

October 2019

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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BMW Motorcycle Club
New Jersey Shore



CO-President's Message #1

Roger-T, co-prez

Well it that time again... time for the newsletter co-prez message but one of the responsible co-presidents is away in China. So here I go.

I know we-all have been riding a lot this summer. Occasionally, kinks occur. What happens when your GPS or cell phone cannot connect for directions? It sometimes happens if you're in the mountains, in a tunnel, under trees or in a canyon. Your device just sits there, frozen on its last reading. As BMW riders know, all you have to do is follow road signs or follow the sun. It's slower and doesn't give you the immediate female voice feedback like a GPS. But following road signs is sometimes difficult. Without on-line query it is hard to figure out what this sign means. This sign, located south of Syracuse NY in the Onondaga Nation territory, means "this way to the Games."

No one knows the future weather forecast, but as BWM riders, we don't really care do we? The first max-member event is the October 6th 3-club Rumble (no rain date). As an annual challenge, we will go head-to-head with New Sweden Riders and Sky-

Refusal to believe until proof is given is a rational position; denial of all outside of our own limited experience is absurd. *Annie Besant*

The final end of government is not to exert restraint but to do good. ~ *Rufus Choate*

THE OCTOBER COUNTRY ... that country where it is always turning late in the year. That country where the hills are fog and the rivers are mist; where noons go quickly, dusks and twilights linger, and midnights stay.

That country composed in the main of cellars, sub-cellars, coalbins, closets, attics, and pantries faced away from the sun.

That country whose people are autumn people, thinking only autumn thoughts. Whose people passing at night on the empty walks sound like rain... ~ *Ray Bradbury*

Between two evils, I always pick the one I never tried before. ~ *Mae West*

Before you do anything, think. If you do something to try and impress someone, to be loved, accepted or even to get someone's attention, stop and think. So many people are busy trying to create an image, they die in the process. ~ *Salma Hayek*

Given the choice between two theories, take the one which is funnier. ~ *"Blore's Razor" (Author unknown)*

Everyone seems to be playing well within the boundaries of his usual rule set. I have yet to hear anyone say something that seemed likely to mitigate the idiocy of this age. ~ *John Perry Barlow (born 3 October 1947)*

Once a country is habituated to liars, it takes generations to bring the truth back. ~ *Gore Vidal* ~

lands Riders. The Skylands folks will treat us with great food and camaraderie (lies too.). As with a real rumble, the club with the most members usually WINS. (depends on who is counting) The closest we every got to a "rumble" was years ago when we competed in a water balloon toss.

Our second major event in October is the 13th Club Picnic. Held at Ed Gerber's home, club members and guests will enjoy each other's company (and the food) for a quite afternoon. Please RSVP with Mike K and bring a dish to pass. There is no rain date for this event. Coming by car is acceptable especially if you bring stuff.

See you-all at our club's events.

CO-President's Message #2

Bill Dudley, co-prez

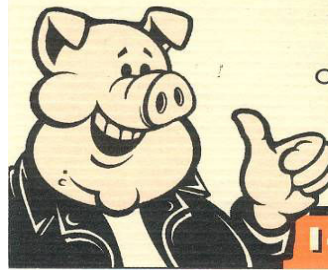
For a change of pace, rather than rattling on about upcoming events (see the calendar, folks: 3 Club Rumble, Club Picnic, Club Meeting, Moribundi Lunch), I thought I'd offer some "tips" on riding across the country. Don and Roger and a few other guys (all retired) have done this, but the majority of you haven't. I hope this will "push you over the edge" and get to consider doing this trip. Of course, you'll need to blow your entire two weeks vacation in one go, or else retire, so there's that limitation.

Zhao and I have agreed on a daily maximum miles/hours in the saddle. We currently have it set to 250 miles a day (on the East Coast; out west, increase that to 275 or 300 because there's no congestion and few stop lights), or about 5 hours of riding. This accommodates our personal infirmities, the comfort afforded by my vintage motorcycles, and weather (usually heat) related limits.

We stay in motels; camp if you like, but especially when riding in extreme high temps (100F and up), being able to stop riding right after lunch and retire to an air-conditioned room is essential if you don't want to get serious heat stroke.

