsure of the name. I am

drinking iced tea in respect to the Spring as coffee seems unfitting. There is no internet access, nor is my phone getting cell service, but with my trusty laptop in front of me, I realize there is no longer a need to develop a topic for the Newsletter. I guess this month's Co-President's Message kind of wrote itself; the road has taken care of that.

February Meeting Minutes

Jim Thomasey, Secretary

The meeting was called to order and began on time with 18 members present. The assembly was told we have around \$900 in the treasury and paid membership stands at 33. The motion to accept the previous months minutes was offered and passed unanimously.

The club was noted and thanked for its recent donation to the MOA Safe Drivers Fund and Roger T.s second place finish in the MOA Summer Mileage contest.

The 3 Club Rumble will be hosted by the Skylands club this year and will be held on October 1, 2023 from noon to 4 pm. The intended location will be the Spruce Run Recreation Area ,68 Van Syckles Rd. Clinton NJ 08809. Mark your calendars now for this event so we have our usual stellar turnout.

The Gathering of the Nortons will be in a new location this year on Sunday April 23 at: Performance Garage Club, 843 NJ Rt 12, Flemington, NJ. Rain date is April 30.

A few members spoke about the recent "movie night" at Cross Country Motors where the latest BDR film was shown. It highlighted the beautiful scenery and terrain of Oregon, the latest offering from the Backroads Discovery team. Off road riding for 600 miles through the fantastic state of Oregon.

The MOA Nation Rally will be held in nearby Richmond VA this year. Call now to secure a motel room or take advantage of free camping offered at the Rally. The actual location is at the Meadows Even Park 13191 Dawn Rd, Doswell VA 23407. For a full description of the event go to the [Rally web site](#) .

The meeting ended with Roger winning the 50/50 and Herb K., Joe K., Art G., and Ed Cohen taking home the assorted non-monetary prizes.

Club Calendar

Note: Events may be canceled or modified. Check your email or the club website for updates.

April 2023

- April 5 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM Hinck's, 1414 Atlantic Avenue, Manasquan
- April 12 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- April 21-23 BMW MOA Getaway, Fontana NC
- April 23 27th Annual Gathering of the Nortons, 10AM-1PM, Performance Garage Club, 843 NJ Rt 12, Flemington

May 2023

- May 3 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- May 5-7 BMW MOA Getaway, Santa Fe, NM
- May 10 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- May 11-14 BMW RA Southern Alps Weekend, Little Switzerland, NC
- May 20-21 New Sweden 450

June 2023

- June 7 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- June 8-11 BMW MOA National Rally, Doswell, VA
- June 14 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- June 21 Ice Cream Run, loc TBD

July 2023

- July 5 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM, Rod's Tavern, Sea Girt
- July 12 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- July 19 Ice Cream Run, loc TBD

Aug 2023

- Aug 2 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Aug 9 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- Aug 16 Ice Cream Run, loc TBD

Sept 2023

- Sept 6 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Sept 13 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- Sept 14-17 BMW RA National Rally, Davis WV
- Sept 20 Ice Cream Run, loc TBD

Oct 2023

- Oct 1 Three Club Rumble, 12PM, Spruce Run Rec Area, 68 Van Syckles Rd, Clinton
- Oct 4 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Oct 11 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

Nov 2023

- Nov 1 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Nov 8 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

OR BDR Film at Cross Country

Roger T.

BDR, for those unfamiliar is the Back Country Discover Routes organization. It is an adventure-based group that creates outstanding off-road rides all over the United States. See <https://ridebdr.com>

BDR is a non-profit organization like MOA, RA and most local clubs. Their rides start with months, if not years, of research on the best route from point to point within a region. In the past they've created, videoed and published routes in WA, CO, IA, NV, UT, AZ, NM, MA (mid Atlantic, several states), CA (south), NE (North East), and WY.

This year's route being shown at Dealers and other selected sites is nearly 750 miles across Oregon. Their routes cross public roads and lands (not private property) and over paved and

mild dirt roads. But many of their routes are on mountainous fire roads, rough dirt roads and trails. The routes, downloadable to your GPS, also identify "expert" rough terrain/trails. As BDR's videos show, only 7-10 riders do the ride for video purposes.

