

March 2021

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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President's Message

This may be the first message from a club president inspired by late-night eating. Although the science is not certain regarding whether eating a large meal right before bed leads to dreams and nightmares, for me, eating a pound of cavatelli with sausage and broccoli rabe, right before sleep is my ticket to a peyote-less vision quest.

So there I was, riding my RT through a fairly busy unfamiliar urban street when a large truck came up from behind. The truck was box-shaped, commercial, but with no windshield, mirrors, windows, or passenger doors. There were no headlights, only a band of yellow and red flashing lights around the lower perimeter of the truck. I came to a red-light and looked in my mirror, wondering if the vehicle was going to stop, which it did, but just a few inches behind me.

As I waited at the light, I noticed there was construction near the intersection. There were no workmen, but there was a front-loader ripping up asphalt and a steamroller going about its business. Both vehicles had no doors, windows, headlights or operators. Not quite a nightmare but really unnerving.

Companies like Tesla, Uber, BMW (including BMW Motorrad) and many others are expending R&D resources on autonomous driving vehicles. BMW describes 5 levels of autonomous driving. Level 0 is simply no automation. Level 1 is "Driver Assistance" which is available today with technologies like active cruise control and collision and pedestrian warnings. Level 2 is "Partly Automated Driving" which includes remote-controlled parking, steering and lane control assistance. Level 3 is "Highly Automated Driving" which would provide under limited circumstances hands-off driving. For example, hands-off would

Ah, March! we know thou art
Kind-hearted, spite of ugly looks and threats,
And, out of sight, art nursing April's violets!
Helen Hunt Jackson, Verses March.

The wise man is seldom prudent.
Marie Ebner-Eschenbach

What makes old age so sad is, not that our
joys, but that our hopes, cease.
Richter

It is not alone what we do, but also what we do
not do, for which we are accountable.
Molière.

Be slow in choosing a friend, slower in chang-
ing. *Benjamin Franklin*

As we grow old we become more foolish and
more wise.
La Rochefoucauld

Up from the sea, the wild north wind is blowing
Under the sky's gray arch;
Smiling I watch the shaken elm boughs, know-
ing It is the wind of March.
John Greenleaf Whittier, March.

All authors to their own defects are blind.
Dryden

A dwarf sees farther than the giant when he
has the giant's shoulders to mount on.
Coleridge

be available on certain highways. Level 4 “Fully Automated Driving” would allow for hands-off in most situations. Lastly, Level 5 “Full Automation” means, no driver!

I believe it was Level 5 that crept into my dream. Is there a need for a fully automated vehicle to look anything like a conventional vehicle? Is there a need for headlights, mirrors, passenger doors or windows? Heck, why have a designated front-end or back-end; just configure the drive-train to be bidirectional; no reverse is needed. Construction vehicles can be operated remotely, like any other drone.

I have questioned how comfortable and confident I would be in giving up control and riding in an automated vehicle but have never considered what sharing the road with fully autonomous vehicles would mean as a motorcyclist. We already have enough challenges navigating the hazards of vehicles driven by our fellow humans. Will autonomous vehicle sensors do a better job at “seeing us”, if they see us at all? Will an autonomous truck carrying millions of dollars in cargo, be programmed to run-off the road and potentially lose its cargo to avoid hitting a motorcyclist?

Autonomous Vehicles by design should be predictable which may make our lives easier, but computer programs and their algorithms are only as good as the humans that program them (thinking of the Boeing 737 Max).

TuSimple “<https://www.tusimple.com/>” (a horrible name by the way), is an U.S.-Chinese tech startup that is slated to have autonomous cargo trucks on the road by 2024. TuSimple raised \$215 million in a 2019 financing round that valued it at \$1.2 billion and they have an upcoming IPO.

Other companies such as Embark, Kodiak and Ike all have aggressive product roadmaps for autonomous trucks. In the US, with an annualized shortage of about 60,000 truck drivers, the companies that fill this void are looking at a windfall. This stuff is getting real!

When it comes to consideration for vehicle safety, motorcyclists are at the lowest end of the pecking order. I do hope there are advocates that are looking at the potential interactions between motorcycles and autonomous vehicles. This

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whole thing gives me another reason to seek out those out-of-the-way curvy roads and stay away from the slab; not that I really need an excuse.

Please let me know your thoughts on this during our next Club meeting.