We usually stay in Super 8 motels, or the closest equivalent (Days Inn, EconoLodge, Motel 6). I recommend joining the hotel chain rewards "club", so you earn a free night stay every now and then.

SERVING THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY SINCE 1977



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Make sure you (and your partner, if you travel with one) are comfortable; either buy a custom seat (Russell, Corbin, etc.) or an aftermarket pad. We use (two) Airhawks, which are chambered air cushions. This makes a week or two of riding possible. With the stock seat, I'm only good for a day or two at most.

Take frequent breaks, or at least, don't drive yourself like you've got a deadline. We'll ride one to two hours at a clip, and then stop for gas, or lunch, or just a snack break. When you stop, get off the bike and walk around a bit to get "things" moving again.

Take a real lunch break. We always find a "real" sit down restaurant, and order food from the menu, and take our time with lunch. A one hour lunch break really refreshes us for the afternoon ride.

Be especially aware of high temperatures. If it's near or above body temperature, you can get serious heat stroke if you aren't careful. There are lots of places on the internet where you can read about riding in high temps, so I won't get into it, except to recommend two things: 1) buy an evaporative cooling vest (\$40 to \$50 at Cycle Gear), and 2) stop riding in the early afternoon, or even in the late morning, so as to avoid riding in 100F+. If you want to ride big miles, start at the crack of dawn.

If you're traveling with somebody who isn't really that "into" riding for riding's sake (like my wife, Zhao), then try to schedule something "interesting" each day, like a museum or park or natural wonder. We've seen some really interesting things that I would never have stopped at were it not for Zhao, so I don't regret a second of it.

Final tip. I use furkot.com to plot the trip. Furkot will allow you to specify maximum mileage/hours

per day, and then drop in tentative hotel stops each day. You can then use Furkot to search for hotels in your price range around each tentative stop. Furkot is free and works wonderfully well.

If you've always dreamt of riding across the country -- do it! Take the vacation time, and do it now, for "tomorrow is not promised".

Editor's Additions:

Don

Bill gives great tips on long-distance touring. I'll just add a few things I've found that work for me. They might work for you.

> Don't be afraid to go solo.

There is some reassurance when traveling distances to having a companion along, either on the bike or on their own bike, and it's nice to be able to stop and say "Hey did you see..." but – many of my most enjoyable long rides have been done solo.

Why solo you might ask? Several reasons:

- You can be whoever you want to be, you aren't locked into your own persona by having someone who expects you to behave a certain way with you.
- You travel on your schedule. As people who have ridden with me know – the crack of dawn and I have rarely ever met. I stay up late and sleep until around 8AM when traveling. By the time I've finished breakfast – the commuter traffic is gone and roads are usually clear. I like that.
- You can stop wherever you want. Big one here.. I tend to stop for the biggest ball of twine, or the geographic center of the contiguous 48 United States. Riding with others mean they have to put up with my stops – and I've experienced people who weren't happy with my somewhat erratic ride planning (which is basically none, it's mostly head "west" or something like that.)
- You get to talk to people. People will walk over to talk to a solo rider. They usually won't if there are 2 or more people riding together. A solo rider is non-threatening, and doesn't appear as a "self-contained group" as a plurality of riders does. I've had really interesting discussion with people on my rides, and often get some local knowledge that can be valuable.

> General long-distance tips:

