

**August 2020**

# NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

**Ed Gerber, President** ([president@njsbmwr.org](mailto:president@njsbmwr.org))

**Ben Paraan, Vice President**

**Joe Karol, Treasurer & Trustee**

**Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher**

**Don Eilenberger, Newsletter Editor; Trustee;**

**Dennis Swanson, Trustee; Trustee; Roger Tren-**

**dowski, Trustee; Bill Dudley, Trustee; Dave Rosen,**

**Trustee; Dan Thompson, Trustee; Joe Karol, Trustee.**



## Meeting? You tell us..

The current Covad rules in NJ (subject to daily change) allow for outdoor gatherings of up to 25 people. That put the thought into a few minds that perhaps Our House Tavern could setup an area for us to hold our meeting – outdoors with a tent. They said they can do it.

I asked the officers what they'd like to do – and got only 2 responses. Enthusiasm didn't seem to be rampant.

Of course by the time we'd be meeting it's entirely possible that the rules will change, and actually I'd expect it.

One respondent did say he'd be comfortable if the group was 15 people or LESS. I think that's not unreasonable.

So – let us know. Are you interested? It would be our regular meeting night/time, we will be observing social distancing and masks when not eating. If not – I guess we can plan our first meeting perhaps for sometime after a vaccine is found and produced.

Let us know via the email list..

Don (in Trustee role..)

## President's Message

Email: [edgerber1@verizon.net](mailto:edgerber1@verizon.net)

The key is turned; the green and red idiot lights glow. The starter button on the right handlebar, pressed, begins a whirling below. A simultaneous twist of the right grip pulls the throttle cables, and the engine gulps and then roars... The rider pulls in the left-hand lever, then presses down with the left toe. There's a solid chunk as first

HAL: I honestly think you ought to calm down, take a stress pill and think things over. *2001 - A Space Odyssey*

Megamind: Here's my day so far: went to jail, lost the girl of my dreams and got my butt kicked pretty good. Still, things could be a lot worse. Oh, that's right... I'm falling to my death. Guess they can't. *Megamind*

The people who really run organizations are usually found several levels down, where it is still possible to get things done. *Small Gods Terry Pratchett*

Voting is easy and marginally useful, but it is a poor substitute for democracy, which requires direct action by concerned citizens. *"Election Madness" The Progressive (March 2008) Howard Zinn*

We herd sheep, we drive cattle, we lead people. Lead me, follow me, or get out of my way.: *General George S. Patton, Jr.*

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it. Aristotle  
Sonja: Sex without love is an empty experience.  
Boris: Yes, but as empty experiences go, it's one of the best. *Love and Death*

We didn't lose the game; we just ran out of time.: *Vince Lombardi*

gear engages. The bike moves forward into a brighter world.

-Melissa Holbrook Pierson

Like may of you I'm experiencing less of this brighter world. Some of you may have been at the Pocono rally this weekend. I had planned to go until my wife told me if I went, I would have to self-quarantine for nine days when I returned.

Oh well.

I have gotten out on solo rides along familiar roads and enjoyed the company of fellow members on rides to breakfast or lunch. Meanwhile, the bike sits in the garage waiting.

### MY FIRST TIME

When my frumpy sister returned from college in 1960 she unexpectedly brought home some cool friends. One was riding a 125cc Vespa scooter. After looking the scoot over, the friend mentioned he was looking to sell it. I don't remember the asking price but having just turned 17 I doubt if it were much over \$150. Without hesitation, I bought it.

At the time I had yet to get a driver's license so after learning to use the clutch and brake on my driveway I would wait until dark and sit at the lip of the driveway until there was no traffic and ride up and down the street. As I became braver I'd ride around the neighborhood until I finally got my regular drivers license. I never did get a motorcycle license

The Vespa wasn't much for speed but it was a wheelie machine; the engine, transmission and you were all over the rear wheel;. One day I tried to see just how fast it would accelerate. I was revving the engine at a stop light; the light turned green and I popped the clutch. The bike went straight up on its rear wheel. I was standing there holding the handlebars when it pulled out of my hands. There was no return spring on the throttle, so off it went roaring along at full throttle, straight up on it rear wheel. It went right through the intersection and finally fell on its side, the engine roaring, the rear wheel spinning madly. I ran up to the scoot; killed the engine, picked it up, re-started it and rode away like nothing happened.

