

July 2024

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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In lang, lang days o' simmer, When the clear and
cloudless sky Refuses ae weep drap o' rain To Na-
ture parched and dry, The genial night, wi' balmy
breath, Gars verdue, spring anew, An' ilka blade o'
grass Keps its ain drap o' dew.

James Ballantine Quotes , Source: Its Ain Drap o' Dew

Summer time an' the livin' is easy, Fish are jumpin'
an' the cotton is high. Oh, yo' daddy's rich, and yo'
ma' is good-lookin', So hush, little baby, don' yo' cry.
Summertime, a song in the play "Porgy and Bess"

Here is the ghost of a summer that lived for us, Here
is a promise of summer to be.

*William Ernest Henley Quotes , Source: Rhymes
and Rhythms*

Every man, wherever he goes, is encompassed by
a cloud of comforting convictions, which move with
him like flies on a summer day.

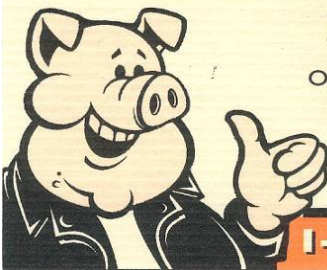
Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)

Summer afternoon - Summer afternoon... the two
most beautiful words in the English language.

Henry James (1843 - 1916)

Why, this is very midsummer madness. *William
Shakespeare (1564 - 1616)*

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President's Message

Jeff Diorio, President

Hello all.

We are halfway through the year now that July is here. Hoping you all have nice 4th of July plans and some fun riding destinations.

Two weeks ago, I took an MSF Advanced Rider course in Metuchen. This was my 3rd MSF course and I felt it was a good refresher as well as having some professional coaching on my riding. The reason I took it was partly to support a friend who had never taken a real training class and was also getting used to his new Indian Motorcycle. At the end of a very long day of riding I definitely had an enhanced feel for my R1200GSA and got some good advice on my high speed cornering. Here is a photo of me with the coaches Mike and Nick. Another fun point is, although everyone had different bikes and very different skill levels, we all had such a good time meeting and talking about bikes and riding.



Our new member Rob also took a class in the pine barrens adventure off road school. At the last club meeting Rob shared he felt it was really good instruction to get full use from his

GS. If I get a chance, I would like to go to Greenville SC and do the authentic BMW GS course with their instructors. Unfortunately the wait time is at least 12 months.

I know many of you are very experienced and have spent a lot of time in the saddle. But I write this thinking it can never hurt to freshen up your skills.

On other big news Roger just returned from the MOA rally on the west coast. Major riding cross country solo. He met up with Jim Nanfeldt of New Sweden at the event, who went on to Alaska and apparently had to upgrade his bike on the way. I am sure his article about his trip will be fascinating.

On to business.

- Planning for 3-club rumble continues and please get involved if you haven't already.

- The print version of the newsletter costs more than the increment in annual fees people are paying. So we are losing money every month when we print and mail it out. If you don't care about getting a hard copy, let us know and we can switch you to digital. Otherwise, we are going to have to come up with something to help cover the shortfall.

- Bill arranged for the \$120 gift card with Viking Bags to be auctioned off at the 3-club rumble. Those of you with cruisers should check out vikingbags.com to see how it will look on your bikes. (*They also sell non-cruiser luggage-Ed.*)

I hope your bikes are all running well, and you have lots of local and longer rides planned. Several folks are headed south for the dragon, and I heard a few at breakfast talking about the BMW Riders Association rally in Fryeburg Maine August 29-Sept 1. Of course if you are looking for ideas, the fluffy-butt challenge has a lot of good locations.

Looking forward to seeing you at a NJBMWR club event.

May Meeting Minutes

Bill Dudley, in lieu of the real Secretary

The June meeting of the NJSBMW Riders was held June 12th with 10 members and three guests in attendance. Mike Palmer filled in for President Jeff who was away on a business trip.

The minutes from the previous month were offered for acceptance, voted upon and seconded into the record books. The treasury was said to have just under \$555. Absent Jim T., we have no current member count.

The first item discussed was the "club shirt" project. Mike Palmer has volunteered to get some prices from a t-shirt shop known to him. Webmaster Dud volunteered to build a web page where club members can order and pre-pay for a shirt (once we have pricing/style information).

The second topic was the 3 Club Rumble. We will need some cash disbursed to buy supplies. Also, we'll need volunteers to do the cooking, and handling salads. Drinks, condiments, plates, etc. Mike P has also volunteered to work on a menu and related plans for the Rumble.

The 50/50 was won by Art G. (\$30 cash), Hank F. and Rich L. each won BMW shop towels.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 and everyone headed home safely.