For those that have not seen BMW’s autonomous GS, here is a link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ya7iacmVjUM> .

Regards,
Rick

Schedule of Events – 2021

March

- **March 3**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **March 10**, Club Meeting (Zoom meeting 7:30)
- **MARCH POLAR BEAR RIDES**
- **March 7**, Bahr’s Landing 2 Bay Ave Highlands NJ 07732
- **March 14**, Brian’s Harley Davidson, 600 Flowers Mill Road, Langhorn PA 19047
- **March 21**, Hickory BBQ Smoke House 742 Route 28 Kingston, NY 12401
- **March 28**, 2021 Plumsted Grill 457 Rte. 539, Cream Ridge, NJ 08514

April

- **April 7**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **April 11**, **Polar Bear Ride** Cape May VFW Post #386, NJ 419 Congress St. Cape May, NJ 08204
- **April 14**, Club Meeting (Zoom meeting 7:30)
- **April 23-25**, BMW MOA Fontana Getaway, Fontana Village Resort, North Carolina.
- **April 24**, (tentative) Gathering of the Nor-tons(10 am – 1pm) Washington Crossing State Park PA.

May

- **May 5**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **May 12**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined
- **May 15 & 16**, New Sweden 450

June

- **June 5**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **June 9**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined
- **June 24-27**, National MOA BMW rally Great Falls Montana

July

- **July 7**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **July 14**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined
- **July 30 – August 1**, BMW MOA Pocono Getaway. Skytop Lodge.

August

- **August 4**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **August 11**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined

September

- **September 1**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **September 3 -6**, Finger Lakes Rally, Watkin Glen, NY
- **September 8**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined
- **September 17-19**, BMW MOA Warren VT Sugarbush Resort
- **September 24 – 26**, New Sweden's Last Chance Rally
- **September 24 -26**, Oktoberfest Crystal BrookResort Round Top NY

October

- **October 6**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **October 13**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined

November

- **November 3**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **November 10**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined

December

- **December 1**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30 Place to be determined
- **December 8**, Club Meeting (Tentative) 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Place to be determined
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Keep track of announcements on the club email list to find out what's actually happening in 2021.

Note on the Club Calendar – obviously all items listed on the calendar are subject to change thanks to Covid-19. We're hopeful that Covid will be in our rear-view mirrors by summer of 2021.

Club Meeting – January Minutes

Jim Thomasey, Secretary

On February 10 the NJSBMW Riders held another ZOOM meeting attended by less than a dozen members. We determined we have about \$1,900 in the treasury and the paid membership now stands at 56.

There was a spirited discussion of the activity of the Polar Bear rides and who has attended a ride or who would like to give it try. There are rides each week to a determined end point and whomever would like to partake can by riding there on your own.

Roger mentioned the upcoming BMW MOA events to be held at Fontana, also mentioning the New River Gorge site near by.

The Gathering of the Norton's is tentatively scheduled for April 24. This has been the unofficial first ride of the season for our club and hopefully it will take place again this year in Washington Crossing State Park in PA.

The Ice Cream runs held the 3rd Wednesday of each month will soon start again too, so start thinking of suggestions for places and bring your ideas to the next meeting.

The New Sweden 450 is scheduled for the week-end of May 15-16 and our members are encouraged to investigate and participate.

The MOA national rally is being held in Great Falls MT this year and so far two members are going. If you are interested in going too, contact Roger T. for information.

As the hosts of the Three Club Rumble we are seeking ideas for locations for the event to be held late this August or within the first 2 weeks of September. We also need someone to chair the event once a spot is chosen. Keep your eyes open for an ideal spot which should include a covered serving and seating area and a cooking site.

Club Member Mini-Bios

Editor

Last issue had the 2nd set of the "Mini-Bios" I've asked club members to contribute to the newsletter. I'm happy to say, more bios have arrived and I'll be sharing some more in this newsletter.

I encourage those members who haven't sent one in to consider writing one up. I've made up a list of questions to make it easy, but feel free to add to or ignore the questions.

There are more to come, and PLEASE submit one of your own..email to editor@njsbmwr.org

Here are the questions:

- Your name
- Your age
- When did you first notice motorcycles?
- What was your first motorcycle, and were there any objections by relatives? What's the story with how you bought your first motorcycle? How old were you when you got your first motorcycle?
- When and where did you first cross a state-line on a motorcycle, and what were the circumstances?
- What was your first overnight (multi-day away from home) trip? And why? With whom?
- Have you crashed? Tell more.
- What's the longest ride you've taken? What's the furthest away from home ride you've taken?
- What's the bucket list ride you haven't

done? And why not?

