

October 2011

NEW JERSEY SHORE

BMW RIDERS Inc

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"Elections are won by men and women chiefly because most people vote against somebody rather than for somebody." *Franklin P. Adams (1881 - 1960), Nods and Becks, 1944*

"The Internet is like alcohol in some sense. It accentuates what you would do anyway. If you want to be a loner, you can be more alone. If you want to connect, it makes it easier to connect." *Esther Dyson, Interview in Time Magazine, October 2005*

"It is better to offer no excuse than a bad one." *George Washington (1732 - 1799), letter to his niece Harriet Washington, October 30, 1791*

"Repetition does not transform a lie into a truth." *Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882 - 1945), radio address, October 26, 1939*

President's Message

Dave Rosen

Let's Get Ready...

...to RUMBLE!!!! Sunday October 9, 2011: The annual Tri-Club Rumble is upon us for 2011. This year's site will be Sandy Hook National Park. As always, the New Jersey Shore Riders are expected to sweep the attendance race. We are sure there will be some stiff competition this year from our fellow New Sweden and Skylands riders, but also confident that we will prevail. Either way, don't miss the opportunity to share good food, fun and stories with all of the New Jersey BMW club members. Details are posted on the NJSBMWR Yahoo! Group for this event. We need additional volunteers in order for

this event to go smoothly. If you have not already volunteered, please do so by contacting Dennis Swanson. We can't make it happen without you!

At our next meeting on October 12 at Schneider's in Avon-by-the-Sea, NJ, there will be lots going on. Be there @ 7PM, and bring your thoughts and ideas with you. Of course we look forward to the members sharing their riding experiences throughout the past few weeks, which will include the Rally in the Poconos, Colors in the Catskills, the Fall MotoGiro etc.. We will also move forward with the nominations committee for the officer's positions for the upcoming year. If there is a member who you believe has the qualities necessary for one of these positions, please take a moment at the next meeting to share those thoughts with the membership and nominations committee. In addition, there will be some information offered regarding our Holiday Party, which is tentatively set for Saturday December 10. Wow, how the time flies.

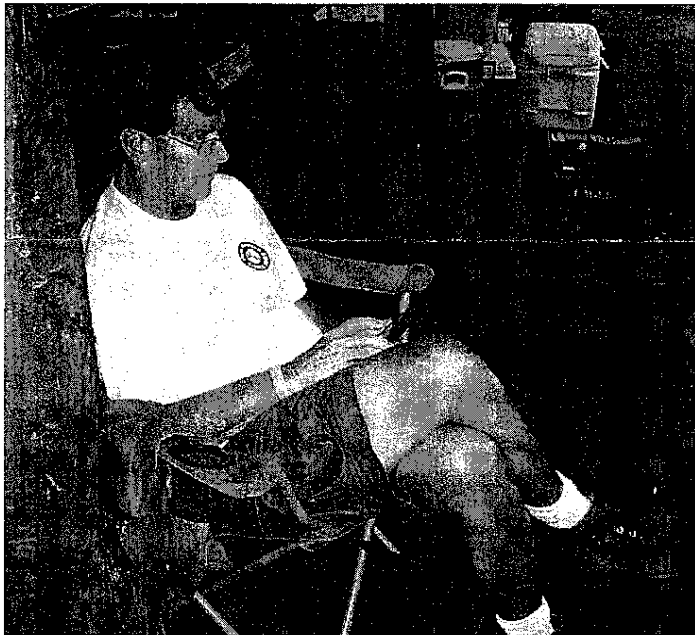
And finally, just a quick reminder that the BMW MOA Mileage Contest for 2011 ends at midnight on October 9. Please make note of your mileage and the finish forms will be available shortly on the MOA website. Get out and rack up those miles for New Jersey!

New Sweden - Last Chance Rally, September 23rd-25th

Don

Wet, fun and a good time was had by all. The 29th Annual Last Chance Rally was held at Yoghiville in Elmer NJ. Club members in attendance were me, Harold Gantz, J. Grant Duncan, Harry Costello, Geo. Hickman, Pete Stone and Herb Konrad.

