

# THE NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS

February 1999



## Are You A Motorcycle Nut?

Take this quick test to find out:

1. Do you look at every motorcycle you pass on the highway?
2. Can you recognize a BMW from a Harley just by the sound?
3. If it looks like rain, do you ride your bike to work, even though you have a perfectly good car at home?
4. Do you take your bike to work even though it is raining?
5. Do you consider the kitchen table the perfect place to rebuild a motor?
6. When you fall off your bike, is your first thought about the condition of your bike?
7. Do friends and relatives consider you crazy?
8. Do strangers consider you crazy?
9. If you don't have a garage, do you keep your bike in the house?
10. You do have a garage and you still keep your bike in the house.
11. Did you leave your 1st wife because she thought your biker buddies were "scum"?
12. Do you dream about riding?

Check Your Rating On Last Page

### The March Drop-of-a-Helmet Weekend Ride by Mike LoGalbo

Don't have time to go to Daytona? Is it too ccccccold in the mountains? Do you have the "it's almost, but not quite, Spring and I wanna ride blues?" Is your significant other actually hoping for good weather so you stop grumping around the house and come back smiling? The March Maryland "Drop of a Helmet" Weekend Ride is your solution.

March is a tough month. Even if you ride all winter, there's usually a pent up "long ride" craving that goes unsatisfied. March is a tease; sometimes the weather is good, sometimes not. But even when the weather is decent in NJ, most of the twisty northern mountain areas are normally still a bit dicey for riding. So, let's go south to the western shore of

Maryland. It's a bit flat, but has nice open sweepers with good sight lines, plus it's warmer!

**Here's the plan:** the first weekend in March where the 2-day weather forecast looks good, we drop everything, pack our bags and go. We'll meet at the Wawa near Great Adventure with kickstands up at 7:45 am, ride down to Cape May through the Pine Barrens, then take the 10:20 ferry to Lewis, Delaware. If you prefer to get up a bit later, take the direct route, i.e. the GSP, and just meet at the ferry terminal. We explore the scenic "blackeyed Susan" routes of Maryland, and spend the night in the general vicinity of Annapolis (or elsewhere if that's where we end up). If you're pressed for time, you can highway it home on Sunday; those that aren't can backroad it and take the ferry again.

For more information, call Mike @ 609-395-8991

According to their press release, **BMW of North America** posted record sales of 7861 units in 1998, an increase of nearly 30 percent over year-end sales figures for 1997. Capping its 75th anniversary year, BMW Motorcycles sold more than 60,000 units in more than 100 international markets. The **R1200Cruiser** was BMW of North America's top selling model.

## "SAINT ALONE "

By Geoff Meyer Cycle News 1/25/99



DAKAR, SENEGAL, With the slimmest of margins, Frenchman Richard Saint scored a somewhat surprising win at the 1999 Total Granada-Dakar Rally. And he did it on a motorcycle that hasn't won the race in 15 years: a **BMW**.

There was a long list of KTM riders finishing behind Saint; they were left to wonder what they have to do to win the toughest rally in the world. Prior to Saint's win, Yamaha, with Stéphane Peterhansel at the controls, had dominated the race.

Saint - who, only weeks prior to the event, left the KTM team to race the special 650cc [F650] BMW bike - said, "I wanted to be alone on the team - not like at KTM, where you must share everything."

Despite still being teamed up with two other BMW riders - Oscar Gallardo and Jean Bruzy - it was a huge change from the scene at the KTM pit enclosure on day one, where more than 20 competitors held the title of "factory rider" - a sight that Saint felt confirmed that he had made a good move.

"I don't care what they are doing over there - I will ride a consistent rally and just take it easy," said the soon-to-be hero of Dakar.

Day one of the event was again played out in the wet weather of Europe - more specifically, Granada, Spain. When the rains came, it caused all sorts of problems.

