

December 2023

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

Mike Palmer, President (president@njsbmwr.org)

Rick Shapiro, Vice President

Joe Karol, Treasurer & Trustee

Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher

Editors: Bill Dudley, Paul Cooke; Don Eilenberger,

Trustee; Dennis Swanson, Trustee; Roger Tren-

dowski, Trustee; Bill Dudley, Trustee; Dave Rosen,

Trustee; Dan Thompson, Trustee; Joe Karol, Trustee;

Ed Gerber, Trustee.

A man says a lot of things in summer he doesn't mean in winter. *Patricia Briggs, "Dragon Blood"*

What did you bring me today? Delusional mutterings with a side of crazy? *Marissa Meyer, "Winter"*

What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness. *Lewis Carroll, "Alice in Wonderland"*

Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home. *Edith Sitwell*

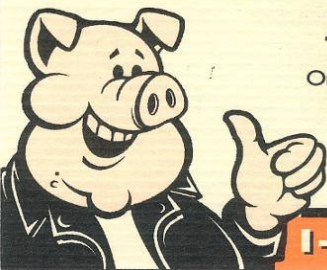
If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome. *Anne Bradstreet*

A lot of people like snow. I find it to be an unnecessary freezing of water. *Carl Reiner*

Nothing burns like the cold. *George R.R. Martin, "A Game of Thrones"*

If winter comes, can spring be far behind? *Percy Bysshe Shelley, "Ode to the West Wind"*

SERVING THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY SINCE 1977



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President's Message

Rick Shapiro, Co-President

Happy December and Happy Holidays!

Although this is the end of the calendar year, it is undoubtedly not the end of the riding season. If the last few New Jersey winters are indicative of what is to come, we have plenty of great riding days ahead. I've already taken advantage of the 30-40-degree days and hit my favorite Jersey and PA back roads. Gone are the fall spectators; traffic is minimal in touristy small towns, and soon, the Jersey Shore main drags switch their traffic lights to a seasonal amber. Has anyone noticed that most bikes you see are fellow BMW riders this time of year?

Here are a few winter reminders:

- Ensure your helmet is fog-resistant; use anti-fog spray, a pinlock, or open the shield.
- Cold tires do not grip as well as warmed-up ones; be cautious early in your ride. Check your tire pressure as it will drop significantly in colder weather.
- Watch out for areas with shade, as they may be colder and more ice-prone.
- Be mindful of the weather forecast and avoid riding in extreme conditions.
- Layering is key to staying warm. Your existing rain gear may protect you from rain, snow, and wind chill.
- There may be an increase in traffic, especially during the upcoming holidays and the last thing on shopping-frenzy minds is

motorcycle awareness.

- Pavement that is slightly darker and a little duller looking than the rest of the road surface may indicate the presence of black ice.

Plans for the club holiday party are finalized. The party will be held at Frattellos in Sea Girt on December 9 at 6:00pm. You should all have received a message with the details. We need a headcount, so please ensure you respond to Mike Palmer at mjpjwp@gmail.com no later than December 6th. You can pre-pay (everyone must pre-pay) on the web at https://www.njsbmwr.org/holiday_party.

Following the party, on December 10th, we have the toy run to the Children's Specialized Hospital. The hospital provides inpatient and outpatient care for children from birth to 21 years of age facing special health challenges from chronic illnesses and complex physical disabilities like brain and spinal cord injuries, to a full scope of developmental, behavioral, and mental health outcomes. If you've done the run with us before, you know the kids love the bikes!

We will conduct our regularly scheduled club meeting on December 13th at Woody's Tavern in Farmingdale.

Lastly, club membership is due! You can register and pay online (<https://www.njsbmwr.org/Membership/application.html>), print and mail the form, or bring it to a club meeting.