- Comfort: Take both a heated vest and an evaporative vest. There have been days when I needed both within the space of 20 miles.
- If you're in hot country – charge (soak) and chill your evaporative vest by putting it in a sealed plastic bag with some water and stuffing it into the motel refrigerator. Also put a few bottles of water into the freezer – they're great in the middle of the Mohave desert.
- Use the motel chain rewards: I've found the "Choice" hotel chain to have the best freebe deals. They have a 2:1 policy, 2 nights reserved via their website will get you a 3rd night free. They have a wide range of motels to choose from, from bargain-basement accommodations to their "Ascend" line (trying to be fancy hotels..) Good value for the money, and there are always waffles available.
- Eat bananas with breakfast. Keep your potassium levels up to avoid midnight leg cramps. Keep yourself hydrated for the same reason. Choice hotels almost always have bananas with breakfast. Take one for the road too...
- Planning: I always plan on stopping around 4PM and deciding where I'm going to stay, and make my reservation. By 4PM I know I'm only good for another hour of riding, so I look ahead on Google maps to see what is an hours travel from where I am. I'll then check with the hotel websites and make a reservation. Good motel choices are ones where you can walk to the restaurant on the edge of the property.
- Don't drive yourself. It's important to remember – no one is paying you to take the ride. There is no boss pushing you on when you know you should stop. Take your time, enjoy it.. time is really all we have of any real value. Use it wisely.
- Put a few extra days in your timeline. Suppose there are tornadoes ahead? (Happened to me in Kansas) or you find a place you simply want to stay overnight an extra day. Leave a few flexible days in your general planning – you'll find them very useful.

And as Bill wisely opined – Do it NOW. Tomorrow isn't promised to anyone.

Schedule of Events – 2019

Please send additions and corrections to the editor!

NOTE: Various repeating events, such as the weekly breakfast will be announced via our Email list. One can assume the weekly breakfast takes place every Saturday AM when we're in town, usually around 9:45AM. Watch your email for announcements of where!

- **October 6** 3-Club Rumble location to be announced! Round Valley Reservoir Picnic Area, see article this issue.
- **October 9** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, location Our House Restaurant, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale
- **October 13th** – Club picnic, Ed Gerber's, 1PM-??

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- **November 6** Moribundi lunch at 12:30PM, location TBD
 - **November 13** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, location Our House Restaurant, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale

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- **December 4** Moribundi lunch at 12:30PM, location TBD
 - **December 11** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, location Our House Restaurant, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale
 - **December 7th** – Club Holiday Party, Rod's Old Irish Pub, Sea Girt. See info in this issue!
 - **December 8th** – Club Toy Run, Children's Hospital, Toms River.

The calendar is also available here, with more detail: www.njsbmwr.org/calendar.cgi

Moribundi lunch locations are announced via email, and are at 12:30PM, the first Wednesday of every month.

Annual Club Picnic – October 13th

Our annual Club picnic is scheduled for Sunday October 13th. Ed Gerber will host the event at his home.

- **Date:** Sunday October 13, 2019
- **Where:** 110 Bridlemere Ave, Interlaken, NJ 07712, ample on street parking.
- **When:** 1pm to 5?

1) Send in your money and attendance form to Mike Kowal **before Oct 7**. Check to be written to NJS-BMWR. You can also give him the form and money at a club meeting or elsewhere. Use the form in this newsletter. Cost: \$10 per person which will be refunded to you when you show up making the picnic FREE!.

2) Bring a "dish to share" (think pot-luck, desert, appetizer, etc.) and your own special beverage if desired.

3) Be prepared to volunteer to help; setup, cleanup, etc. Talk to Mike.

This is a chance for your significant other to enjoy the company of the clubs members!

The club-provided picnic food will include: hotdogs, hamburgers, condiments, soda, water. Please make sure you give Mike your attendance form and money so we will have an accurate count (when we go to purchase the food).

Three Club Rumble – October 6th

This is where three of the NJ BMW Clubs get together to "RUMBLE." Actually it is more to claim bragging rights for which club attends with the most members. (It's a picnic between clubs.)

The event will be hosted by the Skylands BMW Riders club this year, somewhere in their territory (north & west NJ). They will provide food, drinks and enough of their members (and spouses) to overshadow the attendance by our Club and New Sweden's.

LOCATION: Spruce Run Recreation Area, at the Group Picnic Area

TIME: 11AM-2PM

DATE: October 6th (rain or shine, they usually hold it under a covered picnic shelter)

Spruce Run is located just north of Clinton, NJ off of I-78.

Google Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/RLFkrQ2qr-FJGCv3d9>

Access from Van Syckles Road, which in turn can be reached on Route 31 North or Charlestown Road. A detailed map will be posted again in our NJSBMWR group email to show the route to the Group Picnic Area

GROUP RIDE: Roger T will lead a group ride leaving at 10am from the GSP Cheese Quake Rest Stop at milepost 123 . We will meet just above the gas station in the parking lot: kick-stands up at 10am.

