### March 2020

# NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

<u>Ed Gerber, President (president@njsbmwr.org)</u> Ben Paraan, Vice President

Joe Karol, Treasurer & Trustee

Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher Dennis Swanson, Trustee and Instructor General Don Eilenberger, Newsletter Editor, Trustee Roger Trendowski, Trustee; Bill Dudley, Trustee; Dave Rosen, Trustee

"Eliminate something superfluous from your life. Break a habit. Do something that makes you feel insecure" –. *Piero Ferrucci* 

"I have learned to use the word 'impossible' with the greatest caution". – Wernher von Braun (1912 -1977)

"Laziness is nothing more than the habit of resting before you get tired." – *Jules Renard* 

"If you're never scared or embarrassed or hurt, it means you never take any chances." – *Julia Sorel, Twitter* 

"No bird soars too high, if he soars with his own wings." – *William Blake* 

"I hate to advocate drugs, alcohol, violence, or insanity to anyone, but they've always worked for me." – *Hunter S. Thompson* 

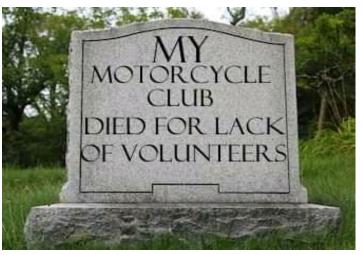
"If God wanted us to fly, He would have given us tickets." – *Mel Brooks (1926 - )* 

The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans is suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're okay, then it's you". – *Rita Mae Brown* 

"I don't think of the past. The only thing that matters is the everlasting present." – *W. Somerset Maugham, The Moon and Sixpence* 

"A good friend can tell you what is the matter with you in a minute. He may not seem such a good friend after telling." - Arthur Brisbane, "The Book of Today"





### President's Message

Ed Gerber

Email: edgerber1@verizon.net

When I'm riding my motorcycle, I'm glad to be alive - and when I stop riding my motorcycle I'm glad to be alive. (The late Neil Peart)

I'm spending the winter in Southeast Florida but don't ride here. There are no good motorcycling roads. Just about all the roads are divided, straight as an arrow, multi-lanes. Traffic is heavy with a toxic mix of elderly and impatient drivers.

There's no helmet law in Florida and it's rare to see helmeted riders, much less riders wearing protective clothing. In general it seems like a bad place to ride, so I checked the statistics.

According to the Governors' Highway Safety Association (GHSA), 18% of all Florida traffic deaths are motorcycle related. By contrast in New Jersey with its mandatory helmet law, 11.8% of traffic deaths are motorcycle related. But Motorcycling in Florida, unlike Jersey is a year 'round sport.

So how do Jersey's statistics compare with

nearby states without helmet laws? In Pennsylvania motorcycle fatalities are 11.6% of the state total and in Connecticut the percentage is 12.7% of the total. These rates are comparable to New Jersey's although both states have lower population densities.

Significantly, Florida has a traffic fatality rate for all vehicles per 100,000 miles traveled of 1.41 fatalities while New Jersey's rate is less than half at 0.71 fatalities per 100,00 miles of travel. Safety-wise Florida is not a great place to ride.

In terms of helmet use, the GHSA estimates that in 2016 helmet use saved 1,859 motorcycle fatalities and I believe in wearing All The Gear All The Time (ATGATT.), but It's apparent that to stay safe, where you ride is often more important as what you wear.

Ride Safe Ed

Looking forward to being back in NJ this month..

### Schedule of Events – 2020

As a result of our pre-meeting events discussion at the January Meeting – the following items are on our event calendar for 2020. Any additions are welcome – seems there should be something for everyone.