Their films are EXCELLENT with professional-looking video and pictures, taken from in-front, behind, and above (a lot of drone videos). BDR provides a video trailer on their website, full video, free tracks, interactive maps, photos, as well as camping, hotel, food and gas information. Packing lists, discovery points and FAQs for each route are included. As time goes on, they publish Route Updates to insure the latest information is available. Most of the BDR route videos are now available for viewing on their website... for free.



Just select the Route and the video is shown along with GPS tracks, Q&As, etc.

Cross Country Cycles/BMW at Metuchen was well prepared on March 2, (Thursday evening) <http://www.crosscountrycycle.net> Presenting the video were Tim James (BDR Board Director) and Jack O'Connor (Pine Barrens Adventures Ambassador). About 200 were in attendance. Club members who were there included Joe Karol, Mike Palmer and me. Their show room was packed with bikes upstairs and down as well as many located outdoors. (It looks like they are set for great spring/summer sales.) The Oregon film lasted over an hour. Hardly anybody moved once the BDR film started except for a few of us who flinched and groaned as a rider fell or crossed a particularly difficult bolder-ridden or rutted path.

The 750 mile Oregon Back Country Discovery

Route (ORBDR) was a multi-day off-pavement ride designed for adventure and dual-sport motorcycles. Starting in the high deserts of the southeast and exploring north through ancient pine forests and into the rugged mountains of the Cascade Range, challenges include lava rocks, silt, sand, and arduous mountain roads. If I recall, there were 7 riders with only one woman rider this time. Unlike the Wyoming BDR, no one was hurt and had to be ambulated out. It is an excellent film.

Exploring the Country a Week at a Time

Ed Cohen

Thank you to the NJ Shore BMW Riders Club for allowing me to join the club. It's great to meet with like minded people who are passionate about their motorcycle and offer so much experience. Everyone who I've meet so far has their own unique experience and shares their own interesting stories. I'm looking forward to joining them for both short Saturday morning breakfast runs and multi day rally events where I can enjoy my passion of camping off my motorcycle.



Bahia Honda State Park, Florida Keys

My own personal motorcycle journey started

about 5 years ago when I told my good friend that I just got my motorcycle license. He told me he's been riding and camping. So he invited me to join him out to Seattle and we rented GS 1200 from Eagle Rider. We rode through the Pacific Northwest for 5 nights and visited as many National and State parks as we could. From there I was hooked and connected to my motorcycle in a way I never saw coming.



Hiking Death Valley

As I was planning for my first trip, I thought I was preparing for my first long motorcycle ride. Then after my trip I realized camping was just as important and required as much preparation. Then after a few more trips I realized is each trip is an Adventure Trip that I explore on my motorcycle. Where we visit the journey along the way is as important as the ride itself.

About three years ago I started my journey of touring the country one week at a time. So we ride for about a week and then park it near an

airport and return about 2 months later. I currently own two motorcycles; 2022 GS Triple Black which I keep on the road and a Triumph Tiger 800 which is parked at my home garage.



Ross Lake, Washington State

The idea is to visit as many national parks as we can. The basic concept with the bike on the road is travel north in the summer and south in the winter. My bike currently is parked out in Las Vegas, and I'll be soon exploring The Mighty 5 in southern Utah and then working our way up to Glacier National Park this July. I believe next summer I'll be able to plan a 2-week Alaska trip. I also really enjoy riding and exploring West Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky and up the Blue Ridge Parkway.

I hope to see you at a meeting, a local ride or an upcoming BMW rally. I hope to learn more about your journey.

The 2023 Gathering of the Nortons

Bill Dudley

The Gathering of the Nortons will be held on April 23 from 10-2 in a new location, which is the Performance Garage Club, 843 NJ Rt 12, Flemington, NJ. This place is a club where members can store and work on their (assumed collectible) cars or motorcycles. They have a large paved parking lot. The Delaware Valley Norton Riders will rent some portable toilets to supplement the one in the building. There should also be a food and/or coffee vendor there. In case of horrid weather the rain date is April 30.

New Member Intro

Steven Garrett

My son and I enjoy riding our 2005 R1200GSs on yearly trips after Labor Day to Nova Scotia, the Smokey Mountains, and experiencing the Blue Ridge Parkway.

My first bike was a Honda 50 Mini Trail when I was 5 yrs old.