Club Calendar

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

July 2024

- July 3 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM @ Colt's Neck Eatery, Colts Neck
- July 10 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- July 17 ice cream ride 6:30PM loc. TBD

August 2024

- Aug 7 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM @ TBD
- Aug 14 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- Aug 21 ice cream ride 6:30PM loc. TBD

September 2024

- Sept 4 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM @ TBD
- Sept 11 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

October 2024

- Oct 4 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM @ TBD
- Oct 9 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat)

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

November 2024

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

December 2024

- Dec 4 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM @ TBD
- Dec 11 Club meeting 7PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

Fontana, Part II

Roger Trendowski

Last month I discussed the first half of Joe Karol's and my trip down to Fontana NC for the MOA Get-a-Way Rally. Our trip was from April 15-22, 8 days. This was the 4th year that we rode there together. During the trip we had only 100 miles (a couple hours) of rain in NC on the way home. Keeping with our overall goal of "secondary roads," we wound up not running the Tail of the Dragon or the full Cherohala Skyway. We did start off on the Cherohala but turned south on a secondary road called Snowbird Rd. I preplanned this route long before our trip. It was a very secondary, but paved, road that bypassed most of the Cherohala almost all the way to Tellico Plains. This type of alternate route interests me greatly. Funny thing is that my Nav VI GPS and BaseCamp software shows this as paved and passable. (I "avoid dirt roads" on my GPS.) However, reality set in after winding down the mountain about 10 miles when we came upon a sign saying "dirt road." It looked deeply rutted and muddy. Given that it had rained the day before, we decided to turn about-face to back track. There were plenty of cross roads before hitting the Cherohala again but all looked like dead ends or dirt. I would like to try this route again in dryer weather.

After hitting Cherohala, we headed a few miles west and took another secondary road to the Northeast. This road called Joyce Kilmer, circles Lake Samteetlah back to Rt 129 (the main road leading to the Dragon). Half way around the lake we noticed a one-way 10 mile road leading up to Maple Springs Overlook (3340 feet). Half way up, the sky was clear and views were excellent looking down into the valley. By the time we reached the top, it was foggy and cold, much like we were in a completely different region.



Our routes around the Fontana area.... There were plenty of curves even without riding Cherohala and Dragon.

We backtracked down the mountain and finished circling Samteetlah lake. After hitting Rt 129 on our way back to the Fontana Village, we turned off on two more secondary roads that zigzagged their way to the backdoor of the hotel. These roads are very secondary... meaning 1½ paved lanes and plenty of curves that are tighter than the Dragon. This route is about 12 miles from Rt 129, across a mountain to the backdoor of Fontana Village.



Excellent view of Samteetlah Lake as we climbed up to Maple Springs Overlook.

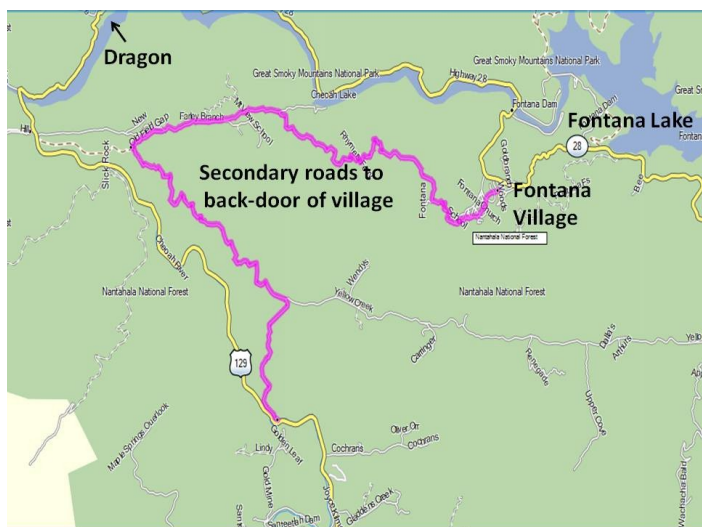
The MOA Get-a-way rally includes Friday and Saturday dinners and gift give-a-way on the second night. They gave away two dozen gifts including tee shirts, MOA and Klim jackets, and a couple air pumps. Joe won a helmet lock that he will probably use on one of his bikes. My helmet looks ratty so I never worry about it being stolen. We always sit and eat with the same friends at this rally and at the MOA National

Rally. Of course we enjoy libations with them.



View at the top of the Maple Springs Overlook... Not much to see due to fog. Weather was night & day different from half way up (previous pix of Samteetlah lake.)

