

January 2012

# NEW JERSEY SHORE

## BMW RIDERS Inc

Kent Seydell, President, [president@njsbmwr.org](mailto:president@njsbmwr.org)

Mike Lamberti, Vice President

Jim McFadden, Treasurer

Dennis Swanson, Trustee and Instructor General

Don Eilenberger, Trustee and Newsletter Editor

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Roger Trendowski, Trustee

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An optimist stays up to see the New Year in. A pessimist waits to make sure the old one leaves. *Bill Vaughan*

Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average. Which means you've met your New Year's resolution. *Jay Leno (1950 - )*

Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing ever happened. *Sir Winston Churchill*

The advantage of a bad memory is that one enjoys several times the same good things for the first time. *Friedrich Nietzsche*

I want to stay as close to the edge as I can without going over. Out on the edge you see all kinds of things you can't see from the center. *Kurt Vonnegut*

## President's Message

What a great way to start a new year. Sunday 1-1-2012 was a day meant to be spent riding on great back roads with your fellow club members, You don't waste a day like this and spend it well we did.

First the ride up to the Chilly-Chili Run led by Roger Trendowski. Then on up Hwy 23 to High Point State Park and the Monument which is normally reachable only on snow shoes this time of the year. Our ride up to the highest point in New Jersey may have saved me a trip down to the Great Smokey Mountains. It was that surreal with a light purple haze over the hills and mountains, You could almost see forever, It was



that good. Then back down 23.

Most of the group opted to head back toward home at that point but Roger T, Jim McF and myself stopped to try out the dinner at Colesville, Worth a stop again. Roger T and I reacquainted ourselves with Rt 519 down to Stewartville then played around on some great narrow-twisty back-roads between Bloomsbury and Pattenburg before slabbing it home on I78, I287 and the GSP. Hope the rest of the year is this good.

Other things to do this month is the monthly meeting at Schneider's Wednesday January 11th and our annual Planning meeting Wednesday January 18th which will also be held at Schneider's. **PLEASE** attend the planning meeting! It's the most important meeting of the year - the schedule we setup at this meeting is the framework we build the years club activities on. Don't forget the New York Motorcycle Show at Javits January 20-22 and of course the Polar Bear Rides.

Thanks to all the core club members that make and keep this club great and to all our active members that support them by helping where needed and showing up to make it all a good group experience.

Kenton Seydell

## John Ryan Event at the Morris Museum, December 1st

*with permission from Frank L. "Cranky Frankie" Palmeri*

I had a GREAT time at the John Ryan event in NJ last night:  
<http://www.morrismuseum.org/exhibitions/OntheRoad.htm>



After work I drove from Albany, NY about 150 miles south. I got there early so I had dinner in an Irish pub, then hit the museum. Like any museum motorcycle display it was mostly HDs and Indians. Got a seat right in the front row which was good because by the time it started it was standing room only.

John is a big man, in fact one of his real jobs is as a bouncer in a NYC bar. That led to a story about him riding home from NYC to NJ during a snow storm. The ride normally takes 45 minutes, but this one took 7 hours. My friends, John Ryan is the real deal when it comes to motorcycling. He doesn't own a car and rides his bikes, year round, as his daily transportation. Fantastic.

Of course he talked about his record setting Prudhoe Bay, Alaska to Key West, Florida ride. His description of the way the chiseled stones on the road just chew up your tires up there made me realize that, just because lots of folks ride to Alaska, doesn't mean it's easy.

The advantage John has as an LD rider is that he only normally sleeps about 2 hours in 24 - that is all his body needs. I know other guys like that, and boy am I jealous. Think how much you could get done with an extra 6 hours each day.

John of course rode to the meeting, and showed off

all his gear. He was wearing a custom fit Roadcrafter, and every pocket had a useful purpose, including one for his insulin - that's right, John rides 50K-75K/year and he's a Type I diabetic. Amazing.

He is a humble man, not a braggart at all, despite all his riding accomplishments. He answered everyone's many questions with grace, and some of them were "out there," to say the least. I could go on but you get the drift - John Ryan is a rider's rider and a great ambassador for the sport of long distance motorcycle riding. He made sure to emphasize that speeding has no real place in an on the clock ride, and described his strategy of going a little faster than whatever cars are around since they are our biggest danger as motorcyclists. I couldn't agree more.