I have done the Pine Barren 500 multiple times on my KTM EXC500.

My current project bikes are: a 1981 Yamaha XS650, a 1970 Bultaco Alpina 370, and a 1967 BSA 441 Victor Special.

Sunday morning rides to Sissy's At The Harbor in Atlantic Highlands is sort of a routine.



Steve Garrett & son

Highly Classifieds

For Sale: Triumph Bonneville 65 w 12 update; has orange 66 tank, professionally reconditioned. \$5000, call Jerry at 908-472-8585

For Sale: 1995 BMW R100RT – call Jerry at 908-472-8585

For Sale: 1996 Triumph Thunderbird. 885cc triple, 5spd. As seen on occasion at club events. Somewhat standardized, original seat, bars etc..available to return it to stock. Contact Paul bmt213a@gmail.com

For Sale: Gasoline Generator 3500Watts max,/3050W constant load... Excellent condition, Outputs: Two 120Vac, 12Vdc; with manuals. Used very little, starts quickly. Bought this from my neighbor whose husband passed away. We purchased two of these together... they work great but I don't need two. They have enough power to handle refrigerator, TV/internet router, and lights. I even wired my gas/hot air furnace to be run by generator and this works fine too. Contact Roger T at 732-306-6182



Roger's 3000W Harbor Freight Generator

St Patrick's Ride to Sky Manor Airport Jeff Dorio

This St. Patrick's day Jeff D and Roger T took a casual day ride to Sky Manor Airport Café in

Pittstown, NJ. We started in the late morning on what turned out to be a nice day, which started in the 40s and peaked at 65 degrees after lunch.

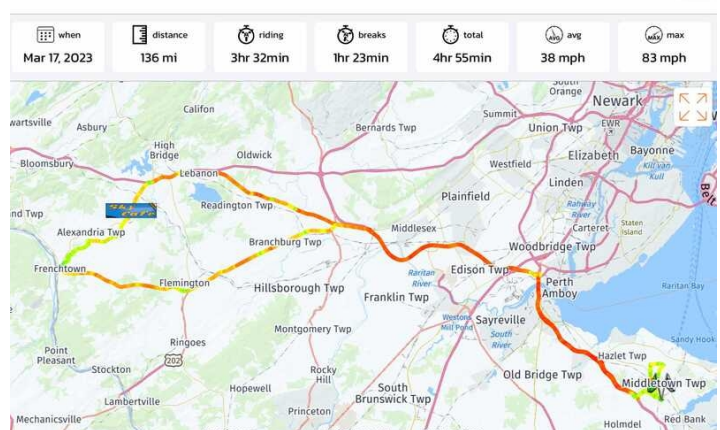
We went out the Garden State Parkway then 287 to 22 North.

Lunch was corned beef and cabbage. The owner was so pleased NJSBMR group of 2 showed up she put us on their Facebook page. Of course she knew and remembered Roger, the unofficial ambassador of New Jersey Shore BMW Riders. After lunch we checked out the planes before heading out of the airport. Roger lead us down Creek Road towards Frenchtown NJ. From Frenchtown we rode to Flemington on 12, then up 202 to 287 and home. All in we rode for 3 ½ hours and covered a casual 130 mile loop on a beautiful day.



The author (L) and Roger (R)

Ride to SkyManor Airport Cafe.

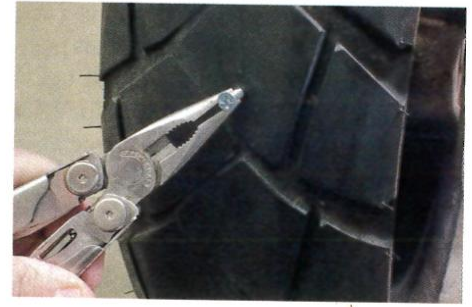
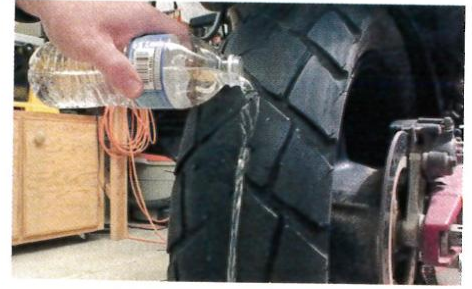




LDTech

By Brian Roberts

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ten your tire, the best thing you can do is to always carry a repair kit with you and know how to use it. Here are some basic kits.