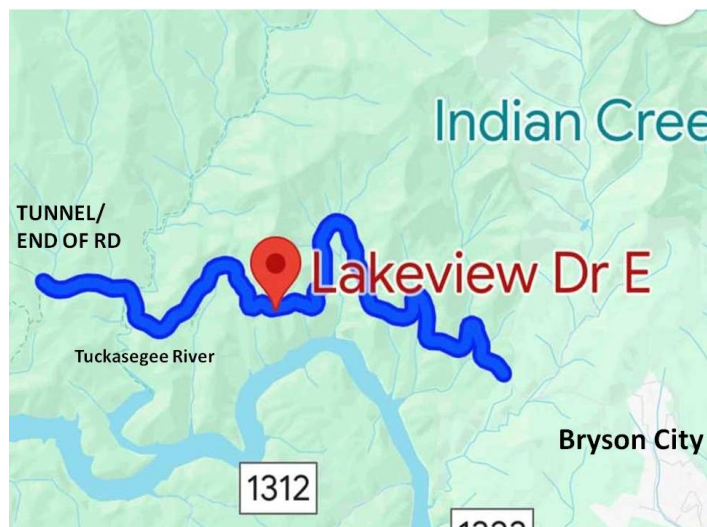
Sunday on the start homeward it was lightly raining. However at dinner I heard of an interesting place near Bryson City NC... "The Road to Nowhere." Joe said he had been there years ago but since I hadn't heard of it, I was anxious to investigate. Bryson City is twenty five miles from Fontana. We finally found our way to the road leading to "nowhere". The "Road to Nowhere" was actually very nice, much like the Blue Ridge Parkway in construction; good pavement, two lanes, and with timber railings along the sides... winding up into the Smokies.



Return route from Samteetlah Lake, to Fontana Village. Plenty of curves on two secondary roads.

We finally got to the end of the road where caution cones and chain blocked our way. Of course, seeing a small gap in the chain anchors, we worked our way

past and in another hundred yards made it to the tunnel/end of the road. We could see through the tunnel. At the far end there was nothing but trees... no road, but perhaps trails. A few people were walking through the tunnel but we didn't enter.



Close up of "The Road to Nowhere." This is approximately a 6 mile stretch that starts near Bryson City NC and ends at a Tunnel.

Background: In the 1930s-40s Swain County gave the majority of private land to the Federal Government when Fontana Lake and Great Smoky National Park were created. Fontana Lake was developed when the Tenn. Valley Authority (TVA) built a dam on Tuckasegee River. This project was supposed to create electricity for aluminum plants in Tenn and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Local people's homes on one side of the newly formed lake were stranded and an original highway to these communities was flooded by the enlarged lake. In turn, the Federal Government promised to replace the sunken highway. They promised that a new 30 mile road would again connect communities and old family cemeteries and lead down to Bryson City. But construction of the new road stopped approximately 6 miles into the park, ending at a newly dug tunnel. Due to lack of budget and adverse environmental impact, construction was never continued. Swain County citizens gave the unfinished road its popular name "The Road to Nowhere."

Our trip home was the same as previous years... North to Asheville, then North again on I-26 to Bristol TN, I-81 North to Winchester, Rt 7 etc to Baltimore and home. Overall, our trip was 8 days and just over 1800 miles. It rained only a couple hours while we were riding.... however it did rain part of the day on Friday but we only rode in the afternoon when it quit. Here's a 20 minute video of our trip. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HEUY20YG2iE>



For about 6 miles from Bryn City, the "Road to Nowhere " is a paved much like the Blue Ridge Parkway. The last 100 yards is rough asphalt with plenty of leaves and debris covering the road. A tunnel exists at its end. Hikers can walk through the tunnel but nothing is beyond... just trees.

Fontana Trip April 15 - 22, 2024 Joe K and Roger T (1,848 Miles, 8 Days)



Our overall trip routes, 8 days and over 1800 miles.

