

May 2010

# NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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Alex Edly, Vice President

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Dennis Swanson, Trustee and Instructor General

Don Eilenberger, Trustee and Newsletter Editor

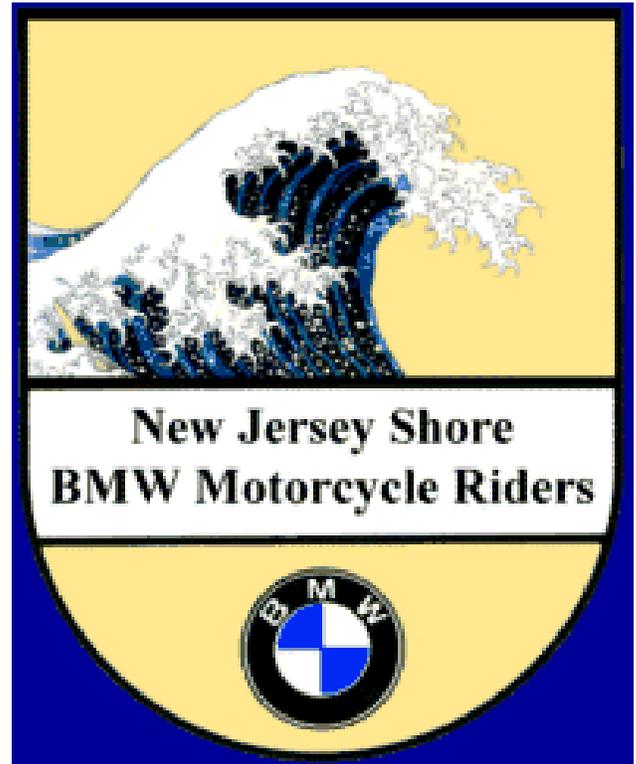
John Welch, Trustee and Absent in Florida

John Malaska, Newsletter Publisher

Skip Palmer, Trustee, Montana, Southern Branch  
and Colorado Chapters of NJSBMWR.

Club Membership Application at: <http://www.njsbmwr.org/>

[NJSBMWR\\_Application.pdf](#)



## President's Message

Well, looks like riding season is finally here!

With that, be on the lookout because the traffic gets crazy this time of year at the shore, with the influx of "bennies" and all. They seem to be in a mad rush to get here, a mad rush while they're here, and in a mad rush headed home. In all that madness, I would bet it's pretty hard for them to take caution and keep a keen eye out for motorcyclists. My advice, is for you to keep an eye on them, and don't put yourself into a position where you don't have an escape route.

For years, people have used the term, "drive like everyone's out to get you". Well, that may be true, especially at the shore in the warmer months. Be vigilant about watching your surroundings.

From the grapevine, I heard there was some pretty nice riding lately... can't wait to read your take on it.

With that said, enjoy the road and pray for sunny days.

George Roberts  
President (aka Dinner Club Host)

Anti-wrinkle cream there may be, but anti-fat-bastard cream there is not. *The Full Monty*

I am always doing that which I can not do, in order that I may learn how to do it. *Pablo Picasso*

Though familiarity may not breed contempt, it takes off the edge of admiration. *William Hazlitt*

I sometimes think of what future historians will say of us. A single sentence will suffice for modern man: he fornicated and read the papers. After that vigorous definition, the subject will be, if I may say so, exhausted. *The Fall, Albert Camus*

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*

There is an evil tendency underlying all our technology - the tendency to do what is reasonable even when it isn't any good. *Robert Pirsig, Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*

## Gathering of the Nortons – April 18<sup>th</sup>

*By Dave from NYC and points in NJ Rosen*

Being that I have never attended the Gathering of the Norton's at Washington's Crossing before, I wasn't quite sure what I was in for. I met club President Roberts at the WaWa @ 8AM, much earlier than the other club members were going to be there, as our plan was to get some PA riding in before the event.

We crossed into PA and met up with Charles and off we went. A couple hours of some back roads and vistas filled with jaw-dropping homes on rolling hills, we arrived at the site around 10:30AM, we parked the bikes and started to wander.



I was surprised that there weren't as many Norton's there as I would have expected, but lots of other remarkable bikes to oooh and ahhhh at.



We saw Harold Gantz on his new (old) Honda. What a neat little bike that really looks good. Tom Holmes arrived on his RTP, straight across the grass as I recall. Other club members spotted were Grant, Don, Joe Karol, John Malaska (really...he rode!), Al Pierson, Miles Cannon, Pete Stone and some others.

Harry Costello brought out one of those remarkable bikes he owns, a very modified R75/5 that forces you stare and drool simultaneously.