*Ride Safe, Ed*



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**JERRY FRIEDMAN**  
The Motorcycle Attorney  
One Greentree Center, Suite 201  
P.O. Box 649  
Marlton, New Jersey 08053

www.law4hogs.com  
e-mail: law4hogs@aol.com

**1-800-LAW-4-HOGS**

## Schedule of Events – 2020

*Due to the Covid-19 Virus and the limitations on any gatherings that has resulted – chances are a lot of these events won't be happening. We can hope that ~~June July August~~ Fall brings a lessening of the danger of the virus – but there is no guarantee.*

**Keep track of announcements on the club email list to find out what's actually happening in 2020.**

**Club meeting or breakfasts, moribundi, etc. in June will be done via ZOOM. See emails for details!!**

- **August 5** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. Woodys Farmingdale
- **August 12** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale ????
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- **September 2** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **September 9** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale ????
- **October 7** Moribundi Lunch at 12:30PM, loc. TBD
- **October 14** club meeting at 6PM to eat, 7:30 meeting, loc. Our House Tavern, 420 Adelpia 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 Adelpia 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 Adelpia Road, Farmingdale

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*Note on the Club Calendar – obviously all items listed on the calendar are subject to change thanks to Covad-19. We can only hope a working vaccine is found before we draw up next years calendars.*

## **Minutes of the NJ Shore BMW Riders Meeting, July 8th**

*Jim Thomasey, Secretary*

About six members joined the ZOOM meeting Wednesday night. Some of the topics discussed were the treasury holds about \$1600 in our coffers

Chit and chat took place for 45 minutes until we were bumped off Zoom.

## **Book Review**

*Bill Dudley*

I recently finished "Moto Raid" by Keith Thye. This book tells the story of a ride that Keith and his buddy Dave took in 1963, from their home in Oregon to a small town in southern Chile. They did it more or less on a whim. Because this was 1963, they picked the most reliable bikes with dealers in South America -- BMW. They each

bought a used R50/2, saved their money for a year, and headed south, with about \$1,500 in cash and plans to camp whenever possible.

The book opens with a flash-forward to the two in a Peruvian jail, so as you read the book, you know things are going to get bad late in the trip.

On the way, they encounter the usual trials: awful border crossings with the officials looking for bribes, tainted food and water, mechanical failures (mostly due to abuse the bikes suffered from the awful "roads", awful to non-existent roads, bad hotel accommodations, and more.

The book has a "companion volume", called "Ride on: Moto Raid II", which chronicles the trip the two took 50 years later (so, 2013) on modern BMWs (GS, of course), along with four other people.

Obviously, this trip was much less fraught, and the travelers weren't poor college students, but prosperous adults around retirement age. The roads had improved drastically, and they could afford good hotels. Still, an interesting read considering the contrasts between the two trips.

The pair of books can be purchased as a boxed set (still paperbacks) called "The Whole Story".

## **BMWMOA Pocono Getaway Weekend**

*Henning..*

I'm writing this article not to bore you with just another trip story but to make you all jealous enough to participate yourself in one BMW-MOA's Getaway meetings.

Not only is there great motorcycle riding at the Getaways - as you would expect - but it is the friendship and camaraderie that you experience when you meet and hang out with the other members that make the Getaway meetings special.

Also, it doesn't hurt that the hotel is a top rated lodge with great amenities and excellent service, at a very reasonable rate for the attendees.



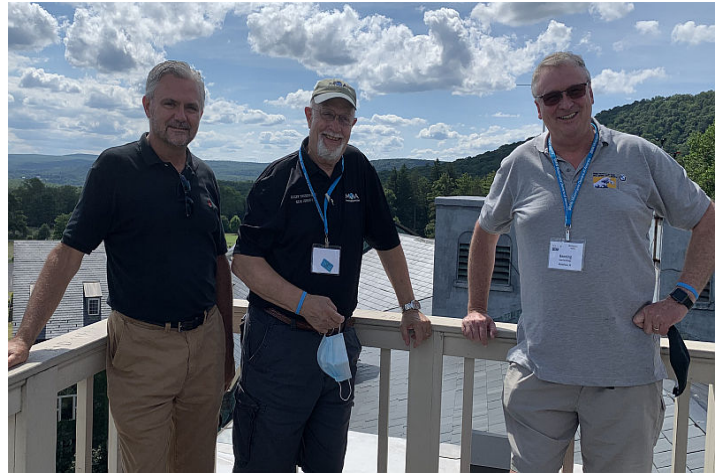
Roger and I rode up a day early, on Thursday, as we were going to volunteer with registration and sharing maps for riding in the area. On the way, we stopped for hot dogs with buttermilk (me) and hot dogs with birch beer (Roger) at Hot Dog Johnny's in Belvidere, NJ ([hotdogjohnnys.com](http://hotdogjohnnys.com)). Roger is a frequent guest at that place...