Event organizers called off the major part of stage one and, while not too many riders complained, it was a shame for the large crowd that had arrived in the city to spectate. Luckily, a small course had been laid out around the town of Granada, giving the riders a chance to show their wet-weather skills. German KTM charger Dirk Van Zitzerwitz finished with the top spot, just ahead of enduro legend Giovanni Sala, while Saint was back in sixth place. Unlike many of the riders, the Frenchman was not happy with having to run in the rain at all.

"It was a joke," Saint said. "The rally starts in Africa. All we could have done here was wreck our chances in this muddy mess."

The competitors' first day was extended after the ferry, which crosses from Spain to Africa, was delayed due to terrible conditions on the rough seas. Some of the riders arrived at the bivouac late in the evening.

Once in Africa, it was Dakar veteran and KTM team manager Heinz Kinigadner who showed the way. Kinigadner was in brilliant form, although British rider John Deacon, also on a KTM, saw it another way.

"He was riding really quick," Deacon said. "I followed him for some time, but he was also riding on the limit. He nearly crashed a couple of times."

Behind Kinigadner was Juan Roma of Spain, and with his second place Roma would maintain the overall lead. Saint, a nervous starter, was fourth overall, with fellow BMW rider Gallardo in sixth place.

However, it would not take Saint and Gallardo long to get to the front. Gallardo took over from Roma, who crashed and broke his hand on day five. Saint, in second place, played the waiting game.

South African Alfie Cox, on a KTM, held third overall with five days gone and was showing why he had won the South African Roof Over Africa rally on several occasions. For Cox, though, it would only be the start of what was to follow, as the redheaded rider started showing superspeed on the thick,

sandy course. **Nevertheless, he still could not match the power of the BMW riders.**

"It's just the start," Cox said. "I can win this event, but I need to get a good rhythm. I don't want to crash and lose it all in one day."

By day seven, the two BMW riders looked likely to go away from the field, but things changed. First, Gallardo was spotted working on his bike, as electrical problems forced him to wait until his support crew arrived. Then Saint also arrived very late at the night's stop.

"Thirty kilometers from the start, my roadbook broke," he said. "I couldn't even get it working with my hand. I just had to follow some riders and hope. The riders I followed got lost, and I lost time. I'm lucky to be leading, but had it not been for the problems, I would have a big lead."

Gallardo was not so lucky, as he dropped from first overall to completely out of contention.

Thierry Magnaldi, who was some 25 minutes down on the leaders at the start of the stage, was now just five minutes down on Saint. In third place was KTM's Fabrizio Meoni, who was some 17 minutes behind Saint.

More good luck was in store for a weary Saint, as the next day's competition was canceled because riders arrived at the day's finish line very late. Australian rider Simon Pavey's story was similar to everyone else's.

"I got lost in the dust and darkness," Pavey said. "I crashed and fell down a well. Had it not been for some fellow riders, I would not have made it. I eventually arrived back to the finish well after midnight."

Saint agreed with the organizers that it was a good idea to cancel the day. "This is a very tough rally and many of the riders were very late into the camp, and I think the organizers have done a good thing," smiled the leader.

Magnaldi, one of the toughest riders in the rally, was not so sure.

"They have to be careful," Magnaldi said. "This rally is meant to be difficult. Maybe the day should have gone ahead."

Cox took his first stage win of the Dakar on day nine, while Saint scored a second place, increasing his lead over Magnaldi.

"The stage was just like what we ride back home: lots of thorn bushes, twists and turns," said stage

winner Cox. "I was passing guys like they were standing still."

Luckily for the now-exhausted riders, the 10th stage was called off. With riders arriving late from stage nine and many lost, the organizers decided to put the motorcycle riders on planes and send them to the start of stage 11.



For Cox, the day's rest worked wonders, as he produced his second stage win in stage 11. Saint was fifth, but his lead did not appear to be in any real jeopardy, although the dangers of the Dakar were, of course, always there.

"This is the best day of my life," Cox said. "I started first and was never headed."

Saint, however, was not smiling at all after a crash and lost time caused him to finish the stage far behind. The leader also lost nearly five minutes to second-placed Magnaldi.