Anyone else who wants to lead a group to the picnic site, please communicate details on an NJSBMWWR email. We will all try to arrive at their site at 11am.

Make sure you reserve the date. We need lots of members with good appetites of course. WE WILL SHOW THEM ! (and conquer New Sweden and Skylands clubs).

Oktoberfest – Crystal Brook Resort Sept 20-22nd

Dorothy Gulla

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20:

After a fun-filled few days in West Dover, Vermont with the "Westchester Beemers" ~~ I mounted my BMW S1000 XR for the picturesque journey to Round Top, New York. It was a gorgeous Fall day, and the scenery was spectacular. Upon arriving at the Crystal Brook Resort, I was greeted by Wendy and assigned my room with a big hug! I changed out of my motorcycle riding gear, unpacked a few items and took a leisurely walk around the area.



We gathered for dinner at 6:30 pm - with plenty to eat. Throughout the meal, we got to know each other and exchanged stories, laughs and jokes (thanks, Matt!!). After dinner, some of us strolled over to the Austrian Bar/ Restaurant for drinks and dancing. A few of us enjoyed French wine in the lobby area. A wonderful evening was had by all!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21:

We met for breakfast between 8:00 & 9:00 am and exchanged thoughts on our plans for the day. Some of us rode; others relaxed and/or



walked around the beautiful area. Once again, dinner was at 6:30 pm. Another delicious meal was enjoyed over more stories, laughs and jokes (Matt was a riot!).



Country dancing was on the schedule at the Austrian Bar/Restaurant for some of our "Gang." Others chilled out over good conversation in the lobby. Another superb evening!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22:

A few members left early; the rest of us had a sumptuous breakfast while engaging in good chatter....and, of course, more jokes! At approximately, 9:00 am ~~ I exchanged hugs and kisses with my new friends, mounted my "toy" and began my journey to Salem, Massachusetts. A great weekend was enjoyed by the NJ Shore BMW Riders!

More Oktoberfest

Matt Scamardella

Photos from Oktoberfest at Crystal Brook Ed Gerber, Matt Scamardella and Kathleen ,Richard Candrilli, Dorothy Guila and another member that I cannot spell his name.

We also met some wonderful folks from Canada. One of the fellows from Canada 79 years old has traveled over 880,000 kilometers on his bikes (listening Roger?)

We had excellent weather but warm. Some of the members went to Rhinebeck NY for bike show I went to Hunter Mt then to various towns nearby.

Food and hospitality were great., Bauhaus before and after dinner great place for music and cocktails



Matt at Hunter Mountain

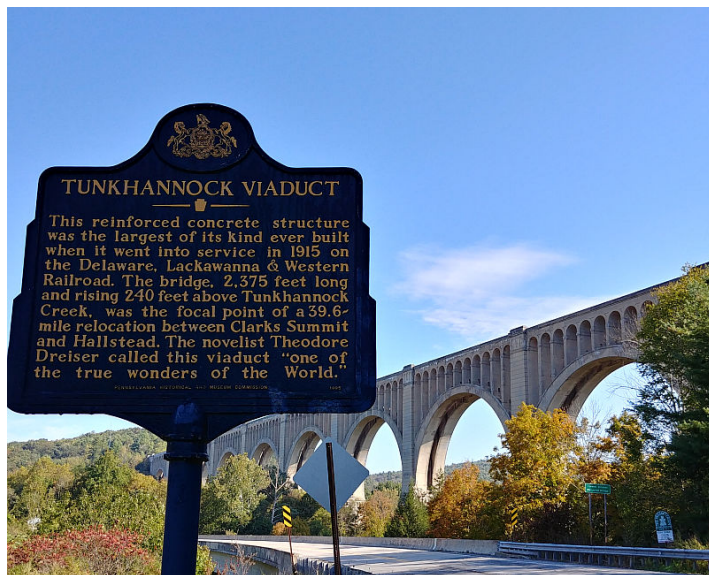
A Random Ride

Jonathan Blair

Last Saturday, my work was canceled. So why not ride out to a cool sight?