Shame more club members don't attend this fellow NJ club rally since it's the only one in NJ.. Food was good and plentiful, everyone won a door prize, and the location is actually quite nice. Some of us went to a great breakfast on Saturday morning in nearby Woodstown – where stuffed waffles were the order of the day. We didn't need any lunch.



Harold playing with his SmartPhone

It did rain a bit on Friday, it got drier on Saturday, and by Sunday the sun was peaking out. J-Grant did another GS ride, proving to himself how heavy an R1200GS is off-road. Pete Stone kept everyone entertained, with the help of NS member Joe Moffa.

Field games were held Saturday afternoon – and as always were fun to watch.



Hey – some of you really should try this rally – there are even cabins and trailers for rent for us wussies who don't want to camp!



Pete Stone entertaining us..

Poker Run – August 30th

Roger Trendowski

It all started with Harry Costello's email to the Yahoo group last week. American Legion Post 129 Riders were holding a Poker Run for the benefit of the Specialized Children's Hospital---yes the one that we support with gifts at Christmas time. I arrived about 10am and got my Poker Sheet as well as a couple of donuts and coffee. I drew a really bad 3 of Clubs on the first draw. After running 12 miles south to another American Legion post I again drew a poor card. My luck didn't change at the Cream Ridge pit stop or Farmingdale (Woody's) or at the last stop Post 129. So I didn't win the grand prize but the 100 mile ride was fun.

Back at Post 129 there was a band playing 60' and 70's songs, plenty of food and drink and several motorcycle vendors. Besides hamburgs and BBQ chicken, the main dish was pork... two large pigs roasted all morning until 3pm when

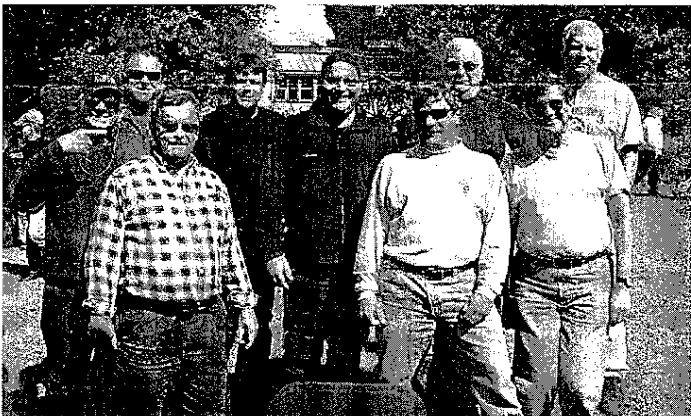
they were finally off-loaded from the spit and cut up.



I don't know the official count but there had to be at least 300 Harleys and 2 BMWs thanks to Harry and me.

The Good Ride (Brit Bike Show – September 18th)

Rev'n Mike



For some reason motoring out to Baptistville to attend the Triumph gathering made me realize how lucky we are. The weather was perfect, the roads better than most, traffic non-existent and the fellowship, as always, was great. As the world turns and moves in and out of financial chaos, politicians may practice their lies, natural disasters may threaten, and the news might sound medieval...we still have the good road and our bikes that allow us to escape into our boyhood past touching the spokes of inspiration... Robert Fulton, Steve McQueen, Robert Pirsig and Helge Petersen.

The road may diverge from time to time as we, following brother Grant came to experience... yet we lucky few, took the road less traveled and on our motorcycles...it made all the difference.

Black Diamond Rally September 16th-18th

Harry Costello

Friday Sept 16:

Left 09:30 after the morning rush. Rt. 539 to Rt. 524 to the Rt. 295. Loop to Rt. 31 to Rt. 46/80 breakfast at the Crossroads Diner where Rt.519 crossed Rt.46 then through the Gap to Pa. Rt. 402 North then a little Rt.6 West and then Rt.191 North to rally. Not a complicated route but direct and over some pretty nice roads. The ride took about four hours of leisurely riding.