When we arrived at the lodge, a section of the parking lot was already taped off for motorcycle parking.

One of the hotel staffers approached us to see if this set up would work well for us. Turns out that the hotel staffer was no one less than Brian Strader, Director of Engineering at Skytop Lodge, and himself an BMW-MOA member.

Brian later showed us around the hotel which was built in 1927/28, including taking us up to the observatory tower of the hotel and giving us a ride in a fully functional original Otis hotel elevator.



We set up the registration desk on Thursday, so we had time for a ride on Friday morning before registration started in the afternoon. We left early, without breakfast (this is usually not what I like to do) and went north but the Hawley diner we had chosen as breakfast destination was closed due to Covid-19.



*Roebling Aqueduct/Bridge*

We kept going, crossing the Roebling bridge in Lackawaxen (originally built as an aqueduct of the D&H canal, today a one lane bridge for cars and pedestrians) and finally stopping in Barryville NY for outdoor breakfast.

Barryville is just across the Delaware river from Shohola PA where a tragic Civil War train wreck happened that killed over 60 prisoners and guards.

Rt. 93 took us east along the Delaware to Port Jervis - the amazing views from up the road reminded me of the Mosel River Valley in Germany!



We had the dinners at the hotel outdoors to meet the Covid-19 requirements of the State of Pennsylvania. On Saturday, Jeff Rudder, the General Manager of the Skytop Lodge, joined us for dinner and gave us a very interesting briefing about the history of the hotel.

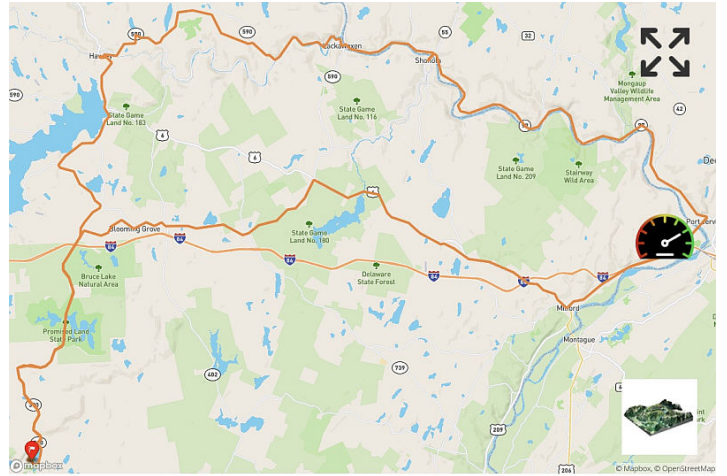


The lodge originally was “members only” and not open to the public. Rumors have it that liquor was flown in with small planes from NYC to circumvent the prohibition restrictions when the lodge opened in 1928.

All participants received a ticket for a chance to win one of the many prizes the BMW-MOA had sponsored. I was the lucky winner of the Continental tire set and Roger received an award honoring his years of service on the board of the BMW-MOA.

The Getaway had about 65 participants. Originally only 50 members had signed up but we had a good number of walk-ins that took advantage of the beautiful weather.

Roger had prepared maps and GPX files for 6 loops with great riding in the area, with rides between 100 and 200 miles per loop. One of the participants even did two loops in one day!



I sure hope to be back next year for more great riding and to reconnect with the friends made.

## Roger Trendowski honored by BMW-MOA

On August 1, 2020, during the Pocono BMW-MOA getaway at the Skytop Lodge, executive director Ted Moyer presented our own Roger Trendowski with an award to thank for his years of service on the Board of Directors for the association.

In his speech, Ted pointed out that a lot of times members don't see what goes into this job as it is a volunteer position, but that it required the dedication and commitment that Roger showed so many times.