"It was not a big crash, but big enough to stall the bike," Saint said. "It took me a while to start it again, and I think I lost about five minutes."

With three days remaining and Saint's lead now less than five minutes, many in attendance were wondering if the BMW could hold out for the last three long stages.

Stage 13 was good for Magnaldi who, with a win, moved closer to Saint. The Frenchman, however, still held on to his lead, pulling further away from his other rivals. With just two minutes and 53 seconds separating Saint from Magnaldi, the race was far from over.

At this point, Magnaldi was not sure what to expect. "We all rode flat out today, although I never really saw Saint too much," Magnaldi said. "It was like a duel at a distance."

Spain's Jordi Arcarons, a longtime Dakar competitor, moved into third overall. Another notable, Finland's Kari Tiainen, was forced to drop out when his bike exploded into a ball of flames. **The day would also see an armed gang hold up 50 of the competitors, including the Dakar organizers.**

The last three days pretty much sewed it all up for Saint, as race rivals fell by the wayside, including Magnaldi, who crashed and injured himself.

"Sixty kilometers from the end of the stage, I crashed," Magnaldi said. "I hit some rocks and hurt my side; then I made some mistakes. I think I can only win now if his engine blows."

With the pressure now off, Saint was not afraid to step it up, and he won stage 15, and with stage 16 canceled, the French rider scored the win.

"For BMW, I am happy," Saint said. "They took me and we won. What more can we do? It's a shame Peterhansel was not here; he could have really made things more interesting."

## Shawnee Heights Teacher: "Riding is like having Wings"

By HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH  
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The recent bout of cold weather forced motorcycle enthusiast Voni Glaves to temporarily park her 1994 BMW R1100RS in favor of a car for her daily commute from north of Lawrence to Shawnee Heights High School.

Glaves, a teacher who helps special needs students plan their futures, already has 191,000 miles on her BMW motorcycle. Between April and October of next year, she hopes to distribute an additional 50,000 miles among the 1994, 1988, 1983 and 1973 BMWs she owns.

"Riding, it's like having wings," Glaves said. "It's like flying on the ground."

She has won the national women's mileage contest four times -- 1991, 1995, 1996, 1997 -- and may get

a fifth title for 1998. Surpassing the 50,000 mileage mark, however, would break the all-time women's BMW single-year mileage record.

"Now, I need to clean the house and do all the things I don't want to do," she said last week. "From April to October, all I'm going to do is eat, sleep, teach and ride."

The goal is achievable, said Glaves, who rode 38,500 miles between April and October 1998 and 45,000 miles for the year.

"I've done it long enough that I want to see how many miles I can go," she said. "One of the things I want to do is ride to the four corners of the United States. I want to be and see places."

She became a member of the "Iron Butt Association" by riding more than 1,000 miles in 24 hours to make it to a bicycle rally in North Carolina from Emporia State University, where she was taking graduate-level courses in counseling. While in graduate school, she commuted to Emporia from her home each day -- a 1 1/2-hour ride each way.

Glaves will have ridden more than 500,000 miles by next year, and she has traveled through Mexico, all the Canadian provinces and every state but Hawaii.

"What I like to do every year in the summer is find something I've never done and do it," she said.

When she rides a motorcycle to school Glaves arrives in bright red leather -- typically stowing the outfit in a classroom closet and changing into more normal clothes. Occasionally, just for fun, she teaches in the leather outfit, Glaves said.

"Some think it's really cool," she said. "Others think I look like a Power Ranger and ask 'What mission are you on today?' "Almost everything Glaves wears is red -- a habit that makes her stick out in traffic. "They tease me and ask, 'What are you wearing today?' " She said. "They don't have to remember my name. They can just call me the 'Lady in Red' or 'That red lady.' "

Glaves challenges her students to find and actively pursue something they are passionate about, whether it is skateboarding or riding BMX bikes.

"I want people to know that when you grow up you can do cool stuff," she said. "I tell my kids I didn't start riding until I was 28. If I had checked out in my 20s, I'd never have known how great the world is."