The Tunkhannock Viaduct is located in Nicholson, PA. Construction was finished in 1915. The bridge is 2375 feet long, 34 feet wide, and 300 feet high at its tallest. At the time it was constructed, it was the largest concrete structure in the world.

In order to make it out there quickly, I made



haste on the GSP, 287, 78, PA-33, 80, 380, and 81 north of Scranton. My GPS then took me onto PA 107. After turning onto Farnham Rd, I hit a detour which took me on miles of interesting dirt roads. After returning to Farnham Rd, I made my way to Hwy 92 and US 11. There is a nice overlook where you can view the viaduct. It's quite huge and a sight to behold.



The way back home was where I planned on taking my time and riding some nice roads. For brevity, the route was:

US 11 S
US 81 S
US 6 E through Honesdale
left on Beach Lake Hwy
right on Bethel School Rd
right on Adams Pond Rd to the end
right on Perkins Pond Rd to the end
right on Welcome Lake Rd
left on Masthope Plank Rd. follows the Delaware River. (What an awesome road!)

left on PA 590 where Kelly Rd meets Masthope Plank Rd
 left on Lackawaxen Rd to continue riding along the Delaware River / follow it to the end
 right on PA 434
 left on Knealing Rd
 right on Twin Lakes Rd / follow it until it intersects with US 6
 left on US 6
 right on Sawkill Rd / follow it to the end
 left on CR 2001 / follow it until it turns into Mill St and intersects with W Harford St
 right on W Harford St / follow it straight through town
 left onto US 206 and cross the bridge into NJ



There are myriad wonderful roads in the area. I took some southeast through High Point State Park and southwest through Stokes State Forest, ending up on Walpack Flatbrook Rd (National Park Service Rd 615). Then I turned left onto Old Mine Rd and made another left onto Flatbrook Stillwater Rd. Take this to the end and turn left onto

Skyline Dr. This is a rough gravel road that ultimately dead ends at Crater Lake. There are some really wonderful pull outs to stop and admire the view on the right side of the road along the way.

After visiting Crater Lake, I turned around and made my way home. It was about a 380 mile day. I'm trying to win that mileage competition!

If Mark Twain, Dorothy Parker, and James Thurber had ridden motorcycles, it is possible that between them they might have come up with something just as hilarious, as sharply observed, as humane and self-deprecating as these chronicles. Fortunately we have Bob Higdon and those others can rest in their graves.

-Ted Simon, *Jupiter's Travels*



For more than 30 years Bob Higdon has been an instigator, raconteur, provocateur, and unapologetic contrarian. He is a record-holding long-distance rider, both unabashed promoter and red-eyed critic of BMW Motorrad, award-winning motorcycle-rights advocate, and voice of the Iron Butt Association.

His writing has earned him a unique place among the legends of motorcycle journalism.

The Higdon Chronicles, collated from various sources over the past 30 years, represents his best work. A self-described "recovering attorney," these days he migrates between Maryland and Florida, depending on where the better riding weather is currently found.

If true poetry makes you feel as if the top of your head is taken off, as Emily Dickinson said, then you're about to get it removed at speed. No one can fully capture the meaning of the ride - if it weren't beyond words then we'd have no reason to indulge the madness mile after mile - but no one has made a closer attempt than Bob Higdon. His arrow kisses the bull's-eye. In that yellow zone he comes nearer the heart of the wild adventure that is motorcycling than any writer ever has. Read this book. Or just go out and ride. But I implore you to do both.

-Melissa Holbrook Pierson, *The Perfect Vehicle: What It Is About Motorcycles*



Cover design: Marcella Fox; cover photo: Robert E. Higdon; author photo: Kevin Smith

Book Review: The Higdon Chronicles: Volume One: Iron Butts, Airheads, and My Life Behind Bars

Don E

I know a few club members are big fans of Jack Riepe, I enjoy Jack in moderation. I can usually take a tale or two, then I find the tales seem a bit forced.