November Meeting Minutes

Jim Thomasey

The November meeting was a special meeting as we began with a guest speaker from Sky Med. Nikki Palmer traveled to see us from the lovely state of Florida. For those of you unfamiliar with the company, they provide air transport for you and your machine in the event of an accident or illness. Once the local EMT's take you to the closest hospital, Sky Med will take care of you as needed to get you, your traveling

family members and your bike back to your home base. She mentioned to all to check your present medical policy's coverage for these types of events since you may not be as covered as you think you are. SkyMed also donated \$200 to our coffers.

Regular meeting goings on revealed the treasury holds over \$1000 with quite a few members signing up at the meeting membership stands at 25.

The MOA again thanked the club for our recent donation to the MOA safety foundation.

Henning recounted his recent trip to Riviere-du-Loup Canada which went well. Fluffy Butt contest winners will be announced at the holiday dinner with the mileage awards and trophies for outstanding humanness amongst other traits.

The Holiday Dinner plans were discussed and finalized with Fratello's Restaurant being chosen as the venue for this year's festivities on December 9. The Toy Run to benefit the Children's Specialized Hospital will take place the next day with the ride beginning at the DMV Station of Rt 70 west and Tobin Ave.

The new officers were nominated, voted upon and approved. The new staff is: President Jeff D'Orio, Mike Palmer VP, Joe Karol Treasurer and Jim Thomasey the newsletter publisher and club secretary.

Our special guest speaker was also the 50/50 winner with other gifts going to Klaus and Bob Truex.

Club Calendar

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

Dec 2023

- Dec 6 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Dec 9 Club holiday party, Fratello's, Sea Girt
- Dec 10 Club toy run to Childrens' Specialized Hospital
- Dec 13 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)

Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

Jan 2024

- Jan 3 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Jan 10 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

Feb 2024

- Feb 7 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Feb 14 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

March 2024

- Mar 6 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Mar 13 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

April 2024

- Apr 3 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- Apr 10 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

May 2024

- May 1 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- May 8 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- May 15 ice cream ride 6:30PM location
TBD

June 2024

- June 5 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- June 12 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- June 19 ice cream ride 6:30PM location
TBD

July 2024

- July 3 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM Harri-
gan's Pub, 703 Baltimore, Sea Girt
- July 10 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)
Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy

St., Farmingdale

- July 17 ice cream ride 6:30PM location
TBD

Club Holiday Party – December 9

Editor

The club holiday party will be held on December 9 at 6PM at Fratello's, which address is 810 The Plaza, Sea Girt. Cost to club members and significant others is \$40 each, with the club chipping in another \$20 each. You must be a paid member for 2024, AND you must prepay for dinner. One way to do that is to visit https://www.njsbmwr.org/holiday_party and pay via Paypal.

Toy Run to be held on December 10

Jim Thomasey

The annual Toy Run to benefit the Children's Specialized Hospital will take place on Sunday December 10, the day after the Holiday party. We will meet at the DMV station on Rt 70 west and Towbin Ave. in Lakehurst. Please bring an unwrapped gift appropriate for anyone between toddler and young adults. The hospital again asked us to refrain from plush, fuzzy things and stuffed animals.

The Pediatric Long Term Care Center at Children's Specialized Hospital provides exceptional care for children with complex medical conditions. The two Pediatric Long Term Care Centers in Northern and Central New Jersey are home to many medically fragile children whose families' current circumstances no longer allow them to be cared for in the home or other community setting.

The address is 94 Stevens Road in Toms River if you want to attend but are unable to get to the meeting point at the DMV. Coffee and donuts will be served at the DMV station. If you would like to bring the gift to the holiday party it can get delivered to the hospital the next day. Thank you to everyone who contributes and makes this a wonderful event each year.

Dues are Over-Due, Doo Dah, Doo Dah

Membership Fairy

Once again, it's time to re-up for another exciting, action-packed year of membership in the New Jersey Shore BMW Riders.

You can renew on-line, by visiting www.njs-bmwr.org/membership, filling in the form (yes, again) and paying via PayPal. Or, (print and) fill in the convenient form in this newsletter and send it in, or bring it to the next meeting along with your dues (\$20 for electronic newsletter, \$25 for paper via US Mail).