There were even some Vincent's on hand which were amazing to see. These bikes were produced in the late 20's to about the mid 50's and were some of the fastest bikes of the time. I even ran into a Velocette, a bike that I have never seen in person until now. Once noon rolled around, it seemed like there were over 600 bikes in attendance. It was crowded, we had seen most of the bikes there and we were ready to ride some more.

Charles shot towards home on his own and George and I made our way back to NJ the quick way. We did take a little detour on the way to run up and down Rt. 524, across Millstone Rd. and some other little gems tucked away in Monmouth.

The temptation of curves was too much to pass by. We eventually ran up on Rt. 537 in Freehold and George continued towards the Highlands and I jumped on Rt. 9N.

All in all a very cool experience and a trip that was well worth the time. I look forward to popping in on the next Gathering of the Norton's in 2011.

## An Alternate Gathering of the Norton's Story

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*Don Eilenberger*

As David mentioned – lots of club members were seen and rode to the Gathering of the Nortons. One club member didn't – Luigi Busconi. Apparently he has been losing interest in his motorcycle. This is a shame since I can always count on him for a newsletter article.

The 10AM OurWAWA Group (myself, Tom Russo, Roger T, Grant Duncan and Joe Karol) got underway just about 10:10AM – and took a backroad ride from the Wawa to Washington's Crossing Bridge. The backroads included Broad Street in Trenton, which was surprisingly quiet at 10:30AM on a nice Sunday morning. We arrived at the event a bit before 11AM and found about 300 bikes or so had already arrived.

Dave pointed out some of the highlights – but he missed one, that wasn't a motorcycle. Off to one side, was parked one of the most enormous automobiles I've ever seen. It was apparently from the brass era of cars (early 1920's). Taking a closer look at it – I noticed it had lettering on the sides, that was repeated in several places – “15 Liters.”



The car was the Rhino-Alf. Built by a gentleman from PA on the chassis of a REO fire engine. It has a 15 liter (15,000CC) 6-cylinder engine – that idled at about 250 RPM. It was simply amazing. When it started – the 4” diameter exhaust pipe just sort of went “Chuff.. chuff.. chuff” - you could hear each cylinder firing. Great fun even if it wasn't a

motorcycle.

As Dave mentioned – there were some outstanding bikes on display – not all Nortons. There were two classic MV's at the show – it would be hard to pick the nicer one.



The engine has to be one of the most beautiful engines ever put in a bike:



We had a great time looking at the bikes and seeing people we hadn't seen all winter (or since the NY show.)

Although the day was overcast a lot of the time, it was still warm enough to ride comfortably, and a good time was had by all. About noon-thirty, we started getting hungry, so Grant suggested we stop at a small restaurant he knew of on Rt 32 just before the Frenchtown Bridge. We did – and the company and food were both great.



After lunch, Roger took off to NY state, while the rest of us enjoyed a backroads ride back toward home. A most pleasant day – and a good lead-in to a most enjoyable afternoon nap when I got home.

## Guinness Book Record Broken by Shore Riders! May 2nd

*Oskar M Weiner*

Well, actually we didn't do it without some help from approximately 260 other BMW riders.

This is how it all started:

Bobby Jones, owner of Montgomeryville Cycle, a very new BMW motorcycle dealer hosted an attempt to beat the Guinness record for the most BMW motorcycles in one ride. Jones provided the registration, the hot dogs, water and route and enough BMW riders responded to beat the standing record.

Shore Riders made the difference. Had we not been there the attempt would certainly have failed. Grateful thanks to Capt. Don who led our group from "Our Wawa" that included Dave Rosen, Bobbie Truex, John Malaska on his new R12R, Capt. Dennis and myself.

There is no really good route out to the dealership in Hatfield, Pa. so we took a bad one:

We took I 195 to route 29 north, crossed into Pennsylvania at New Hope and took



route 202 most of the way. We arrived at about 11:30 and were near the last to make it for the ride. A cheer went up when we arrived since they were very close to the number needed to break the record – but not quite there.

We kicked tires for a while and enjoyed the refreshments and watched as the last few needed to break the record trickled into the parking lot. New Sweden was present with Grant and Nancy, Pete Stone, Hans Ertle and Al Pierson.



**Grant mooching (he did offer to pay..)**

Our own Grant Duncan, Alex Edly, Dave Mason and Charles Grass also made an appearance. Eric Shur (Skylands and NJ Shore) was also spotted – but he was the only Skylands rider seen.

At about noon the ride started. All I could see in front and behind me were BMW riders as we took out for a ride that became increasingly disorganized. At first the entrance ramps were blocked and once we got off the highway cross roads were blocked so that we could keep together. But as the ride went on riders began to peel-off in different directions and left turns had to wait for traffic. Some people followed the errant riders and some people missed the turns. One rider went down.

It was difficult to know where to go but I kept following some other riders and much to my surprise did make it back to the dealership. Dave and Bobbie were there but Capt. Don had left. John Malaska also had disappeared.