Bob Higdon's writing isn't like that. Bob writes about motorcycling. Sometimes that has a focus on some ride he's done, other times it's simply about motorcycling.

What we as motorcyclists do, why we do it, why sometimes we stop doing it.

Bob originally came to my attention with a series of mail based articles to the IBMWR he did on the Iron Butt Rally - nothing written since then (besides Bob's further musings on subsequent

Iron-Butts) puts a reader more inside the event along with the joys and remorse of the riders.

These writings were originally sent to the godfather of all BMW email lists/forums – the Internet BMW Riders mail list. These writings can still be found at: http://www.verrill.com/moto/higdon/ironbutt03/ironbutt03_day1.shtml

This book has some condensed versions of classics that Higdon has written through the years.

Bob was set to take a journey across Russia on the infamous Road of Bones (named that because of the number of slave laborers who died making it, that were often buried within it.) He decided that it would be a good idea if he could fix his motorcycle when traversing regions where dealers are thousands of miles away. So he signed up for BMW/AMI's motorcycle school in Daytona FL, and published a daily email (again to the IBMWR) done on an old Radio Shack keyboard/modem with a one-line display.

These were classic in his examination of what motivates the other students in his class and what they hoped to get out of the classes. A very condensed version is in the book – just enough to whet your appetite for the full story. The full story can be found at: <https://www.ironbutt.org/higdon/higami0.html>

I'm lucky enough to call Bob a friend. We first met in person in 1997 at the infamous RA Rally in Fontana NC. We seemed to get along, so we'd meet at various motorcycle events and catch up, or Bob sometimes calls me with a question on an obscure motorcycle concern. Bob one summer set himself a goal of visiting every county courthouse in the US. He completed it – when I traveled cross-country a few times I made it a point to visit and document as many county courthouses as possible – thinking that "Higdon's been here.."

The book is a good read, especially as an introduction to some of the most intelligent writing on motorcycles today. It can be purchased from Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/dp/1080820248/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_dp_U_87QBDb12PF1JJ

Worth buying. Recommended.

BTW – know how you can ride in a diamond or com-

muter lane? Bob's the reason why. That was one of the last lawyerly things he did. He titles himself "A recovering attorney."

Late Breaking Fodder

Jim Thomasey

The NJSBMW Riders club will again host our yearly Toy Run ride to benefit the Specialized Children's Hospital of Toms River. It will take place December 8, 2019, the day after our Holiday dinner. Save the date for now and there will be more information in next months newsletter.

Summer, 2019, Travels on 2 Wheels - Solo Motorcycling

Dorothy L. Gulla

The fun began on **May 16, 2019!**

I woke up at 5:00 AM, did an hour and 15 minutes of yoga, got myself ready and then loaded my bike for an adventure that would last until June 24, 2019. At 7:50 AM, I left my home in Fort Myers, Florida. My destination was Cape Cod (Brewster, Massachusetts).

After stopping for gas and getting back on the road, I felt some pain on my left side. A shopping center was the perfect place to pull off. I parked the bike, jumped off, quickly unzipped my KLIM jacket, pulled up my tank top.....and a YELLOW JACK flew out! Needless to say, the next few nights and days were a bit uncomfortable.

On **Sunday, May 19** ~~ I was delighted with a temperature of 53 degrees. However, my GPS was not functioning. Luckily, I had packed a spare one – which was a blessing!

As I approached, Rhode Island, the weather turned against me – rain, followed by a cold, nasty wind. At approximately 12:30 pm, I arrived in Brewster, Massachusetts. Total mileage was 1,507.

The Cape is one of my favorite places – plenty of walking on the bike path, connecting with family and friends, red wine and chocolate – Life is Good!

On **Sunday, May 26** – I left Brewster and headed towards New Rochelle, New York to visit my family and deal with work issues.

Monday, May 27: Memorial Day – I spent the day in New York City with my brother, sister-in-las and 2 nieces. We were treated to a delicious breakfast at Rocco's Pastry. I indulged in a piece of awesome crumb cake – my weakness!

We walked around Manhattan – enjoying the gorgeous spring weather, picked up some mouth-watering pizza and headed back to New Rochelle. While in Westchester, I spent some time with friends and even visited Millbrook and Hopkins Wineries.