- What's the fastest you've gone on 2 wheels - when and where..

Name: Jim Cavallo

Age:82

When did you first notice motorcycles? When my neighbor let me ride his Honda CB 750. Took it up the block, and never went into third, just holding the grips, so it didn't ride out from under me. WOW!

What was your first motorcycle, and were there any objections by relatives? What's the story with how you bought your first motorcycle? How old were you when you got your first motorcycle? I was riding my first, a Honda 250, and knew i had to move up. I was 30 at the time. A good friend, Roland Marchetti, a past member, was riding a R80/7, which became my first BMW.

When and where did you first cross a state-line on a motorcycle, and what were the circumstances? So long ago, hard to remember. Probably NY. or PA. I rode with friends of his, two of them, NJ. state troopers, which made riding, like having a security blanket over us. They all rode fast, and me with the least time riding, i stayed in the back, so i didn't slow them down.

What was your first overnight (multi-day away from home) trip? And why? With whom?

Again, so long ago, it was either the York PA. national, or my first Americade. The group was always the same, two friends, and the security blanket, a Major, and a Lieutenant.

Have you crashed? Tell more: Four times down, tip overs only. The first, was with my R100RS, which was recently painted by BMW of ST. Louis . I was making a u turn on a steep hill in Vermont, at a rally, small scratch on the side. Next, was putting the side stand down, on my K1200LT, thinking i was on the driveway, only to have it sink, into the grass, and go over, all 835 LBS., of it. Not a mark! Broke a mirror at the Tenn. National. Last one at Yellowstone Park hotel. Again, a steep parking lot, that broke my foot peg. When it's going over, FAAGAD-ABOUTIT!!!

What's the longest ride you've taken? What's

the furthest away from home ride you've taken? There were several, the longest in the saddle, was coming back from Nova Scotia, 800 miles, 16 hrs. Made two trips out west, first one to Yellowstone and Mt. Rushmore, Then, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona.

What sights to see. To ride between rock formations, 300 ft. high, on a single lane road, on two wheels, is humbling to say the least. When we were out on the flat lands, and nothing but rocks in the distance, some 30 miles away, you knew you were alone. Sights I'll never forget.

What's the bucket list ride you haven't done? And why not? Only one trip left for the bucket list, Rt.1, starting in northern California, into Oregon, then Washington, British Columbia, continuing on to Alaska. Dream.....

What's the fastest you've gone on 2 wheels - when and where?: Took every bike over 100, just to say they could, but did 120 on the LT. because, it could. When & where, couldn't tell you, i've forgotten friends names.

Your name: Klaus Huenecke

Age: 71

When did you first notice motorcycles? And why? Around '64 – '65, No idea why in particular, I was just interested in them.

What was your first motorcycle, and were there any objections by relatives? What's the story with how you bought your first motorcycle? How old were you when you got your first motorcycle? 1960 Heinkel scooter, 175 cc, 9.5hp. bought in '66 for DM 100.00 - approx.



Suzuki TM 250 - # 37 – at the Motocross

US\$ 25.00 in perfect running conditions with about 25,000 miles on it. Used it to make my license, with the teacher sitting behind me at first, later followed him behind his car. It grew from there – as all of you know. Heinkel scooter, Horex Regina and BMW R 50/2 until 19070

In Malaysia from 70-73, Honda Cup 50 (official transportation from the German Volunteer service – equivalent of the US peace Corps.) Norton Dominator for cruising the country from N – S and E - W, Ducati Mach 1 (for club racing and converted to Moto Cross, Yamaha TD-1C (Race-bike), Suzuki TM 250 (Motocross), a couple of Triumph 500 twins. Had to leave all of them behind – ARQQ



Motocross on my 66' Ducati Mach 1 - 1971



At the race track in Malaysia. Ducati Mach 1 - # 37 in the background, Norton Dominator with High Risers – needed to have them then – in the foreground and I in between with beard and one piece racing suit in 96 F heat. I lived only 3 km away from the race track, so I could take the race bike on the road to get there.