Not knowing much about that area and not having any maps I wasn't sure how to get out of there. I did get bad directions that took Bobbie and I in the wrong direction and we ended up in Allentown. Bobbie and I got separated at this point and I ended by taking route 22 east to 78, 287 and the Parkway. Needless to say that was not a direct route. And since I had neglected to bring any maps with me I had no one to blame but myself.

All in all, however, it was a good day. The weather was quite warm but not uncomfortable. My new K12s with a loud performance muffler performed effortlessly and flawlessly. Traffic was light.

## Did We Break the Record?

*Reprinted by permission from Jack Riepe's Blog*



Did the Mac Pac break the Guinness Book Record for the most BMW motorcycles in one parade formation? Complete details will be available within 24 hours. But I was compelled to make a statement now.

Never have I been prouder to be a member of any social group than I was yesterday...

The Mac Pac (the premier chartered BMW riding club serving southeast Pennsylvania) represents the

epitome of fellowship, friendship, social consciousness, riding expertise, and technological know-how. I cannot tell you how choked up I got watching our guys (and women) coming flying into the Montgomeryville Cycle Center parking lot on Sunday, May 2nd. While expectations ran high that we could beat an existing Guinness Book record, something else was evident. The infectious smiles of the Mac Pac instantly revealed the delight of sharing a kind of private joke... A joke that starts out with, "So a handful of guys who ride German motorcycles (known to be favorites of the barbed wire in the jockstrap crowd), got together and decided..." And it became instantly apparent that while breaking the record would be fun, just getting together on a scale like this was historic enough.

And every member of the Mac Pac started the conversation the same way, "What can I do to help?" There were ten volunteers for each position.

But then things moved to a higher level... Riders starting throttling in from all over. They came from Connecticut, Virginia, South Jersey, Lake Placid/New York, Bayonne/New Jersey, Queens/New York, from west of Harrisburg, Pa, from Maryland, and from Delaware. Rogers George (holding dual citizenship in the Mac Pac and the Mid-Atlantic Riders group) came roaring in with his contingent. Don Eilenberger blew in from South Jersey with guys from the Jersey Shore Riders and the New Sweden Group. Mike Cantwell drifted down from the Adirondacks, NY (about 90 minutes from Montreal, having taken an unintended Google Maps tour of Princeton, NJ). Some started while it was still dark to make this event — and rode over a hundred miles to help pull it off.

Each had several things in common... They all had that infectious smile... They all shared the same private joke... They are all part of an incredibly unique motorcycle riding community. It was then I realized that they had extended those same credentials to me. And considering how I ride, I am proud to be part of the punch-line.

Yesterday would not have been possible without the leadership and participation of the Delaware Valley Riders, The New Jersey Shore Riders, The New Sweden Riders (NJ), The Mid-Atlantic Riders, and over hundred of independent BMW riders, whom we all met for the first time. Also, it came to my attention

that Brian Rathgen, publisher of Backroads Magazine, also alerted the masses to this event. Backroads Magazine is a very interesting publication that appeals to the riders of all marques, with spot-on ride reports, stories, op-ed pieces, and technical reviews that hit the mark without requiring the subscriber to read between the lines.

I would like to thank the registration crew who made the sign-in process utterly painless yesterday.

They were:

- Patti Minner, who just got her biker's permit.
- Gordon Till, parts manager for the Valley Forge Harley Davidson dealership
- David Crank, who rode in on a pristine Vellocette (which couldn't be counted)
- Rogers George, who tells jokes with punch-lines that require footnotes.
- Kimi Bush, a real firecracker, was a big help in distributing the door prizes, (which were ten \$25 gift certificates from Montgomeryville Cycle Center, courtesy of Bob Jones).

Another unspoken hero of the day was James "Big Jim" Ellenberg, his wife (the lovely Dot), and his son Alex, who baked well over 1,000 chocolate chip, pecan, and peanut butter cookies, and donated them to the event. "Big Jim's" cookies are world famous for a big taste (a dozen weigh well over a pound), and will soon be available commercially.

I would also like to thank Bob Jones, who worried terribly that the heat would kill me and that I might die on his property. After repeatedly advising me that I could move the registration tables into the air conditioning, he rolled out a fan that must have been 16-feet in diameter, set it to "Force Five," and had it blow straight on me.

In truth, I did almost nothing for this event. But I would be remiss if I did not call your attention the effort extended by Todd Trombore and David Case. Todd was the voice of exuberance. David was the persona of practicality. I was ballast. There was talk going around that we should make this an annual event. Why not? We should set a combined goal next year (between five of the local clubs) to break 500 motorcycles. That would be a pisser, too. Complete details of yesterday's event (see previous blog) will be posted late tonight.