Fuse Block on a Budget

Roger T.

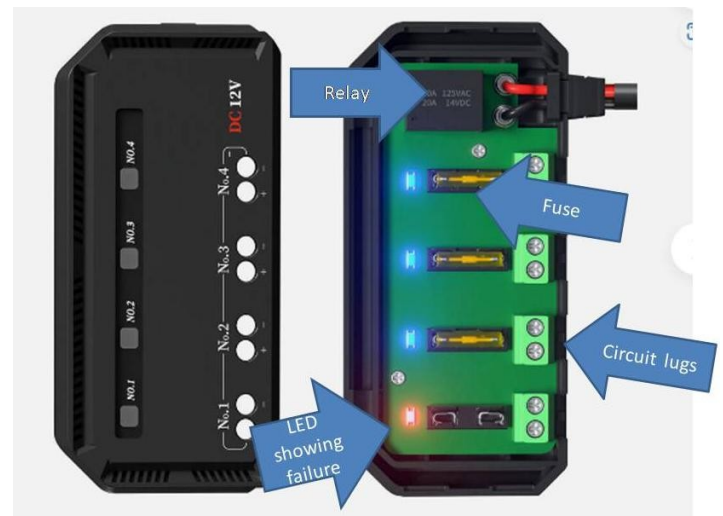
I didn't realize the problem until my bike had a starting problem on our Newfoundland trip. When my bike wouldn't start and there were no dash lights or TFT display when I powered ON, then the next steps were to disconnect all my extra accessories to insure they weren't causing the problem. Over the past four years I've had my F850GSA, I've added a few circuits/accessories but didn't realize how many until I needed to unhook all the wires connected to my battery. Typically a new bike has just a main (heavy) red wire for the Positive terminal and a black one to the Negative terminal. On my bike there is also an extra wire on the positive terminal probably for power to the computer/Can-Bus module.

But in my case, while trying to identify the starting problem, I had to unravel a rats-nest of wires connected to both positive and negative battery terminals. Wires for: aux fog lights, front/rear camera system, battery charging connection (which I also use for heated clothes), relay connection for auxiliary stop lights (on my panniers). That's four extra connections to my battery. Disconnecting these while trying to debug my starting problem wasn't a big issue. However, after I got home and after Cross Country BMW repaired my bike, I was challenged to hook all these UP again. Where do all these wires go? Adding four more connections to each side of the battery in addition to the existing OEM connections was a challenge.

I had to find a longer battery terminal screw to connect all the stacked wire connectors.... and then there was a problem with the rats-nest of wires packed around the battery, each circuit with their own separate fuse con-

tainer.

After struggling to get it all connected as before, I decided to find an alternative. There are three basic solutions: smart, semi-smart, and dumb (my terminology). The smart solution is expensive but provides the most flexibility and guarantees to work with Can-Bus systems. An example product is: Denali CanSmart Controller. This controller provides plug-n-play installation of up to four accessories with dozens of customized settings that can be controlled from BMWs wonder-wheel to control lights, horn, aux light, gps, etc. This system can cost over \$300. The dumb solution for connecting several accessories is a simple 12V fuse block. You can find many types of these on eBay and Amazon to handle a few accessories to many. Most contain physical mini fuses on each accessory circuit and usually one main fuse on the 12v Line coming from the battery. These fuse blocks may or may not have a set of terminals for the negative side of your accessories.



Cover and Insides of the unit; shows relay, LEDs, fuses, and attachment screw lugs

It's important to have negative side terminations to really minimize wiring connections under your seat. This type of fuse block just distributes 12 Vdc all -the -time... it is not switched (turned ON/OFF with your key). One example product is the Centech AP-1 which can handle 5 circuits (\$55). The types of accessories where a simple fuse block makes sense are: charging port, heated clothes port, maybe accessory head lights (if you don't mind having the lights stay ON by mistake), and GPS.