In front of the about 65 attendees of the Get-away, Ted presented Roger with a beautiful plaque that says:

**“In Appreciation of your Outstanding Service and Dedication to the BMW Motorcycle Owners Association of America. The MOA Board of Directors is forever grateful for your service.”**

Congratulations to Roger for a job well done and thank you for representing our club so well at the national level.

## It's how you get there that counts

*Roger T*

An avid motorcyclist could be going to the store, 2 miles as the crow flies... but will take 2 hours.

That's what riding MCs is all about. If it's early morning, cool temp, not much traffic and “mis-placed the honey-do list,” then what else could you wish for.

Like most of you-all, I've done it a few times more than I've been caught. So what is the down-side of acting in this flagrant immature manner?

Your loved one says: "Where were you? Did you get hurt?" You lied. or at a minimum, the big “roll of the eyes and you're in the dog house again.”

In my case Ginna can track me on her iphone so my excuses are somewhat limited to: my GPS wasn't working... or I thought I told you... or I didn't tell you what store I was going to.



This morning was sort of like that for me.

With the announcement of a short Saturday morning coffee ride to MOTH Coffee House in Allentown NJ (on 7/25), five club members showed up at the KSU (kick stands up) GSP commuter parking lot & Belmar Ave. Ed Gerber, Don Del Nero, Joe Karol and I were ready to roll when Paul Cooke limped in on his Triumph. He had not exercised his bike in several weeks and as a result one of four cylinders decided to take a “vacation day.” In anticipation that other brother cylinders might join the holiday, Paul decided to retreat back home.

The rest of our pack left on a zig zaggie route, south of I95 to Allentown, to the MOTH Coffeehouse. Our route took us within a mile of Mike K's repair guild and Dud's emporium & museum.

With too many turns to count, the 44 mile route took us 1 hr 20 minutes rather than the normal interstate route of 29 miles and 35 minutes.

Upon arrival we found Dennis Swanson and Don Eilenberger replenishing of their lattes and home baked pastries at a single table in front of the place.

With coffee, lattes, diet pasties and veggie sandwiches, we re-congregated at covid require distances on the brick & weed patio out behind the building. Rusty metal tables and chairs added to the ambiance of this landmark grist mill. (food and coffee were actually very good.)

<http://www.mothcoffeehouse.com/> The route home was quick/short via Interstate 195 in the left lane as led by Ed. My bike has two smaller cylinders than Joe's and Ed's, so I picked up the rear.



# Civil War Train Wreck Monument, Shohola NY

Roger T

On Saturday July 18th I rode to Binghamton NY via secondary roads...through Port Jervis, Barryville NY and up the Delaware River toward Binghamton on back roads.

Barryville is the town where Bob Spine and I (and other Skylands BMW Riders) rode earlier this spring. Shohola is the community located across the Delaware from Barryville.

In 1864 a great train wreck happened when two trains hit head on. The northbound train had 833 confederate soldier prisoners on board with their Union guards. They were headed to Elmira NY to a prison for confederate war prisoners.

The collision killed 60 Union and Confederate soldiers, with some prisoners escaping. See the details.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shohola\\_train\\_wreck](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shohola_train_wreck)  
<https://www.shohola.com/trainwreck>



There is supposed to be a monument nearby. I wanted to see it on this trip so I explored on both

sides of the river looking for signs and markers. Nothing!

I finally talked to two local folks. Neither had an idea of what I was talking about. Because cell phone service was so poor, I couldn't do any real-time research to find the spot.

After returning home on Monday, an internet search yielded the exact monument location. It is located at the far end of a parking lot where Bob S and our group had gassed up (on the West side of the bridge) There is a monument and a train car.

Oh well, I'll see it next time.

Barryville was full of people and active commerce; at least half dozen Delaware River rafting companies and many eateries. I was surprised how crowded the area was during these Covid times. There's a decent bar/restaurant on the east side of the bridge (The Carriage House) with a large deck out back for open-air eating. I ate there with the Skylands guys on our all-day river ride from Clinton.



Across the intersection is an excellent ice cream place where I took a break before starting the next two hours of my ride.

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*This is one of those spaces we talked about in the last issue. They just seem to happen. It's hard to really fill pages since photos tend to jump from column to column if I try that.*

*So – sometimes we'll have a filler inserted. I'm sure there used to be a press-man's book of filler material – but I haven't located it yet.*



BTW – on another trip – I finally found the historic site:



Next meeting date - UNKNOWN  
**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~~