I spent the afternoon catching up with some of the New England guys that I haven't seen all season. Supper was pizza and wings and a few different kinds of cookies. I should add that coffee was ALWAYS available as was a large variety of fresh fruit.

At dusk the bonfire was lit off and most of the people gathered to enjoy the warmth, both that provided by the physical fire and the other kind of warmth provided by old (and new) friends that were gathered there. I should add that the bonfires both nights were tended to and the wood provided by people that worked for the camp. The club (Black Diamond) provided a keg of beer (included in rally cost) at the bonfire site and if you forgot your cup/glass that was there for you too.

Saturday Sept 17:

Morning found the camp covered by a fog that lifted quickly. Continental breakfast at 06:30 followed by regular breakfast at 07:30, standard fair, scrambled eggs, home fries and bacon.

I rode over to the Woodstock festival site a short distance across the Delaware in New York to check out the Woodstock Museum in the Bethel Center for the performing arts. The place sure has changed in the almost five decades since this young guy recently out of the Army jumped on his new BSA and headed to New York to see what all the commotion was about. The Museum holds a lot of special memories

for someone that was at Woodstock and likely the same for people that grew up in the sixties, and in my opinion it's a must see place. For younger people – well they most likely wouldn't 'get it'.

Back to camp for an excellent BBQ and an afternoon of rally gossip and checking out the vendors. The high point of the afternoon was a wedding of two of the Black Diamond members (that would be a traditional him and her type wedding) followed by a Champaign toast and reception. After the reception (IE: rally dinner) was a wedding cake to share and the traditional rally awards, door prizes and well done to the people that put the rally on.

At dusk the bonfire was lit off, the keg was tapped, and the live entertainment kicked off an evening around the bonfire.

Sunday Sept 18:

Slept well again, but the morning was cold. Packed my stuff and rode the bike to the lodge to wait for breakfast. Same breakfast as yesterday then some goodbyes and out the gate to head home. A few miles down the road I checked the temperature on the bikes computer, it was 37 degrees, before I felt a little chilly but now I knew I was really cold – thank you BMW. On the way home riding East on Rt 524 I pass a bunch of BMWs moving in the opposite direction out of Allentown on Rt.524, and wondered if it was someone I knew. *(It was the club ride to the Brit Bike show.. ed..)*

Well that's it for the Black Diamond rally. I really don't understand why more riders from New Jersey don't go to this rally. Two dinners, two full breakfasts, a BBQ, 24 hour coffee and snacks (both healthy and not so healthy), free beer at the bonfire, live entertainment and well kept cabins to stay in.

Colors in the Catskills 2011

Dave Rosen

For those of you who still don't believe that the Catskill Mountains offer the best motorcycle riding in the Northeast, I urge you to put next year's Colors in the Catskills on your calendar and give it a shot. Not that you need a "rally" to get out there and ride those roads, but it does offer a great landing pad throughout the day. Somehow this year's event managed to miss my radar early...although I did pick up on it a few days before. Unfortunately, I was only able to

make the first day of the event, which I happily did.

Alex and I met in Sparta, NJ on Friday nice and early to make our leisurely way to Hunter. We wandered north through Stokes and High Point towards Port Jervis. We rode through Wurtsboro and Ellenville, passed the Rondout reservoir on the way to the west side of the Ashokan in Catskill Park. With the many road closures along the way, we started to think that Hunter may or may not wind up being one of our stops for the day. Have you ever come to a fork in the road where both options have a dead end sign?



One of them had a small amendment that read "GPS is wrong. Go back" We figured it was quite a few miles back anyway, so we were going to trust the GPS and move forward.

The tarmac eventually turned to stone, which turned to dirt, which turned to boulders the size of soccer balls in the midst of flowing water. It was only a matter of time before our K bikes wouldn't go any more, mostly because Alex's K1200's belly couldn't clear the rocks, but neither of us were going to get over the fallen trees ahead. You can't possibly comprehend the extent of damage that Irene reeked on upstate NY until you see it firsthand. Full houses reduced to rubble, some rested whole at a 40 degree angle on hillsides that weren't steep enough for the home to make it into the waterways. We came across roads that literally fell into the river (see photo).