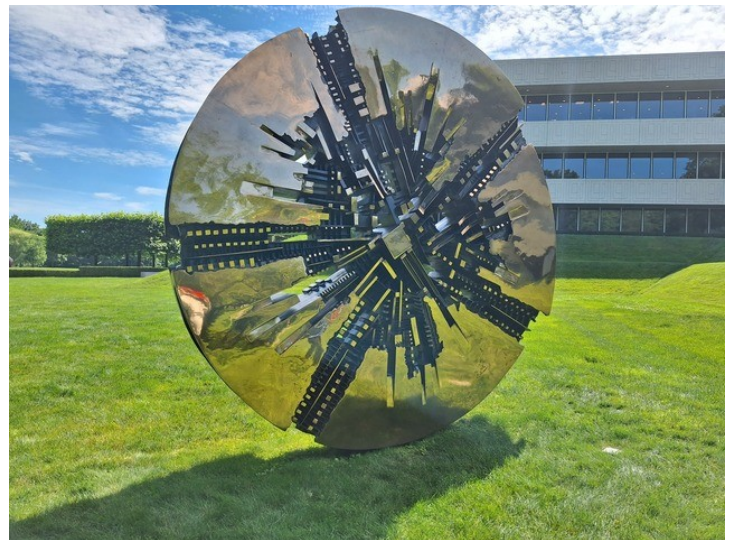
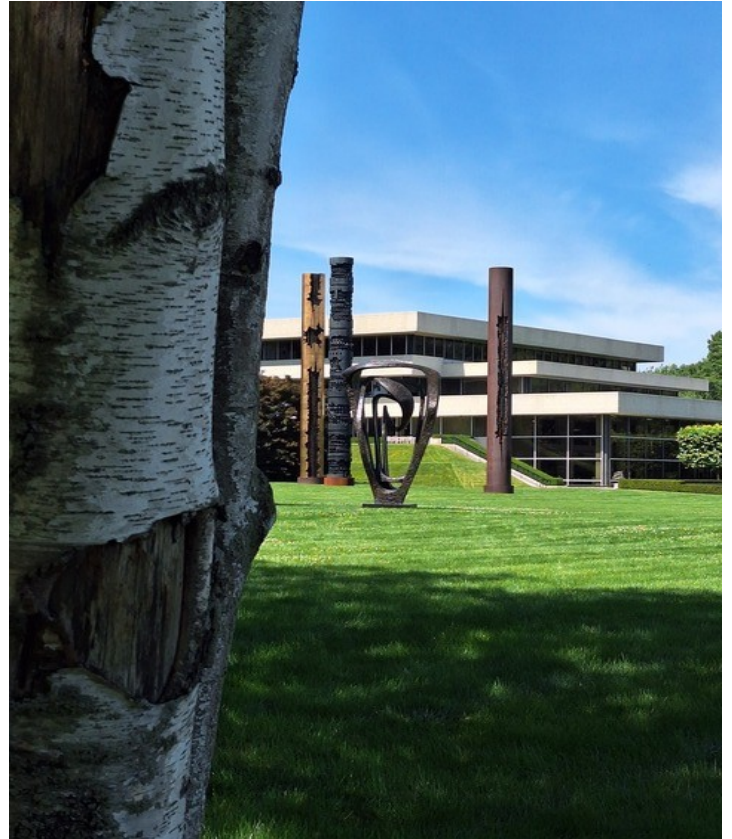
Norton Rally on a Moto Guzzi

Bill Dudley

The week of June 17 through June 21 was the national Norton Rally, in Woodstock, NH. Because I gave my Norton Commando to my son a few years ago, we attended on my 1993 Moto Guzzi SP111.

We did the outbound trip about $\frac{2}{3}$ on highway and $\frac{1}{3}$ on "2-lane" roads. (There are no fun 2-lane roads from Jackson, NJ up into New York.)

On the way up, we stopped at PepsiCo World Headquarters, in Purchase, NY, where there is a free, open to the public (on weekends), sculpture garden.



After a stay in a not very good Super 8 in CT, we headed north. Our museum of the day was the American Precision Museum in Windsor, VT.

The rally itself was fun, but it was all British bikes, and y'all don't want to see that, so all I'll say about that. We did spend a day riding the cog railway to the top of Mt Washington, which was eye-wateringly expensive. Yes, we could have ridden the bike up, but



was nervous about riding that road in the fog, which always covers the top portion. The ride home from the rally was uneventful but tedious, as we did that mostly on highways in one day.

Highly Classifieds

For sale, 1999 BMW K1200LT. A great bike. 65,788 miles and counting. It's drivable now as it is, however it needs a fair bit of work. This is probably best for someone that's mechanically inclined or is willing to spend a bit. I was still riding it until very recently when I got another GS. In fact, I took it on a multi-state, two-week tour through the northeast this past October and it had no issues. I just don't have the time or funds to invest in it right now to bring it to where it needs to be. The major repair it needs is a new clutch. It slips when accelerating hard, mostly when on the highway in a higher gear. This is a big job on the LT. Contact **Jonathan** simplyabsurd@Gmail.com if you have any questions. I can also provide a Google sheet with my service history.

For Sale: 2018 Moto Guzzi V7 Milano. 27K miles. Located in Southampton, NJ. Asking \$5K. Contact Frank Vanherwaarden at 609 706 6884.



Turn-of-the-20th-century machine tools are different looking. Note 3D printer to the right.



Leaving the hotel on the 21st.