Dynaplug, Stop & Go, and the generic "gummy worm" or "sticky string" plugs are the most prevalent among long-distance riders, so we thought we would test them.

If the offending object is easy to locate, the first step is to clear the hole by removing the object with a pair of pliers or a multipurpose tool. If it's less conspicuous, first try to listen for an air leak, although this is can be hard to do on the side of a busy freeway. If that doesn't help you locate the leak, slowly pour water over the tread looking for water to be blown back, or bubbling in the case of a very slow leak.

Dynaplug (\$29.95; www.dynaplug.com): In theory, the process is pretty

Tire Plugging

A FLAT TIRE always seems to happen at the most inopportune times. You might feel it first as a slight wobble when riding down a nice smooth road. It might reveal itself as a heavy feeling when counter-steering. Or your tire pressure monitor alerts you to a tire with low pressure. The flat can ruin a trip or rally, or it can be just a simple irritation depending on your attitude and preparation. The most common failure is when a nail, screw or other object is picked up by the tire and works its way through the carcass, finally resulting in failure of the tire to hold air. More rare is a dynamic failure when the bead separates from the rim or a hole is torn in the tire carcass. Regardless, control of the motorcycle is compromised.

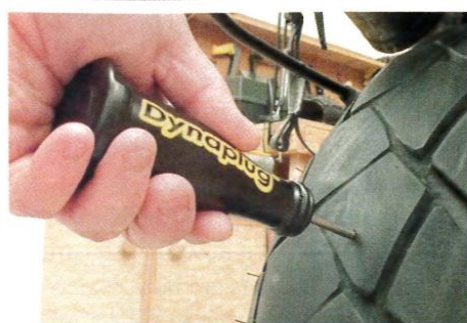
The best way to prevent a flat tire is to avoid riding in low traffic areas like the shoulder of the road where sharp

things tend to collect or construction sites or areas where there's new development. But even the most diligent riders will experience a flat tire at some point. And since it's impossible to avoid ever running over something that will flat-



PHOTO BY RON OREIM

straightforward: 1) load a plug into the Dynaplug insertion tool (metal cone facing forward), 2) align it with the direction of the puncture, 3) push the insertion tool straight into the hole until it bottoms, 4) remove the tool, 5) clip the excess plug.



In practice, however, it doesn't always work as expected and we were not able to insert the Dynaplug insertion tool into the hole. In fact, the bike almost came off the centerstand when we tried to push it through tire carcass. Though not called for in the Dynaplug instructions, we used a rasp tool to clean out and widen the hole. This worked and the insertion tool then easily penetrated the carcass. However, now the hole was too large and the plug did not seal the hole. We know the tool works as designed, but it's limited by the size of the hole penetrating the tire carcass.

Stop & Go (\$47.95; www.stopngo.com): The Stop & Go kit contains everything you are supposed to need to repair

a flat tire. It includes a rasp, 15 plugs, an awl to assist with inserting the tool nozzle into the hole, the repair tool to insert the plug, a knife to cut off the stem, and even four compressed gas cartridges along with a small air hose to inflate your tire.



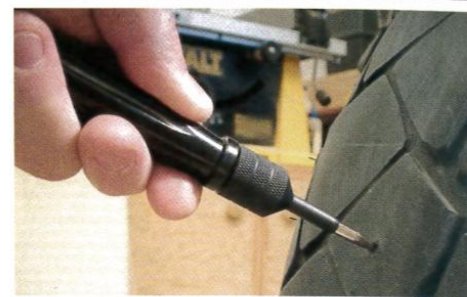
Unlike Dynaplug, the Stop & Go kit includes a rasp and instructions. The first step after removing the object is to ream out the puncture. This serves two purposes. It enlarges the hole (making it easier to insert the plugger tool) and it also cleans and removes any jagged edges from the tire's cords or steel belts that could later cut the mushroom stem. If you do not have a clear hole through the tire, these various layers will flex and act as a saw on the mushroom stem as the tire rotates and heats and cools. (Note: We prefer to use a T-handled rasp, pictured below, and not the screwdriver handle rasp provided with the Stop & Go kit since the T-handled rasp requires less force.) The rasp should be worked in and out of the hole until you can move it freely with minimal effort.