Then a 23 year hiatus until I started collecting again in 1993 in the US – 1st bike 1974 R90S and since I do not sell anything it is still in my collection

When and where did you first cross a state-line on a motorcycle, and what were the circumstances? About the same year. Made trips of 10 to 300 km to visit relatives.

What was your first overnight (multi-day away from home) trip? And why? With whom? Visit my uncle about 170 km away. He was a farmer and I went there in the summer to help with the crops.

Have you crashed? Tell more: I learned relatively early that it is not a good idea to pull the handbrake on a scooter with 10" wheels during a rain on cobblestone pavement in a left hand turn.

What's the longest ride you've taken? What's the furthest away from home ride you've taken? I have ridden in Germany, Malaysia (left hand traffic) and the US. The furthest trips I have made in the US - NJ – FL.

Now with the sidecar outfit and more time on my hands, more and more longer distance trips will follow.

What's the bucket list ride you haven't done? And why not? Coast to Coast, up North to Alaska and the coast to coast in Canada

What's the fastest you've gone on 2 wheels - when and where: 142 mph, 2-up, on Rt 33. I have the ticket and the lawyers bill to prove it.

Name: Dennis Swanson

Age: Younger than Cavallo by at least a few days.

What was your first motorcycle, and were there any objections by relatives? How old were you when you got your first motorcycle? Started riding in my twenties but only for a brief period. I had five young kids and my wife thought it irresponsible to ride and risk injury or death. She was correct. I sold it.

What was your first overnight (multi-day away from home) trip? And why? With whom? Started riding again in my late forties. At the time

I was doing a lot of traveling in Central America with my cuz 'Bones'.

We met a guy in Costa Rica who was quite a character. We thought he was probably CIA. His best trick was to eat cocktail glasses. He said he was thrown out of Saudi Arabia when he did it in a bar and his mouth was all bloody. One of his favorite entertainments was to stroll the bad sections of San Jose Costa Rica late at night in the hope someone would attack him. He said he liked to pop their eyeballs. Sounds exaggerated but if you knew him you believed his stories. Anyway he told us of traveling from Alaska to Patagonia on a moto. Bones thought this would be good idea, but just from San Antonio to San Jose. So we made plans.

What's the longest ride you've taken? What's the furthest away from home ride you've taken? I bought a Honda 650 NX and started riding again. We were joined by Bones' son and our buddy Dave, all on Japanese enduros. We shipped the bikes to San Antonio and started south, all of us inexperienced riders without proper gear or luggage.

At the beginning we were stopped by some Americans who told us not to do it because we would get killed. It was time of unrest and civil wars in Central America. We had many adventures and learned a lot. Space and time would permit more detail. And at times we felt threatened. Took about a month but we did make it to San Jose.

Upon return Dave urged me to get a better ride and I bought a Yamaha cruiser. Then it was Harley time for a couple of years. Then I discovered BMW at the Americade rally. I bought a K100RS And started some serious riding. I met Captain Don and joined Shore Riders and started the national rally riding thing.

Have you crashed? Tell more: I have crashed a few times. Once on an ice patch, another on a gravel patch and the latest being hit by a car and totaling my bike and breaking my wrist (Biker Attorney Jerry Friedman is highly recommended.)

What's the fastest you've gone on 2 wheels - when and where: It was on a ride to the national in Oregon that I rode my fastest on the Arizona desert. Carl Cangelosi wanted to pass me and I think I reached about 150 mph more or less.

Rever Route Planner Review

Hennig von der Wroge

Last month, Roger T.'s showed us how to plan a route using "BaseCamp", a PC software made by Garmin. I tried BaseCamp a few times as it came with my first Garmin GPS, but found the software awkward and less than intuitive to use. Plus, I always had trouble transferring my routes from PC to GPS. I stopped using BaseCamp and ended up entering destination addresses into the Zumo 660 for basic route planning purposes. For trips with multiple waypoints, I used Google Maps on a PC, created one or multiple screenshots of the map, and put the map in the clear window of my trusted tankbag.

So, when I saw an ad for an iPhone app called REVER, claiming to be a route planner and navigation tool made by and for motorcyclists, I thought I'd give it a try. I already had good experience with my iPhone on the bike which I usually connect with my modular Bluetooth BILT helmet or a Bose noise canceling headset that I wear under the helmet. It didn't take much convincing to give REVER a try.