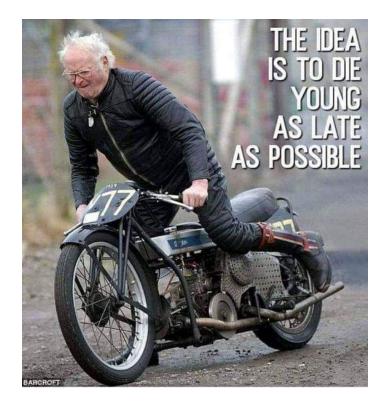
- March 4 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- March 11 club meeting at 6PM to eat,
   7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420
   Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- April 1 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- April 8 club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- April 26 27th Annual Gathering of the Nortons at 10AM-1PM, loc. Washington Crossing Historic Park, River Rd, Washington Crossing, PA
- May 6 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- May 13 club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- May 14-17 10th and Last Spring Fling Rally, all day, loc. Natural Bridge, VA

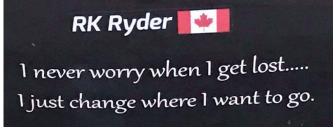


- May 16-17 New Sweden NS450 Rally, all day, loc. Starts at Cycle Gear, Cherry Hill, NJ
- June 3 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- June 6 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Lakehurst Diner, 401 Route 70, Lakehurst
- June 10 club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- June 13 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. MaeBerrie, 504 Main St., Avon
- June 20 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Marigold Cafe, 2003 Highway 71, Spring Lake Heights
- June 27 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- June 25-28 BMW MOA National Rally, all day, loc. Great Falls, Montana
- July 1 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- July 4 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Meemom's, 3541 1825 NJ-35, Wall
- July 8 club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- July 11 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Shore Good Pancake House, 34 Lanes Mill Rd, Brick
- July 18 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. On Third Cafe and Coffee Co, 1300 3rd Ave, Spring Lake
- July 17-19 Black-Diamond Beemers Rally, all day, loc. Chets Place, Endless Mountains,PA
- July 25 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Park Nine Diner, Rt 9 and 524, Freehold
- August 1 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Princess Maria Diner, 2044 State Route 35, Wall Township
- August 5 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- August 8 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc.

- Shore Good Pancake House, 34 Lanes Mill Rd, Brick
- August 12 club meeting at 6PM to eat,
   7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420
   Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- August 15 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Acropolis Cafe, 506 Main Street, Belmar
- August 22 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Buttered Biscuit, 700 Main St, Bradley Beach
- August 29 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- > **September 2** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM. loc. TBD
- September 5 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Kitchen @ 35, 2601 Route 35, Manasquan
- September 9 club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- ➤ September 12 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Mariner's Cove, 712 Union Ave, Brielle
- September 19 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Ray's Cafe, 523 Washington Blvd, Sea Girt
- > September 17-20 BMW RA National Rally, all day, loc. Waynesville, NC
- September 26 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Mug Rack, 70 W Veterans Hwy, Jackson
- October 3 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- October 7 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- October 10 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Peach Pit Cafe, 152 Main St, Manasquan
- October 14 club meeting at 6PM to eat,
   7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420
   Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- October 17 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. The Turning Point, 2150 NJ-35 #3, Sea Girt
- October 24 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Toast Asbury Park, 516 Cookman Ave, Asbury Park
- October 31 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd. Allenwood
- November 4 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- November 7 club breakfast at 9:45AM,

- loc. Corner Post Diner, 2791 Hooper Ave, Brick Township
- November 11 club meeting at 6PM to eat,
   7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420
   Adelphia Road, Farmingdale
- November 14 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. John's Cracker Barrel, 1 S Riverside Dr, Neptune
- November 21 club breakfast at 9:45AM, loc. Allenwood General Store, 3208 Allenwood Lakewood Rd, Allenwood
- November 28 club breakfast at approximately 9:45AM, loc. TBD
- December 2 Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- December 5 club breakfast at approximately 9:45AM, loc. TBD
- December 9 club meeting at 6PM to eat,
   7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420
   Adelphia Road, Farmingdale







## Minutes of the NJ Shore BMW Riders Meeting, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Jim Thomasey, Secretary

The meeting began on time with quite a few members in attendance. The treasurer reported a balance of \$1450 in our account and the membership now stands at 51 paid members including a few who signed up again at the meeting. There was a discussion of the Backcountry Discovery Roads presentation that had been held at Cross Country BMW on February 7. The movie featured the new northeast off road trail that this company has now debuted. The newest trail goes through NY, PA, CT, NH, VT and ME, then ending near the Canadian border. The movie was very well produced with stunning photography and great insight as what the feeling of hundreds of miles off road feels like.