## My Guinness Record Adventure

John Offyman Malaska

Prefacing this by saying that I didn't experience any real problems. Just that any time you're on your 1st real ride on a new M/C (my almost-new R1200R), its an adventure.

After splitting from Don et al on Rt 29, I jumped on I95 south across the Scudders Fall bridge. BTW, for you tender readers out there, I didn't volunteer to lead because my GPS was running on battery power, as I don't have it wired into the R12R's electrical system yet. And I didn't trust my memory of my intended route.

After exiting I95 at Newtown, I took the bypass around town, and then headed west then north on

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secondary roads like Richboro, Almshouse, Turk, Bristol, Sellersville, Hilltown, and Church. (Having almost each road end at a "T" intersection helped me decide when to turn.) I successfully found MCC, then drove past it by missing the exit to it. Go figure!

The parking lot at MCC was mobbed with BMW's when I arrived. I was directed to a staging location right behind Jim McFadden, Dave Mason, Grant, and Nancy G. Don & crew arrived a short time afterwards. Dave Rosen was in touch with Alex E, who was someplace in the area. We thought that Alex would perform a theatrical entrance by being the rider to break the Guinness record, but it was not to be. But the record was broken.

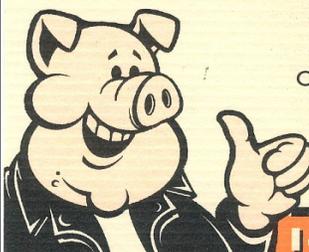
The group ride departed MCC around noon. Although I was parked way in the back of the staging area, I managed to join up with the lead serial of riders. As I suspected would happen, the first several miles averaged about 5 mph. Once we exited PA 309 for the secondary roads, the group spacing opened up & the ride became more relaxing. The route included some interesting roads that might require revisiting later on this summer.

Unfortunately, one of the few weak points on the R12R decided to appear .... the lousy seat. Comparing it to my K75's after market Russell, it must have been used during the Spanish Inquisition! And as the ride wore on, it became less fun. So about two-thirds into it, I decided to bail & head home. The GPS didn't help me avoid the traffic surrounding Doylestown, but eventually I made my way down to the Scudders Falls bridge & Rt 29.

The R12R is going to be a joy, as it overwhelms the K75 is most qualities. But, Don, about that seat .

**Welcome to a new advertiser this month!** Jerry Friedman, Biker Attorney. Jerry has given informative talks at several of our meetings, and will be contributing articles for the newsletter on bikers and the law!

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## Event Schedule

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*Please send submissions to John Malaska*

**May 12** Club Meeting - Schneider's  
**May 15** Hot Dog Run – John Malaska  
**May 22-23** Catskill Overnight?  
**May 23** British & European Classic Motorcycle Day, Germantown MD

**June 2** Moribundi – TBA - RDS  
**June 4-6** BMWBMW Square Route Rally, Thurmont MD (see Don for details)  
**June 9** Club Meeting - Schneider's  
**June 7-12** Americade, Lake George NY  
**June 19** Carts at NJ Motorsports Park  
**June 23-24** Possible track day at NJ Motorsports Park, more info to come.  
**June 24** Don's birthday

**July 7** Moribundi Lunch – TBA – RDS  
**July 14** Club Meeting – Schneider's  
**July 14-18** BMWMOA National Rally, Redmond OR  
**July 19-28** Nova Scotia Trip – Don & Mike, ending up at:  
**July 29-August 1** BMW-RA Rally, Pownal VT

**August 4** Moribundi – TBA – RDS  
**August 11** August Club Meeting - Schneider's  
**August 14** Annual Club Picnic – rain date August 15.

**September 3-5** AMA Road races @ NJ Motorsports Park, Millville NJ  
**September 3-6** Finger Lake Rally, Watkins Glen NY  
**September 8** Moribundi Lunch – TBA – RDS  
**September 15** Sept. Club Meeting - Schneider's  
**September 25** Club fishing trip – Dave R

**October 1-3** Color in the Catskills, Hunter Mt. (lets make this happen this year!)  
**October 6** Moribundi Lunch TBA – RDS  
**October 13** October Club Mtg. Schneider's  
**October 24** Annual 3 Club Rumble – RD Swanson  
**October 31** Polar Bear Starts – Cape May

**November 3** Moribundi Lunch – RDS  
**November 10** Club Meeting - Schneider's

**December 1** Moribundi Lunch – RDS  
**December 8** December Club Mtg - Schneider's  
**December 11** Annual Holiday Party  
**December 12** Toy Run to Children's Hospital

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## May 12<sup>th</sup> - Meeting Schneider's 7PM

**NJ Shore BMW Riders Inc.**

c/o Charles Grass  
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Yardley, PA 19067