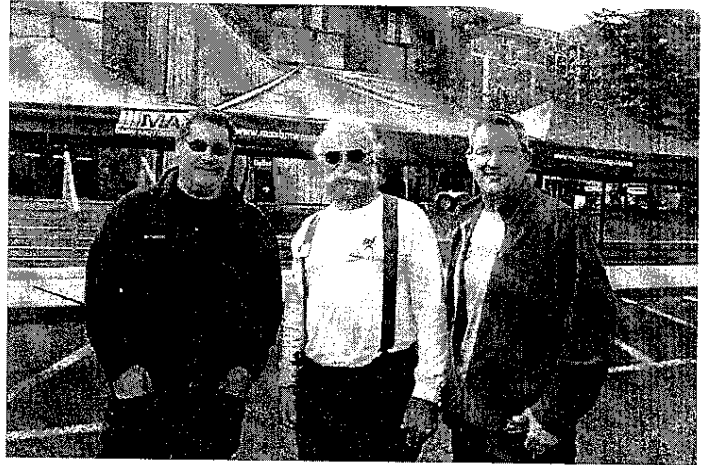
Look closely, that is not the water level that reached the asphalt, there is a 30 foot drop to the water line. This was one of many "detours" we encountered throughout our 400+ mile day.

We proceeded through Phoenicia, which was recently flooded out even before Irene came through, and devastated once again. We rode past John Ryan and company on their way to Hunter as well. We finally arrived at Hunter Mountain to find Mike Friedle welcoming all of the riders and MAX BMW in the midst of their set-up.

***Just a quick side note: Ben and Max Stratton of MAX BMW are the epitome of what you expect from a BMW dealer. Their participation in the BMW community goes so far beyond the shop itself. Offering free courses on GS style riding, and hands on training up the mountainside for those inexperienced off-road riders is just one example. These guys and their team go way above and beyond what you would ever imagine from ANY dealer in the industry. Another small example from this weekend - the MAX BMW team tore apart a demo bike in order to furnish parts for a distressed rally attendee. Will other dealers learn from them, eventually? We sure hope so.*

So after our little pow-wow with Mike F. at the rally site, we stopped in Tannersville for some lunch. Alex somehow managed to have the waitress pay for his food, all because of the live capture of a fly inside that was bothering her. She couldn't believe that he actually did catch it, and I can promise you it didn't take him long at all to do so. Great late lunch and we refueled, on our way towards home. Route after

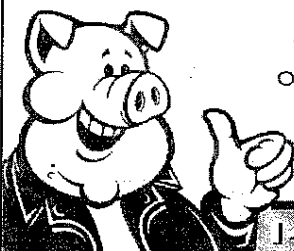
route that we had planned on taking us south was closed for one reason or another. No bridge left, road missing, water level above the tarmac...when would it end.



At this point we had exhausted over an hour and 50 miles trying to get south without taking the slab, and we were still only a few miles from Hunter. We finally made the decision to head back north and west, past Hunter and try to swing back under the reservoir. That worked well for us and we were soon enjoying all of the new roads we had discovered. Alex was heading directly south at this point towards Belvidere, so when we came across 44/55 on our way down, I couldn't resist. Alex went straight, I banged a left and giggled the whole way to Gardiner. One of my favorite runs for sure!

I meandered back to NYC from there, only to be surprised by no traffic at the bridge. All in all it was another fantastic riding day. It's kind of funny how all of the road closures, detours, dead ends and circles that we rode in throughout the day (about 9 total), allowed us to find even more great roads that we haven't ridden before. I can't wait to make it back up to the Catskills before all of the leaves cover the roads, and I hope you do the same!

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MEETING: October 12th – Meeting at Schneider's

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