When I left the museum to get to my nice, warm mini-van for the ride home, I stopped to look at John's FJR. It was sitting under a street lamp in the museum parking lot, a shining blue sentinel in the cold, dark New Jersey night. John had those big Vetter Hippo Hands on the bars. Those, combined with his 'stitch and heated gear, let him ride even in below 0 temperatures. As I stared my van I must say I felt like a wimp - damn it, I should have ridden there myself!

A great guy, a great event.  
PS. John has a K75 with 260K miles on it!

--

Frank L. "Cranky Frankie" Palmeri (originally posted on the IBMWR mailing list..)

## Holiday Party – December 10<sup>th</sup>

*Don E*

Once again – like pulling a rabbit out of a hat – our annual holiday party went off without a hitch! The venue again was Rods Old Irish Tavern in Sea Girt, the menu was great, and drinks and conviviality were flowing.

Thanks to Dennis Swanson for making this happen (although he'll try to convince you of how easy it is to do.. perhaps in the hopes that someone else takes the opportunity to run one.)

Mike Kowal was in charge of special awards – solid GOLD trophies. One notable one was “**The Man Who Wasn't There**” awarded to Bill Brown, who at the last moment couldn't show up.

Roger Trendowski awarded the annual club mileage awards – which I carefully kept a copy of and now can't find.

38 people attended the party, and a good time was had by all – no complaints were heard!

Thanks again to Dennis Swanson for putting it all together!

## Annual Toy Run – December 11<sup>th</sup>

*Don E*

Given the amazing weather we've been having so far this winter – we had a great turnout for the annual Children's Hospital toy-run on the morning after our Holiday Party.



We started gathering at the Tom's River MV Inspection Station at about 10AM – finding Jim Thomasey (toy-run organizer again this year) waiting for us with coffee and donuts. For a change over the past few years it wasn't raining, snowing or any other unpleasant weather – it was in the high 40's and sunny!



About 30 bikes and riders from the three NJ clubs who participate gathered eventually, and we all left

as a group for the hospital.



There we were greeted by Lauren who has coordinated the event for us for many years. We were trying to figure out exactly how many years we've been doing the toy-run, and as best we could figure out, it's more than 10 and less than 20 years. I'm going to dig into old issues of the newsletter and see if I can track down the first year.



The table of toys quickly became a tower of toys – and Lauren then invited us to one of the physical therapy sessions the kids were attending. Many of us went to the gym where we found about 15 kids waiting to greet us. The children were asked if they'd like to go out to see the motorcycles – and the result was unanimous – so off to the parking lot.



The children were delighted to see the bikes, and especially excited when Grant fired off his GS – with aftermarket exhaust.



It was too soon time to go – so we took leave of the hospital, and a number of us retired to Charlie Browns on Rt 70 for a late lunch. It was a fitting end to a great event. Thanks once again to Jim Thomasey for organizing this event!

## CHILLY CHILI Motorcycle Run 1/1/2012

For Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice  
*Roger Trendowski*

The final count was not finalized before we left the Ogdensburg Fire House, but early estimates were 900 – 1000 attendees, a record for this event in support of the Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice.

[http://www.karenannquinlanhospice.org/outside-charitable-events/#Chilly-Chili\\_Motorcycle\\_Run](http://www.karenannquinlanhospice.org/outside-charitable-events/#Chilly-Chili_Motorcycle_Run)

In past years with snow and rain there have been 300 + bikes and a couple of hundred more rally goers arriving by car. This year's weather was excellent, in the mid 50s, sun was out, and roads clear. Club president Kenton Seydell and Ken Houle joined Bill Clark, Rick McEvelly and myself at GSP Cheesequake rest area. My neighbor Paul C. riding a Harley also rode with us.

Our 75 mile ride to the event took us up the GSP to I78 west, then Rt. 24 West to Morristown, north on I287, west on I80 to Dover, then North toward Sparta on Rt 15. From there, only 10 miles Northeast on Rt517 to the Ogdensburg Fire Station. Traffic was very light all the way. It

was definitely cooler the further north we went. However even at 9am, it was not cold enough to turn on my heated gloves/jacket. In fact by afternoon I had to take off my Gerbings gloves and jacket because it was too warm.