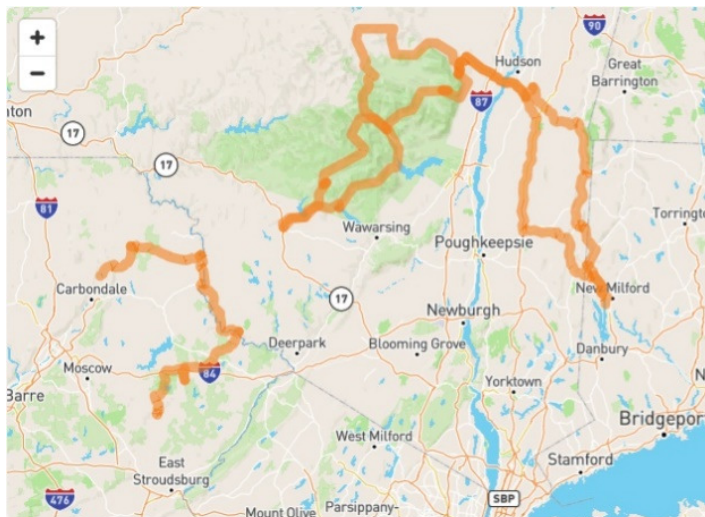
So, what sets the REVER app apart from BaseCamp and a traditional GPS? First, REVER is really two software applications. On the PC, REVER is a web based route planner and mapping program. On the smartphone, REVER is a mobile app for navigation, route planning and mapping. Web based program and mobile app work seamlessly. No need to transfer a route or track – this is done by REVER in the cloud, behind the scenes. What is needed is a username and password which you get by signing up for a subscription (Basic is free and pretty limited, "Pro" is currently \$48/year, a free trial is offered).

Routes created on the PC magically appear on the phone, how neat is that! Rides that you tracked with the phone app show up on your PC, on their own. You see a list of your rides, with date, travel time, distance, etc.

"Pro" subscribers can download a GPX file to share with others. They also get "Twisty Road" maps, POI's, an "offline map" feature, a location tracking feature that shares your location with your loved ones, turn-by-turn navigation with voice announcements, and an animated 3D flyover view of your tracked route. "Free" offers to create routes, tracking, and limited additional features.

REVER encourages "Community" activities - you can

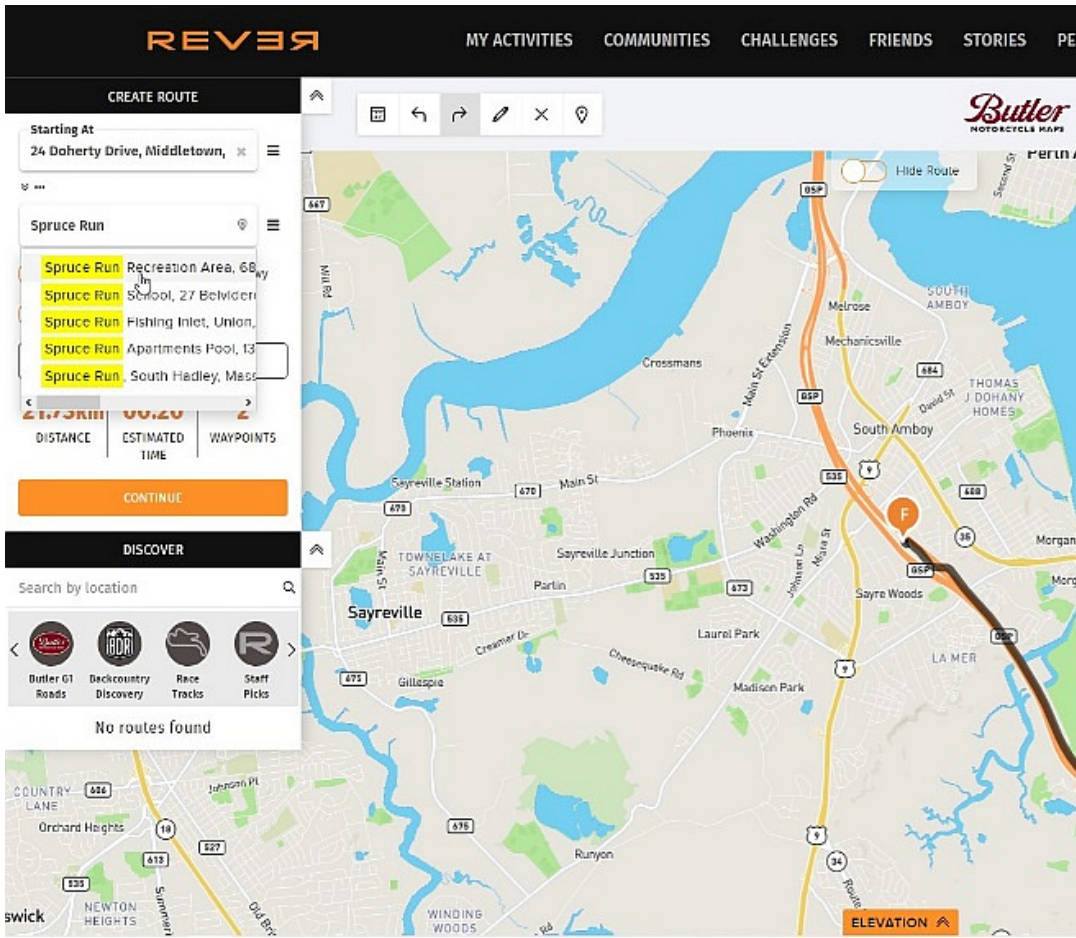
see what other riders share, and you can decide what you want to share (or keep private). You are invited to participate in "Challenges" and to have "Friends". In this respect, REVER is almost a social network. So far, I have only used REVER's route planning, tracking, and navigation features.