A Semi-Smart solution, the one I chose, has a few different products advertised for motorcycles. Characteristics of these include: accessory circuits switched live when your bike switch is turned ON, each circuit is fused separately, one overall fuse on the battery supply circuit, separate ground connections for each accessory, waterproof (or resistant), compact design. A couple products that are advertised in the MOA ON magazine are: Denali PowerHub2 Fuse Block (\$178) and CycleNutz FZ-1 (\$98), The FZ-1 can handle up to 6 circuits and any of them can be set to be switched or constant power; 30 Amp total power. It looks like a nice solution especially if you have needs for both types of accessories.

I chose another cheaper product found on eBay. There is no product name as it shows up under numerous USA sellers. Search for "Fuse Block 12V 20A Waterproof Fuse Relay Box Kit." Or <https://www.ebay.com/itm/195963330947>. First of all, it is inexpensive at \$15-22. It has 4 switched circuit outputs with a total of 20Amps. Each circuit connection requires two wires, neg and pos. Connections to accessories are via screw-type lugs for both positive and negative accessory wires. Input connections are pos and neg from the battery plus one red wire to your accessory switched bike wire/connection (I eventually found an acc wire on my F850GSA.) Some sellers on eBay say that the unit is waterproof and others don't mention it. (It is not.)

Inside the plastic case is a relay used to switch the outputs ON or OFF, and four mini fuses and LEDs. There is no provision for constant 12V output like the CycleNutz FZ-1. Customer feedback on the product is positive, however one said the "fuses are non-standard ... but regular auto fuses can be modified to work." I suppose one could purchase extra fuses if you wanted exact replacements. The unit has an LED light associated with each output circuit. The LED is blue when the circuit is OK and red when blown/disconnected.

Since I only need 4 switched circuits this unit works for me. I will keep my charging/electric clothes circuit separately connected to the battery. Unfortunately, reliability of any of these Smart, semi-smart and dumb units is not known or recorded. Reading the customer feedback is



Inexpensive Chinese fuse block with four switched circuits. Inputs are battery positive and negative wires and switched power connection. Size 4" x 2" x 1". Sticky foam and nylon zip ties included for mounting.

about the only way you can tell what the issues are. I mounted the fuse block on a plastic plate, larger than the fuse block. The main reason is to secure the individual circuit wires to the plate with nylon ties. This stabilizes the wires since they just insert into the fuse block with lugs and I feel that vibration could loosen them. I mounted the fuse block in the cavity under the rear rider seat. The block comes with about 18 inches of wire to the battery. My battery area now looks clean and unencumbered by a "rats nest" of auxiliary wires.

Nova Scotia & Newfoundland Trip Highlights, Part II

Roger T.

Our excursion to Newfoundland in early September required three ferries. The first from Bar Harbor Maine to Yarmouth Nova Scotia <https://www.ferries.ca>, the second from North Sydney NS to Port Aux Basques Newfoundland and the third from Argentia NL back to North Sydney. There are eleven ferry terminals in NS and fifteen in NL, which I didn't realize until researching this article. However, our trip planner, Bill Dudley, optimized our travel route using these particular ones. By optimized, I mean we traveled the full length of Nova Scotia from South to North and from West to East.

I've ridden on ferries with my bike before....

Cape May Ferry and Wolfe's Island Ferry (across St Lawrence River to Canada) but never so long a ride as the ones on this Nova Scotia (NS) and Newfoundland (NL) trip. When I was a kid I remember a Bar Harbor Ferry. My parents took my brother and me to NS but don't really remember much about it. As I recall the ferry was called the Blue Nose and lasted 3 or 6 hours or maybe 3 but felt like 6. On our NS/NL trip the Bar Harbor to Yarmouth ship was a CAT ferry that traveled at high speed for 3.5 hours that not only made it fast but comfortably smooth. The Marine Atlantic ferry from North Sydney to Port Aux Basques was about 5 hours but was not a CAT type of ship. The ferry from Argentia NL back to North Sydney was 17 hours. Each ferry was large enough to have cafes and restaurants (and gift shops of course). We were lucky enough to have cellular data service most of the way on the Bar Harbor ferry but the two Newfoundland ferries didn't have WiFi internet service. We lost regular cell service about 90 minutes after leaving port.