Monday, June 3 ~~ I left New Rochelle for Lake George – home of the Americade Motorcycle Rally. A bit of a scare overcame me when my engine light came on. After the first gas stop, the light was off.....God is Good! I arrived in Lake George in the early afternoon, registered for Americade and later that evening had dinner with friends from the Westchester Beemers Club. Tuesday through Friday ~~ I took part in guided rides and met some nice people.

Saturday, June 8 ~~ I stopped by the outdoor expo, including the BMW Demo area. Words cannot describe the 2020 S1000RR – just stunning! Later that afternoon, I participated in a Brewery Tour and Dinner – another wonderful day!

Sunday, June 9 ~~ Departure from Lake George...and arrival in Lebanon, Tennessee on Monday, June 10. The next few days were devoted to work and other commitments. My friend, Jacqui (from Naples, Florida) and I headed to the BMW MOA International Rally on **Thursday, June 13**. We registered, took some seminars

and later that afternoon I participated in the Bus Tour/Dinner to a great German restaurant. **Friday, June 14** ~~ Jacqui and I had another great day at the Rally. Later that evening, we connected with friends over dinner at a local restaurant.

Saturday, June 15 ~~ After a few seminars, I spent some time helping Roger for the "Bike Judging" contest.....then off to another few commitments. All In All – a great Rally!

Sunday, June 16 ~ I departed Lebanon for the Mid-Atlantic Women's Motorcycle Rally in Front Royal, Virginia.



After traveling 563 miles, I arrived at the host hotel in the late afternoon. This is, by far, one of the best women's motorcycle rallies. Loads of informative and fun seminars, as well as opportunities to participate in self-guided or guided rides. I connected with wonderful friends and also met

Gloria Struck – the 94 year YOUNG woman motorcyclist. I also had my picture taken with her... and purchased her book. What an inspiring woman – a true legend!

Sunday, June 23 ~~ I left Front Royal and arrived in Fort Myers, Florida on **Monday, June 24**. Total Motorcycle Mileage of this adventure was 5,658.

My bike went in for service on Saturday, June 29. A new battery was also installed. I made it home just in time.....God watched over me!

MORE TRAVELS TO COME: JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 2019

Picnic Registration

Our annual picnic this year will be held on October 13th at Ed Gerber's home in Interlaken. Ed has a nice backyard, right across from Deal Lake, with a patio and deck. This is a member, wives, SO's, children event. Arriving by motorcycle isn't expected.

Since our treasury is unusually flush this year – the club voted to sponsor the picnic by paying for the hot-dogs, hamburgers, rolls, condiments, soda, water, snacks. We are asking that people attending help out bringing appetizers, deserts, side dishes, and if they desire a specific beverage bring that.

To ensure the club isn't spending money and people don't show up for some reason, we do require a \$10/per/person attending deposit in order to register for the picnic. Once you arrive at the picnic that deposit will be refunded to you. If you don't arrive we keep your money to make up for the food we bought for you.

Please fill in the form below and bring it to a meeting, or mail or give it to Mike Kowal (40 Vienna Rd, Howell NJ 07731) If mailing it, include a CHECK made out to NJSBMWR Inc in the amount of \$10/each for the people you're registering.

Member Name _____ Number of Guests _____ @ \$10/each

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Thanks and we're looking forward to seeing everyone!

Finger Lakes Rally Recap Labor Day Weekend

Roger T

The Finger Lakes BMW club celebrated their 45th year of putting on this Rally. Even though they've changed locations a few times, the present Watkins Glen Hidden Valley Campground has been their main location for over 20 years. Watkins Glenn offers numerous hotels/motels while the camp ground offers spacious shaded and open camping areas (and "several club cabins" which are fondly referred to by most folks as "boy scout cabins.") The day-time weather was excellent this year with rain only during one night. However the hurricane that was coming up the coast during Labor Day weekend did scare some people into leaving a day early. I've been a F.L. member for 18 years due to owning a cottage within their club boundaries.