If you know how to plan a trip on a PC using Google Maps, Bing Maps, or Mapquest, you easily get used to REVER on a PC. The website is "rever.co" (no "m"). After signing in, clicking on the REVER logo in the top left corner of the screen brings you to the "Create Route" screen with fields for "Start Address/GPS" and "Next Address/GPS". Let's follow Roger's example:

1. Enter your home address as start, and start typing "Cheesequake" in the "Next" field. Select "Cheesequake Service Area" from the drop down list.
2. Click on "Next Stop" and enter "Spruce Run", select "Spruce Run Recreation Area".
3. Click on "Next Stop" and enter "Hot Dog John", select "Hot Dog Johnny's".
4. That's it! You will see the route with waypoints (S), (1), (2), and (F) on the screen
5. Select "Twisty Roads" and let REVER surprise you!
6. Click "Continue" and you can name and save your route – this step is important, otherwise you won't see the ride on the mobile app.

After saving your route on the PC, go to the mobile app, select "My Planned Rides" and you will see the newly created ride listed. Tapping on the map opens the ride and you can tap "Ride It!". This gives you a "Get Directions" option (turn-by-turn guidance) and a "Follow Route Line" option (e.g. for off-road routes). Clearly, this app has been created by motorcycle enthusiasts.



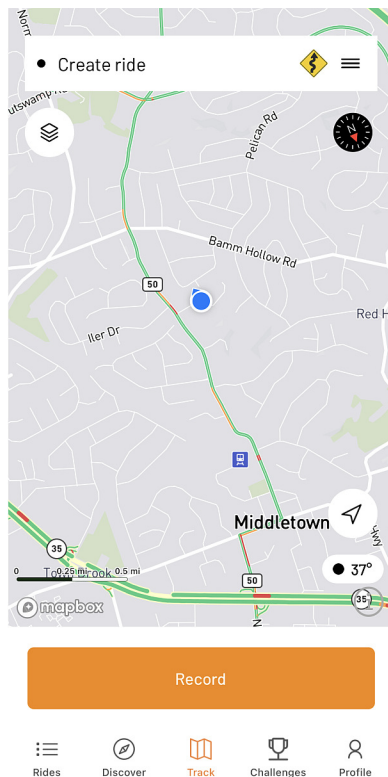
screens and big fingers. Select "Create Ride" and start entering the route following the "Where to?" prompts, step by step. The whole process is intuitive and takes only a few moments.

By now you know that I like REVER. Time for some criticism:

- ◆ Color choices... A white font on an orange background is difficult to read. Same for a light green font on white... Fonts are thin and small. The app must have been created by young motorcycle enthusiasts with perfect eyesight, not wearing glasses under the helmet...
- ◆ Maps are lacking glove friendly (+) and (-) buttons to zoom in and out.

You can do the same type of route entry with the iPhone app, but this can get tricky with small phone

You have to use two fingers to change the zoom level, that's difficult for gloved fingers



The app has many more features, many of them I haven't used yet, and too many to review in this article.

If you are curious, sign up for the free trial and give it a try!