Roger T. our BMW MOA contact point spoke of the upcoming Getaway in Fontana NC.happening April 24,24,26.

There is also the nearby Pocono Rally coming the end of July. Clear your to do list and ride there!

Jack Riepe was our guest speaker who gave his

feelings about the future of motorcycling including, but not limited to electric bikes offered by BMW and others.

The winning food coupon was won by Greg Wright and the 50/50 was claimed by Don E.

BTW – a new member joined the club – some guy named Jack Riepe.. I think I've heard of him somewhere.

### Reviews: IXS gear from Iron Pony

Ben P.

I remember seeing IXS displays at the Javitz motorcycle show and at the MOA National Rally in Hamburg,

NY. IXS is a Swiss company with production in Asia. They make motorcycle and bicycle products of very good quality but at a low price point. At the shows, the products competed at the Tourmaster to Olympia price level but seemed to offer Rev'lt-like quality. The Iron Pony website has quite a bit of their gear at extremely low closeout prices. How can I go wrong trying some of their stuff?

First up, the IXS Arctic Winter gloves. Goretex gloves for \$19! Has Dexfil insulation and still available in 7 sizes. I have 9 1/4" circumference around my hand. Medium goes to 9" so I get a Large. It is a tad roomy but not by much. The wrist closure is simple Velcro strap with some elastic and a string pull to snug up the gauntlet opening. Construction is goatskin and textile. These sport knuckle padding. I think the Arctic Winter nomenclature is a bit ambitious, as the insulation feels a bit thin. Which is not all bad since this glove is not thick, bulky, and hard to bend. It turns out that, coupled with my handlebar muffs, these are about perfect for riding from 50 to the 20s with heated grips on the low setting. Without the muffs, these gloves are good to the low 40s with heated grips. I haven't tested waterproofing but these are Goretex gloves.

I also bought IXS Nima Evo pants in XL for \$39. I used their size chart and it was spot on for the waist. These pants come in at least a 32" inseam, maybe a 34" even (I'm a 36x30). The pictures on the website showed what looks like skinny jeans so I had some misgivings.

The legs were long but as soon as I put on my boots, they pushed up the legs and the knee armor landed perfectly on my knees. I haven't looked at the armor but they feel like CE Level 1. There is a provision for hip armor but the pants came with foam pads. A non-removable water-proof liner (proprietary SoltoTex) kept me dry during a 30-minute rain ride. The pants come with a removable thermal liner.

I must mention that these pants have been the best I have worn on cold winter rides.

Warmer than even my insulated snowmobile pants, or regular long johns or FreezeOut long johns or rain pants/moto pants combination.

These pants are very comfortable except for the elastic section at the sides of the waist which bite at the skin on the hips. Once I tuck my shirt in, this ceases to be an issue. A zipper goes up about 10" from the bottom of the leg. Both the leg and waist openings have gaiters behind the zipper. There are no belt loops provided, just Velcro adjusters on the sides. The waist closure is one snap and one hook. Overall quality is very good, easily on par as my BMW Summer pants and Venting Machine pants with the possible exception of the zippers.

Last time I checked the Iron Pony website, the Nima Evo pants are gone. They have a lot of jackets, both textile and leather for way under \$100. Check out their gloves too. A quick search for IXS reviews online turned up many favorable reviews for stuff bought at full price, a few mentioning their gloves.

## Backroads Sunday Ride - Motorcyclepedia

Jonathan Blair

On Sunday, February 16, Backroads Magazine held Scholars Day at Motorcyclepedia. Backroads Magazine is a free publication that one can find at dealerships around New Jersey. It's run by

Brian Rathjen and Shira Kamil and features many great riding ideas from the tri-state area. Motor-cyclepedia is a motorcycle museum with over 600 bikes. It's located in Newburgh, NY.

Paying the museum entry fee got you into the event, which was held in the lower level of the museum. There were several sessions throughout the day covering various topics. I attended three of the sessions.