Once the hole is clean you can load a mushroom into the tool. Make sure the internal push rod is backed off and insert a mushroom stem first and tap it down with the thin end of the tool cap.

Screw the nozzle onto the awl and use the awl to guide the nozzle into the hole.

Once the cap is fully inserted in the hole, unscrew the awl leaving the tool cap inserted in the tire. Then screw the plugging tool with the loaded mushroom onto the inserted cap. Once the



inserted cap is assembled to the loaded tool, simply turn the internal push rod with the allen wrench to force the slick mushroom into the tire (mushrooms are coated with a lubricant to help them slide through such a small tube). Keep turning until the push rod hits bottom then back it off a bit and pull the tool out of the tire, leaving the inserted mushroom.



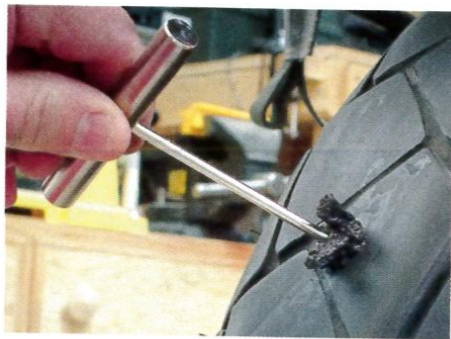
We found that the Stop & Go does not always "seat" the mushroom head on the inside of the tire upon tool extraction. For that reason we suggest a gentle tug on the stem with a pair of pliers to seat the plug. Finally, cut off the stem sticking out of the tire. Another disadvantage of Stop & Go plugs is that the plugs are not glued in place. Several long-distance riders have reported plugs being spit out, resulting in loss of pressure.



Gummy Worm: The gummy worm, sticky string, or rope kits are available at virtually any auto parts store. You can buy the parts separately or in kit, which usually consists of a rasp, an insertion tool, plugs, and glue. Start by rasping out the hole as described above. Then remove one of the gummy worms from the package and squeeze one end of the worm to thread it through the eye in your insertion tool (some older tools are in the form of a hook, but most new ones have an eyelet as shown here). Once centered in the tool, spread a generous amount of glue on the worm.



Insert tool and worm into the hole and push hard. You will need to use some force but be careful not to push it all the way through. As it starts to enter the hole the pressure required will decrease significantly. Stop when you have about 1 inch of the gummy worm ends sticking out of the hole and twist the tool 90 degrees (either direction) and pull out quickly. This will leave the worm in the hole as you quickly remove the tool. I suggest the 90 degree twist so that you have even less chance for the worm to catch on the tool and “follow” you back out of the hole.



This process is far messier than the other two repair methods, but these repairs have been used for decades successfully on all types of tires. Some people will say to skip the glue, how-



ever, we suggest using it to vulcanize the worm thereby making it “part of the tire” as opposed to the other two methods of simply plugging the hole. Additionally, the glue lubricates the worm when you are inserting it into the hole.

Above are pictures of a tire with all three repairs. Notice how the Dynaplug and Stop & Go plugs are both seated on the inside surface of the tire. The gummy worm, on the other hand, is like it is a part of the tire.

Conclusion

While we tested three different and popular methods of repairing a flat tire, we suggest you carry at least two different kits in case one doesn’t work. Of those we tested, we recommend rope/string/gummy worm plugs since the vulcanization process really bonds them to the tire.

Please keep in mind that once you repair your tire it is considered compromised and we strongly encourage you to replace it as soon as possible. The plugs and glue also have a limited shelf life. The Stop & Go Plugs are lubricated and will need to be replaced if they dry out. In this respect, we recommend replacing worms and glue annually.

Also remember that once you complete your repair you will have to inflate your tire. The Stop & Go kit includes compressed gas canisters with an attachment. We have had mixed results using CO2 cartridges and recommend that you carry a 12V air compressor.

Finally, nothing beats practice. The next time you change tires, get out the drill and poke some holes in your tire and practice plugging it. While you may get your hands a little dirty, knowing you are prepared brings peace of mind, especially when your bike’s steering starts to feel sluggish at 11:30 pm on a deserted back road. —