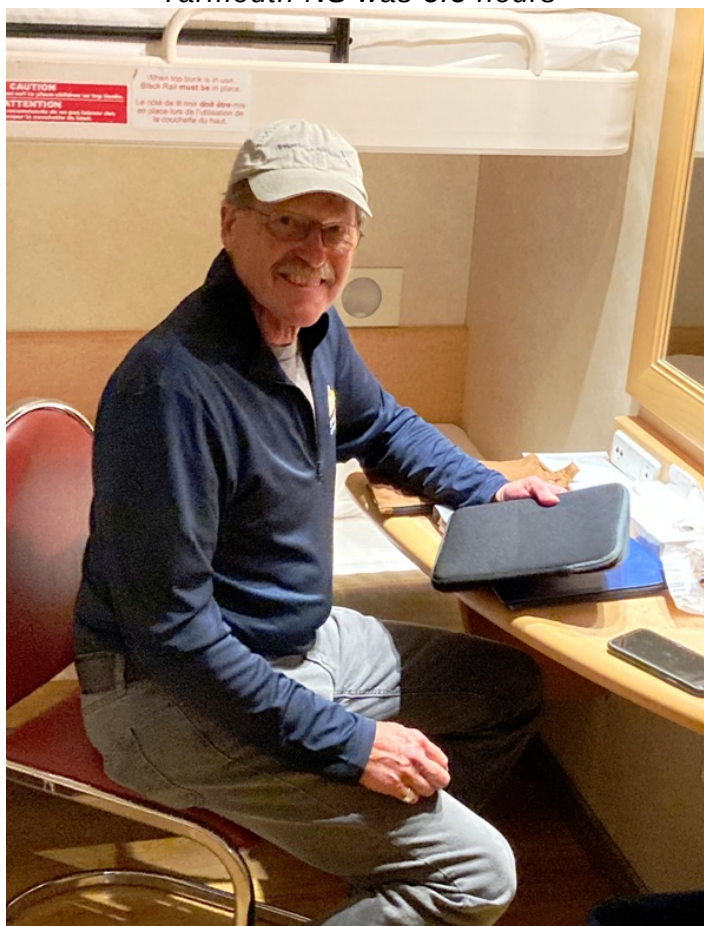
Securing our bikes was the same procedure on each ferry. They provided tie-down straps but the straps were dirty enough to use gloves. The straps were made of course material about 2 inches wide and pretty stiff. I'm glad Bill Dudley and Jim Nanfeldt suggested before hand to bring our own straps. Judging from the bright orange color, we must have sourced them at the same hi-tech, motorcycle accessory place (Harbor Freight). The ferries had slippery surfaces in the vehicle storage area. It was sort of oily dirty film. This meant I had to carefully ride to the tie-down area and then when stepping out of my Aeros-tich suit, I didn't let the Aeros-tich touch the deck. Then changing boots to sneakers, I looked like I was dancing on one foot.

The fare from Bar Harbor to Yarmouth NS was made in US currency... about \$230 for the bike and me. However thanks to Don Eilenberger, we found a \$50 coupon and eventually got credit. The Newfoundland ferry fares were in Canadian currency which meant with the exchange rate, the \$320 round-trip wound up costing about \$250. The costs for the NL ferries seemed like a bargain since the first one was 5 hours and the second 17 hrs. We shared cabins on the 17 hr Argentia /Sidney ferry that added about \$125 each. Cabins were pretty small... set up with 4 beds and one chair and desk. I joked that we needed to stand up in shifts in order to go the bathroom. The good news was that cabins included a bathroom with shower... not big but adequate. Meals and snacks on board were again discounted at a US rate of approx

75% by the credit card company.