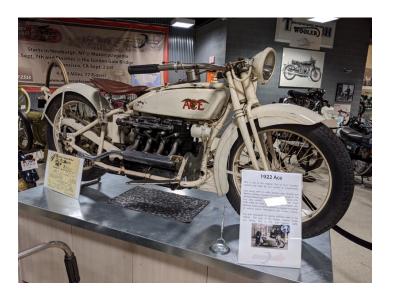
The first session was done by Tim James and talked about Backcountry Discovery Routes (BDR). I think most people that have heard of this organization think about the routes themselves, but there is actually a non-profit organization behind these routes around the country. Just one of the goals of the group is to create and maintain these adventure routes. "Continuing to deliver the most inefficient way to cross a state." They've been in existence for 10 years and have created 10 routes. The latest route is their northeast route that traverses several states. It starts in New York and runs up to Maine. The presentation included several promo videos for routes. Tim was entertaining and truly seemed to believe in the mission of the organization, rideBDR.com

Armen Arminian gave the next talk. He has been a motorcycle mechanic for decades. Armen held an informal discussion of tools as they relate to motorcycles. He sprinkled his talk with colorful anecdotes and tips on motorcycle maintenance. "If you work on your bike, you'll be the first to know something is wrong. If you don't work on your own bike, you'll be the first to know something is wrong!" He teaches a motorcycle maintenance class in NYC. rydersalley.com

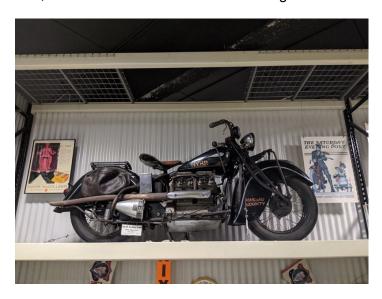
The third session that I attended was "GPS 101", by Paul Donoghue, a friend of mine. He walked the group through basic creation of GPS routes by demonstrating steps and showing us options on his computer, projected onto a large display in the room. One of the really useful things that he explained was why, when you import a route from a friend into your own GPS, it never seems to turn out the way it was supposed to. The short answer is that routing profiles and avoidances are never quite the same between users and GPS devices. Make sure you "curate" the route!



After Paul's session, I spent some time walking around the museum. It's pretty expansive. There are tons of motorcycles in various states of repair. Some have been fully restored and sit behind glass. Many are original, with that fine patina of rust that comes with use. They are roughly organized according to brand or purpose.



There are many Harleys throughout, which I suppose it to be expected. There's a section for some scooters, one for military and police use, some Triumphs, and even one BMW! (It's the only one I found.) Upstairs there are many Indians, with one of each year from the early 1900's on. There are some art bikes upstairs as well. Downstairs, there are two motordromes, or the "Wall of Death". These are quite something to see, even if there isn't someone riding in them.



Even though it was quite a hike to get there, I think that it was a worthwhile trip. I'd recommend a visit to the museum, even without the Scholar Day. Thanks, Eric Shur, for posting it to the list.

### A Few Months with BMW's Nav VI

Roger 1



Speed, Display, Bike Cradle, New Features: In short these are the biggest positives of BMW's Nav VI GPS which was introduced last year. I purchased it with my new bike in December but it took a month to unpack the box since I was not

sure if I would return it due to "buyers remorse." It was a lot of money even with Cross Country's discount.. but I remembered the older Garmin Zumo 665 also was expensive when I bought it

My comments below are a comparison with my Garmin Zumo 665 and Zumo 660 (both of which are about 5 -6 years old. The Zumos are the same size and share the same capabilities except the Zumo 665 has XM radio. No doubt I will continue to learn new capabilities of the Nav VI as time goes on.

#### Positives:

The Nav VI is much faster calculating and presenting routes/details. I expect this with several years of technology improvements. My Zumos also occasionally have a delay inputting typed characters such as address or place. I haven't found this with the Nav VI.

BMW-Garmin SmartLink APP. This cell phone APP allows me to type in a restaurant or place... hit SEND button and immediately transmit the coordinates to my Nav VI. The APP looks to the internet via cell phone connection to find most current location information. I no longer have to rely on the GPS internal database which may be limited or out of date. In the past I searched on my cell phone and then retyped info or map location data into the GPS. The new APP saves a lot of time. Of course if you use a cell phone for routing instead of GPS, you can create a simple route and see it almost immediately.

However GPS' can do multi waypoint, multi route and other functions much better than cell phone.