Rich Candrilli and I left on Wednesday morning before the weekend for two good reasons: 1) little traffic exodus from NJ and Staten Island, and 2) Richie offered to help in rally setup on Thursday. We slabbed it out of NJ into PA on I-78 and

then North on PA Rt 33, I-80, I-380, I-81 with our first stop at a little-known candy outlet near Scranton. Gertrude Hawks has a "seconds" store next to their factory/distribution center. You can fill a couple large bags of carbohydrates & calories for \$15. My fellow Finger Lakers love (and expect) these treats. So far on the first day, weather was great.



Roger's bike before the flea market

Next we headed further North on I-81 to Lenox

PA (about 25 miles north of Scranton) to Binghams my favorite PIE restaurant. All pies home-made, fresh and unusual flavors like Rhubarb Strawberry, fresh blackberry, etc. They have breakfast pie, as well as pies for all other meals. I usually select my pie before ordering a meal so I don't get too full before the specialty. I love their WIFI password... TRYTHEPIE. Weather was a bit cloudy when we left but within 15 minutes we were in drenching rain. By now we're heading on secondary roads North & West toward Elmira. The scenery would have been excellent if we could have seen it through the downpour: rolling country two-laners, small towns, barns, cows and road kill for about 50 miles. Eventually we made it to Rt 17 in Waverly NY ... then quick 4 laner to Horse Heads NY and north 15 miles to Watkins Glen. After arriving at the rally site at 3pm and unloading the bikes, we joined the F.L. members for an excellent Italian dinner in town.



Richie and Kevin

About two dozen F.L. members started "Rally Setup" on Thursday morning including Richie and me. I focused on setting up my Club Flea Market tent, tables and registration materials. Richie helped with tables and chairs, but ultimately found his niche. They needed several hands to layout long heavy electric cables for vendors, outside cooking areas and tent lights. When they asked him for assistance connecting the club power panel to the building distribution panel, he was in his glory. (Richie is a retired supervisor from NYC ConEd) The whole gang of volunteers celebrated a successful setup (w/no injuries) Thursday night with BBQ, salads and lots of beverages. Kibitzing around the camp fire in

the evening was a great club tradition. Richie did retire to the Club "boy scout" building the first evening but declined for the rest of the Rally. (A hotel room with shower, within the room, I guess is preferable.)

This year's rally had 467 rally guests for the weekend including day passes. Approximately 50 club members actively volunteered over the three days to make it a success. (The Rally is free for members if they help...and their work is tracked.) At least 4 hours per day are required. Volunteers also receive free dinners, soda/beer, snacks and deluxe bunk bed in the club cabin if they wish. However they don't participate in the raffles. The club flea market which I run, grossed \$5400 total sales of which 43% was clothes, 23% parts, 17% accessories and 17% other. Most of the revenue is return to attendees (sellers) since the club fee is only 10% for items sold.

Attendees love the flea market and bring huge amounts of gear&parts. My great buy was an almost new Nolan helmet for \$70 that I needed to replace a 5-yr old loose-fitting one. A year ago I implemented a "Free Box" where anyone can throw old/low value items if they don't want to take them home. Not to my surprise, BMW guys will take anything for free. I rid myself of an old-old helmet and a 10yr old blue-tooth system (couldn't sell it for last 2 yrs in the flea market.) Even old worn-out boots disappear from the free box.



Roger's bike AFTER the flea-market

On Sunday, Kevin H and Richie C left for NJ because of the impending rain (on Monday)., How-

ever, Monday was a great day so I rode up to Otisco Lake (east-most Finger Lake, south of Syracuse) and spent 3 more days at our cottage. Overall, I put on 695 miles over 7 days.



Richie unloading his bike for night in the club cabin (day 1), The next few nights he and Kevin stayed at a motel in Horse Heads about 15 miles away.



Sidecar rig – and Kevin wandering out of the group..

Monthly Meeting – October 9th

Our House Restaurant

420 Adelpia Road (Rt 524), Farmingdale, NJ

Our House Restaurant : 420 Adelpia Rd., Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727 . Tel # [732.938.5159](tel:732.938.5159)



Eat @ 6PM

Business meeting starts at 7:30PM