The Fire House parking lot was more than 50% full when we arrived. We parked on the outer perimeter since we didn't intend to take the 45 minute rally ride with most of the bikers. Jimmy McFadden arrived shortly after we did. Don Gordon and Dave Cushing from Skylands & Polar Bear clubs were parked the same side of the lot and with our group attempted to navigate a walking path through the wall-to-wall bikes to the building where picked-over donuts and cool coffee abounded. The food was donated so that all of the \$20 donation went to support the hospice.

A couple of us also bought Harley Road King raffle tickets with little hope to win such as grand prize. (I could really buy some neat Farkles with quick sale Harley cash.) We decided to leave before the rally riders returned. I expect the waiting line for the chilli and dogs would be too long anyway. Kenton led us to Rt. 23 and north to High Point Monument, deriving its name from the obvious.

After stretching legs, we traveled a few miles south on Rt 23 and ate at Elias Cole restaurant (rustic looking, which means "old"). Bill, Rick and Paul decided to continue home without lunch while Kenton, Jimmy

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and I ate a very tasty Quiche-like egg/sausage/cheese baked dish.



A short distance from the diner we took Rt 519 south almost all the way to Philipsburg. Somewhere down 519, Jimmy peeled off toward Bayonne. (Later Sunday evening while talking to Bill, he said they also took 519 but only as far as Rt 46... then hopped on I80).

Kenton and I stuck to this incredible mostly rural twisty road and then ended up on Rt 579 in the town of Bloomsbury near the I78 TA Truck Stop.

After stretching legs for a bit on the old bridge in downtown Bloomsbury, I showed Kenton some back roads and twisties a little further south off of 579 (side road is called Sweet Hollow Road). We then ran northeast toward Pattenburg, hit I78 and home. The day was 227 miles 8 hours.

## **New Year's Day Ride, Jan.1, 2012**

*RDS*

Roger's ride to the Chilly-Chili was too early for me so I opted for Don's offer of a later ride to somewhere or other. it would turn out to be the flea market at Lambertville, Mom's kitchen at Ringoes and a leisurely ride home. The temp reached 54.5 degrees at it's highest which is quite nice for January.

Surprisingly, the flea market was open and though not as crowded as usual and with fewer vendors it was interesting. They always have unusual junk there and some of it can be quite pricey. I looked at this bronze lion which I thought would make a good doorstop. I was prepared to spend Up to \$20. I asked the price only to find it a 'steal' at \$2500. I passed on it.

I had passed Mom's "Where the food is always

good" before and wondered. It turned out to be good and also relatively inexpensive.

Last year it was very different. On Jan. 1 the snow was piled high. It warmed a bit and turned foggy. My wife and I jumped in the car and headed for Texas and didn't return till the end of the month. On the return we raced ahead of another snow storm. Last winter there wasn't much riding. Perhaps we paid our dues and this year will be different.

Certainly, we have a different start.

## **Message from our VP:**

*Mike Lamberti*

Happy New Year everyone! As the new VP of the legendary Shore Riders Club, I just wanted to say thanks to everyone who voted for me. My role in the club is first and foremost to support our new President. Additionally, I plan to promote the club and foster good will amongst each member and most of all ride responsibly and be a role model to younger people who are interested in motorcycling. With that in mind I hope that 2012 will be the year when we all ride as a club more often.

I hope we can all make an effort to ride down to Missouri together as a club and bring back some wonderful experiences that we can share with others. For our non-riding members I hope that each of you will be able to make meaningful contributions to the club as you have in the past. As a final thought, let's all try to make as many meetings as possible as we need the collective energy of like-minded motorcycle nuts to make sure we keep our beloved sport alive and well... *Semper Fi, Rev'n Mike!*

## **NY Moto Show Jan 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>**

I'll bring a few discount coupons to the meeting next Weds. I intend to go Friday via train with Harold Gantz. We park at the Long Branch lot (since more trains stop there) – and leave just after rush hour. If anyone wants to join us – PING me.. we will do lunch at an Irish pub we found last year (on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave IIRC..) *Don*

*Discount tickets can be purchased on line at:*  
[www.motorcycleshows.com](http://www.motorcycleshows.com)

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**MEETING – Weds January 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Schneider's, Main St. Avon-by-the-Sea**  
**Special: Planning Meeting, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 6PM - Schneider's**

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