**Display is bigger and brighter:** more of the map is displayed. Also because my new bike has a TFT screen display instead of dial-type dashboard, I can see many bike technical readings on the TFT, such as speed, average trip info, average fuel consumption, voltage, tire pressure, diagnostic errors, etc. Now I don't have to select a menu item on the Zumos to see some of this data.

**Cradle:** A GPS cradle is mounted on my F850GSA,. Nav VI comes with an option for 4-button control cradle which apparently works with some older Nav devices, but I don't need it.

Since my bike has a control wheel on the left handlebar, it does the same as 4-button cradle...

and much more. The control wheel also controls bike Menu functions. I wound up selling the 4-button cradle on eBay. You can purchase the NAV VI without the cradle for savings.

I also tested my Zumos in the new bike cradle... both Zumo's powered up and worked fine, but without the integrated bike or control wheel benefits. (Editors note – that may not be true of plugging the older BMW-Navigators into the cradle. We'll have to try it sometime. No standard Zumo worked with the BMW cradle buttons.)

Music: Nav VI does not have XM Radio like the Zumo 665. However, similar to the Zumos 665 and 660, the Nav VI stores mp3 music files... and a lot of them... much more capacity than the memory in Zumos. Nav VI does play cell phone stored music and stream from on-line music sources. I don't think my Zumos did this... not sure.

Connectivity: Accessing the USB port is easier. On the Zumos, to connect to the USB port for updating map/software or storing music, I remove the plate on the back of the GPS. With the Nav VI, the USB port is under a waterproof rubber protector on the back of the GPS.

Weather and Traffic Reports: These are available to the Nav VI through cell phone Garmin SmartLink or other cell phone APPs. Some are free while others are subscription. In the Zumo 665 they are available through XM subscription.

### **Negatives:**

Nav VI has no audio-out port. I found that if my Zumo Bluetooth and helmet Bluetooth ever got mixed up (dysfunctional as many times they do), I could always plug my wired molded earplugs into the Zumo 3.5mm audio port.

Nav VI does not interface the old Garmin Map-Source program (my favorite). However it works with Basecamp. A work around: I still used Map-Source to create complex waypoint routes, then save them in gpx format. Next I manually copy/paste the gpx file into my NAV VI using my PC Windows file manager. It takes a little longer than directly connecting the PC to GPS using Garmin BaseCamp or Express.... but I'm accustomed to using MapSource!

The Nav VI display menu functions are different

than Garmin's. The way you access subroutines is different in many cases. You have to relearn the BMW Nav approach. (It's like relearning Windows when Microsoft introduces a new version operating system.) Just do it!

Bluetooth Pairing: This is not necessarily a disadvantage, but it is confusing. Several YouTube videos describe the best procedure to pair your cell phone, the bike TFT/computer, Nav VI and your helmet communications system. Without doing it right you may not be able to stream music from cell phone or online music service, or hear your GPS, or make/receive phone calls. If it weren't complex enough, the bike TFT/computer bluetooths to your phone and GPS. In fact, the



New Navigator vs Zumo 660

TFT/bike computer can show route directions (in text only) from your phone without the need for a GPS.

Additional note: I updated the map and software on the Nav VI. Using the Garmin Express at first, it took over 24 hours to complete only 33% of the download to the GPS. (Garmin says it may take several hours to accomplish.) After playing I found that the laptop "WIFI" connection was the problem. When I direct-connected my laptop/GPS to my home network router (via CAT6 wire), the update process was much faster... it took about 2 hours to update both map and GPS software. Subsequently I updated the map in Grant's Zumo 665 and it completed without a hitch in about 1 ½ hours.

MOA Anonymous Book APP: Although this one is not associated with the GPS, it is a new APP produced to help MOA members find dealer, club, and MOA member-help telephone contact information. The paper Anonymous Book has been supplemented by an APP and will be published for a while longer.

# Monthly Meeting – March 11<sup>th</sup> **Our House Restaurant**420 Adelphia Road (Rt 524), Farmingdale, NJ

Our House Restaurant: 420 Adelphia Rd., Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727. Tel # 732.938.5159



Eat @ 6PM Business meeting starts at 7:30PM