Ferry routes that we took. The No. Sydney to Port Aux Basques was 5 hours and the Argentia to No. Sydney was 17 hours. Bar Harbor ME to Yarmouth NS was 3.5 hours



Jim Nanfeldt seated on the only chair, at the only desk in our Atlantic Maritime Ferry Cabin. There are two beds located aside of him and two behind him. I'm taking the picture from inside the bathroom.



Our bikes were tied down securely using our own Harbor Freight straps. The floor looks greasy and it was. Bill and Zhao and Joe doing are doing last minute checks before walking up stairs to lounge. Once the ship departed, we weren't allowed to go back down to our bikes.

We all were amazed that while in NS and NL, we didn't use ANY cash or have a need to change currency. All establishments accepted credit cards, even Tim Horton's (like Duncan Donuts) took a credit card when purchasing anything; even a dollar item. If you want to see my 35 minute trip video, go here: <https://youtu.be/yrlBUQI7D2E>

Lined up waiting to enter the Bar Harbor ME to-Yarmouth NS Ferry (background).



Here we are in the front of the ferry in relaxed comfort. Bill is reading an ebook on his laptop.



Newfoundland Welcome Center, just North of the Port Aux Basques ferry terminal; Joe and Roger posing.

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: Riding gear – contact **Ed Gerber:**

- **Helite “Turtle” air bag vest** size large \$300 (a right bargain).
- **Gerbings heated** size large **jacket liner** and size large **gloves** with dual controller \$50
- **BMW Motorrad GS Dry Riding pants** size 50 (US equivalent size 35)
- They are armored, water proof, unlined pants (My favorites) originally \$200 for \$45
- **Draggin Jeans** lined with Kevlar size 34 used but in ok shape \$25
- **Slides Kevlar Khaki pants** size 34 \$20
- **Olympia full length riding jacket** w/ removable liner and waterproof shell in beige blue and red \$60
- **Riding pants Field sheer perforated leather** summer riding pant almost new; Armor is missing \$35
- **First Gear lined over pants** size 36 \$40
- **Full length Field Sheer** length fully water-proof lined riding **jacket** \$30
- Summer armored **Heinz Gericke jacket** \$20
- **Black leather** armored motorcycle **jacket** size large \$40

Contact **Ed Gerber** (edgerber1@verizon.net) for any of the above.

For Sale: Items I (Don E.) no longer need:

(1) **Two throttle bodies with the idle air valves** - new, each throttle body from BMW is \$892. And these include the injectors, which are not included from BMW each is \$152 from BMW. Look brand new. These fit 2008-2019 1200 Boxer Twins. Total from BMW - over \$2,000. Two complete assemblies for \$150 (OBO).

(2) **Driveshaft.** This was specifically for a 2007 R1200R. It looks new, there is no spline wear. \$1130

new from BMW. Real OEM claims it will fit R1200GS, R1200GSA, R1200RT, R1200R, R1200S, HP2 Sport, and all the R-Nine-T models. For the comforting feeling of having this on your shelf ready to go - \$150 (OBO)

(3) **Seat** - Low Comfort. Basically new since I had a Sargent seat made very soon after I bought the bike. This will fit all of the 2007-2018 R1200R bikes. BMW gets \$713 for them. \$100 (OBO)

(4) **Heated Socks** - early Gerbing. They don't smell. Buy me dinner at the meeting.

(5) **Various R1200 brake rotors and pads.** Some are new, some are used. Free if you can use them!

(6) **Spot Satellite Tracker** (and emergency beacon) - the original one. \$100 OBO. You need a subscription to use it. Works where cell phones won't.

More to come! Don Eilenberger, 908.216.7867 (text) deilenberger@gmail.com

Wanted: - a not quite dead 12V motorcycle battery. One you weren't comfortable with when you were leaving on a big ride, so you replaced it, but it's too good to throw out and you'd feel guilty sneaking over to Mike's to leave it on his pile'o'batteries.. Let me know what'cha got.

Don Eilenberger 908.216.7867 (text) deilenberger@gmail.com

And Finally..

Like there's some other way to shop for the Holiday Season?