Glaves' husband, Paul, a former planner in the Topeka-Shawnee County Metropolitan Planning Agency, got her interested in motorcycles when she

was 28 and caring for two young children, who are now ages 30 and 32.

Family vacations were taken with a child on the back of each parent's motorcycle. The arrangement, Graves said, eliminated the possibility for quarrels and made the children happy to see each other when their parents stopped.

Now that the children are grown, Graves is able to ride more. Frequently she rides alone -- stopping at nightfall to camp.

And her husband -- also the owner of four BMW bikes -- was able to pursue his hobby with his wife's complete support. The couple takes trips nearly every weekend. For their 20th wedding anniversary, they attended a racing course at the Luguna Seca Raceway in California.

And to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary they toured Alaska on motorcycles.

"His friends think he's lucky," Voni said, "because he doesn't have to talk me into getting another bike."

## Calendar Items:

- **June – First Chance Rally – NJ Shore BMW Riders** very FIRST rally. More details as details develop. See Glenn Martin or Don Eilenberger if you'd like to help out (if you don't see us, we'll see you!)
  - **Bob's BMW Grand Opening Celebration**  
10630-Y Riggs Hill Road
  - Jessup, MD  
Phone: 301-497-8949
- March 13 - Bob's BMW** will be hosting a festive gala to celebrate the opening of their new building on this special **Saturday evening**. The evening will start off with a fascinating multi-media presentation by photographer/world-adventurer Helge Pedersen called 10 years on 2 wheels. Then on to the catered gourmet buffet, with beer and wines from around the world. There'll be free souvenirs, valuable door prizes and other surprises too. We'll be joined by guest dignitaries from BMW of North America and BMW AG (Germany). Admission to the evening gala is by invitation only, and there is a cost of \$44.00 per person. Invitations will be sent out soon to about 500 select guests. If you don't get an invitation and you want one, call them.
- **Our MEETING! February 10<sup>th</sup>**. Club Bedrock, Bradley Beach, (502-4455). 7PM, EAT and MEET!
  - **Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 11AM. Tech Session** – K bike exhaust dyno shootout! Sun Cycle, Rt 71, Manasquan NJ, (223-0484) **Club is paying for pizza!**
  - **Daytona Bike Week, Feb. 28- Mar. 7**
  - **Saturday, April 11th, New Sweden Flea Market**, 10am-4pm @ RK BMW Deptford, NJ (609-228-5275)
  - **Saturday, May 15, NJ Shore BMW Riders Flea Market**, 10am-4pm @ Cross Country BMW, Metuchen, NJ (635-0094)
  - **March 14** - There will be another presentation of Helge Pedersen's amazing multi media show, 10 years on 2 wheels on **Sunday afternoon at 2PM**, that is open to the public. Helge is a Norwegian explorer, photographer, and journalist who has traveled over 500,000 miles on a BMW motorcycle to every corner of the globe. He has chosen the best photographs from his vast library, and combined them with music and live narration to create a fascinating program that you'll never forget. Tickets are \$12.00 and are available now at Bob's. Tickets purchased in advance by phone using a credit card are subject to an additional \$1.00 service charge. For further details check out Helge's web site: [www.cycoactive.com/helge](http://www.cycoactive.com/helge)

**Thanks much to this month's editor – Sue Schreiber**  
**The issue looks GREAT!**  
**(You too can be a newsletter editor,**  
**call Glenn Martin or Don Eilenberger for details on how!)**

**YOUR RATING ON MOTORCYCLE NUT QUIZ**

If you answered yes to at least 5 of the questions above, you may be a motorcycle nut. If you answered yes to at least 8 of the questions, you probably are a motorcycle nut. If you answered yes to all 12 questions, **you are a really cracked nut!**

**MEETING**  
**7PM Wednesday Night, February 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Bedrock Café....**  
**....Eat and Meet!**

*Note – Bedrock has redone their dining room and created a great meeting place for us!  
Come check it out!*

From: The Jersey Shore BMW Riders  
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TO: