

January 2022

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

Mike Palmer, President (president@njsbmwr.org)

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Joe Karol, Treasurer & Trustee

Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher

Editors: Bill Dudley, Paul Cooke, Ben Paraan; Don

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Roger Trendowski, Trustee; Bill Dudley, Trustee;

Dave Rosen, Trustee; Dan Thompson, Trustee; Joe

Karol, Trustee; Ed Gerber, Trustee.



President's Message

First thing, Happy New Year to everyone and let's hope it's a better year than the last two.

I am writing this as I am recovering from a total knee replacement. I decided to do the operation this Winter so I had time to recover before the good riding season begins.

I doubled the mileage on my bike last year and I plan to do it again this Summer.

As some of you know I am a Boy Scout. I have been for almost 50 years. One lesson I learned when I was 13 years old has stuck with me all my life. There is a course called Junior Leader Training which is taught to Scouts on how to lead small groups to accomplish tasks as they come up.

The 1 thing I remember from the course was an acronym; K.I.S.M.I.F. It stands for "Keep it Simple Make it Fun". I hope to bring this simple idea to the club this year.

As I look upon this next year, that is what I want to focus on. We have a motorcycle club for friendship, fun and at its core we love to ride.

I'd like to see Ben continue the ice cream

"In a very cold night, even houses want to have houses of their own to enter inside them and feel warm!" *Mehmet Murat ildan*

I like the cold weather. It means you get work done. *Noam Chomsky*

Let me be the first to tell you, drinking alcohol is the worst thing to do in cold weather. Hot soup is the best because the process of digesting food helps to warm you up. *Morgan Freeman*

What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness. *John Steinbeck*

Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home. *Edith Sitwell*

One thing about cold weather: it brings out the statistician in everyone. *Paul Theroux*

Scarves, mittens, and hats are a great way to express your personality in the cold weather. *Brad Goreski*

The sun did not shine. It was too wet to play. So we sat in the house. All that cold, cold, wet day. *Dr. Seuss*

"If thine enemy offend thee, give his child a drum." *Chinese Curse*

socials and Jonathan to map out another FluffyButt challenge. Let's set up week-end rides, Moribundi lunches, and support our friends in the other groups at picnics.

This month's meeting at Woody's is typically a yearly calendar planning one. So please bring ideas we can add to an already busy schedule.

Remember to keep the greasy side down.

Mike Palmer

December Club Meeting Minutes

Jim Thomasey, Secretary

We had about a dozen members attend the meeting since it was held just a few days before the Holiday Dinner and Toy Run weekend. Called to order by Joe K. the following issues were discussed.

The treasury holds just under \$2900 with 35 paid members on the roster. With no more rides scheduled for the balance of the year, attention was turned to 2022. There will be a planning meeting held in January to outline the rides and events for the coming year.

The Holiday dinner was just days away when the meeting was held and the anticipation was high and attendance was deemed to be very good. The Fluffy Butt contest finished November 30 and awards were to be presented at the dinner. The Toy Run was happening the day after and will be discussed elsewhere in this newsletter.

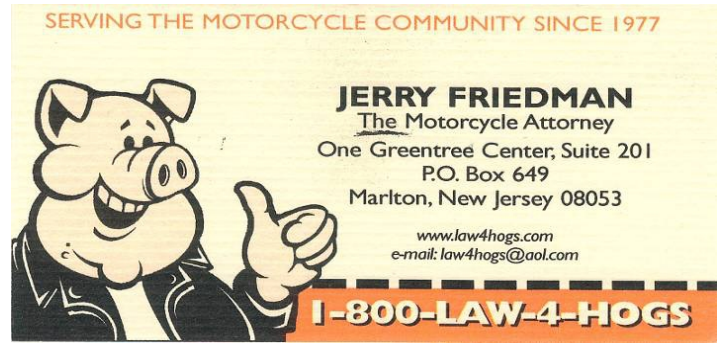
New Year's day rides were discussed with any late updates to be announced on the website or through email.

Club Calendar

Note: due to the pandemic, events may be cancelled or modified. Check your email or the club website for updates.

January 2022

- **January 1** - Annual New Year ride to dine



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with New Sweden members – at the Oyster-Creek Inn. Details will be on our email list!

- January 5th – Moribundi Lunch, TBD.
- January 12th – Annual club planning meeting – Woody's Farmingdale

February

- **February 2nd** – Moribundi Lunch, TBD
- **February 9th** - Club Meeting - Woody's Farmingdale

March

- **March 2**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30
- **March 9**, Club Meeting, 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Woody's Farmingdale

April

- **April 6**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30
- **April 13**, Club Meeting, 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Woody's Farmingdale
- **April 24**, Gathering of the Nortons (pandemic permitting)

May

- **May 4**, Moribundi Lunch @ 12:30
- **May 11**, Club Meeting, 6 PM Dinner, Meeting 7:30 Woody's Farmingdale

Our December Toy Run

Jim Thomasey

The annual NJSBMW Riders Toy Run to benefit the Children's Specialized Hospital of Toms River was held Sunday December 12. The very sunny day and seasonable weather allowed and large group of riders to attend the event.

The ride began at the DMV station in Lakewood for the customary coffee and donuts. With riders from the three clubs now filled

with and fueled by caffeine, we took a 15 minute ride to the hospital.

Here we gathered the very generous cash and checks along with the unwrapped toys and presented them to the hospital staff for distribution to the children of the facility.

The beautiful weather allowed over a dozen children the opportunity to come into the parking lot to see, hear and sit on some of the bikes. The faces of the kids sitting on the bikes were priceless while the bikes were revved and had their horns beeped. Many thanks to the club members from NJSBMW Riders, New Sweden and Skylands who offered up their bikes for use. In addition to the toys donated to the children, monetary gifts from the three clubs and personal donations exceeded \$1700. Thanks to everyone who makes this event very worthwhile and enjoyable each year.

Handlebar Muffs a.k.a. Elephant Ears a.k.a. Hippo Hands

Roger T

A few years ago I went through a cold torrential downpour and had to stop into Kansas City BMW for tire repair. While they fixed the flat I walked around the showroom to bide time. A nice salesman offered to hang up my jacket. He didn't really want a trail of water all over the showroom floor from my dripping clothes/gloves. Of course when the tire was done, I had to put ON my cold wet clothes and gloves to continue riding. Funny thing is that this has happened to me a lot. Another time I was on I-70 in West Virginia in April heading for Colorado Springs. It was snowing. When I stopped at a truck stop restaurant to warm up, the nice receptionist offered to hang up my soaked clothes (rather than dripping all over the restaurant floor and booth).

Cold weather riding is tough on your body, especially your hands. I hate wet gloves in any weather. Heavy duty winter gloves are the basic level of protection for most riders.

Larger handlebar hand guards help by deflecting cold air and water over your hands/gloves. Heated grips help a lot but are designed to just keep the palms of your hands warm. You still get the rest of your hands and wrists cold, and possibly wet. Heated clothes and heated gloves are better but I find that heated gloves eventually get wet in rain and snow no matter how much waterproofing spray I apply. Aerostich "3 digit glove covers" also called "over-gloves" work well to help keep your gloves dry but don't add any insulation to the mix. (I used these for rainy summer riding.) The best alternative product is Hippo Hands or similar products called Elephant Ears or Handlebar Muffs.

Searching the internet you will find branded products with these names and many more unbranded generic products which address the same problem. The main differences between these products are: size, amount of insulation, features, construction and price. They all attempt to provide hand/forearm covering, some better than others. Some have a hard(er) construction shell rather than just flexible fabric. Some have a cut out or extender cuff for a mirror. Some have drawstring for sealing up the space around your arm (so air and water doesn't get sucked back into your glove area.) Some even have zippered pockets on the top or side for ??? Size is important to insure the unit easily fits around your handlebar hand guards, brake/clutch levers and switch controls. Of course, waterproofing or water resistance is critical so rain and snow don't penetrate the shell.

I have two sets of these....(In this article I will refer to them generically as "muffs" instead of a specific brand name.) The first one I got was a generic no-brand set. They were made of insulated not-so-stiff fabric and were water resistant. Fitting them to my F800GSA with mirror coming out near the hand grip was more difficult as was fitting them over my existing large hand guards. I had to remove the hand guard, slip on the muff, cut an opening for the mirror (actually opened up a stitch in the seam). This generic unit was inexpensive,

only available in one size, and had open-end for my hand (no drawstring to help close up the opening). It was easy enough to put my hand on the handlebar grip, controls and switches, but I had to remember where the switches were located because I couldn't see them anymore. They did the job... much warmer and I could use lighter gloves (not my bulky snow-mobile double insulated gloves.) no need for my hand grip warmer to be set on high.

The second set I recently purchased was Wunderlich Handlebar Muffs. They are larger than my generics thereby making them easier to install over the handlebar hand guards and controls. I didn't need to remove and reinstall my mirrors or hand guards because there was plenty of room to slip them over both. These Muffs have an extended Velcro cuff to wrap around the mirror arm. They have a molded plastic insert along the front and side which ensures safe non-interference operation of brake, clutch and instruments (so that the material enclosure doesn't touch the controls.) They also have a small window so you can physically see the controls/switches. They're advertised to fit all motorcycles (with and without hand guard protectors) and are water-repellent, dirt-proof and have reflective strips for increased visibility/safety. There's a pull string closure around hands/forearm for further water protection.

If you are considering a pair of the muffs, I suggest asking around in the club to get feedback (likes and dislikes) and maybe to try them on your bike to be sure they fit. I've loaned my generic pair to Henning and others (off season) to tryout. Henning then purchased Hippo Hands. A great idea is that he stores them on the underside of his pannier covers (when he rides in cold weather). It's a great place to hide them until you need them.). Don E. also has a pair of Hippo Hands. Search on eBay for "motorcycle handlebar muff: to see many alternatives. Also look at www.wunderlichamerica.com/ and www.hippohands.com/ for the high end products. I lucked out buying mine at an MOA Get-a-Way rally. A guy won the Wunderlich

Muffs at the raffle. Looking as if he won an old wet tee shirt, he was more than happy to take my cash offer. Prices range from under \$20 for the cheap, less featured generics to \$200 for the best name brand ones (full featured).



Wunderlich Handlebar Muff. Easy to install. Insulated, window to see controls, mirror boot, forearm drawstring enclosure.



Comparison of "generic" vs. Wunderlich handlebar muffs.

Club Mileage Contest Results

Roger T

Here are the results of our 2021 Club Mileage Contest. Thanks to all 28 members who participated, especially during these somewhat restricted times. All mileages were higher

than last year (Covid year) but still lower than 2019, a normal year. Several riders had higher miles due to longer distance rides to Great Falls Montana and trips to NC/Tenn to MOA Rallies.

- Overall, 28 members rode 135,967 miles; this was 29,056 more than last year (as a group); Total miles in 2019 was 145,148 so this year we were still lower than two years ago. We had 4 more participants than last year.
- The average miles for the group of 28 was 4856 miles; 3,401 more than last yr.
- Top 3 riders rode 44,072 miles which was 11,749 more miles than last year. In 2019, they totaled 64,534.
- Top 3 riders average 14,691 miles, 4,017 increase from previous year's average.

- Our lowest mileage 3 riders rode a total of 257 miles... up from 114 miles last year but still lower from 283 in 2019.

Club mileage certificates and commentary on members' accomplishments were given at our Holiday Dinner 12/11/21 as a "thank you" for participation in our 14 year old event. The commentaries were of course "all in fun." The rest of the coveted certificates for those not at the dinner will be presented at our January club meeting. Hope you enjoyed it. We're looking forward to next year where EVERYONE will show drastic improvements to brag about.

Congratulations to all.

Roger T and Club Officers

Your dues ARE due!

Dues were due on 11/01 of last year. So – they're over-due NOW. You can renew online at:

<https://www.njsbmwr.org/Membership/application.html>

Note that if you attend next year's holiday party – a paid member receives \$20 subsidy toward the party, basically refunding their dues. Bring a guest and you're 2X ahead of the game.

Member	Grand Total	2021 Position
Roger Trendowski	15,564	1
Joe Karol	15,075	2
Jonathan Blair	13,433	3
Herb Konrad	12,597	4
Benedictus Paraan	11,602	5
Rick Shapiro	10,991	6
Greg Berger	10,954	7
Yannis Kokkinias	7,627	8
Mike Palmer	7,212	9
Henning von der Wroge	5,811	10
Manny Carabel	4,577	11
Greg Wright	2,804	12
Bill & Zhao Dudley	2,734	13
Rahul Dahiya	2,700	14
Don Del Nero	2,539	15
Greg Agnello	1,834	16
Jerry Rouvrais	1,702	17
Ed Gerber	1,484	18
Matt Scamardella	1,379	19
Jim Thomasey	1,077	20
Grant Duncan	852	21
Gary Shunk	433	22
Dave Rosen	267	23
Jerry Schreiber	245	24
Rick Lehman	217	25
Klaus Huenecke	172	26
Dennis Swanson	85	27
Mike Kowal	0.01	28

Shore BMW Riders Inc.
ditor – Jim Thomasey, Publisher

Motorcycle Christmas Gift: HJC i30 Helmet

Ben Paraan

I wore my Shoei full face helmet on my Thanksgiving ride down to South Carolina and left it there along with my K1600. I wasn't going to lug it back to Jersey on a plane because it's bulky and could get damaged in transit. Lucky me, that provided a convenient excuse to purchase a new helmet and have it shipped directly to my Jersey location.

My helmet requirements were as follows: light color for visibility and heat rejection, round oval interior shape, and potential for being cooler during a South Carolina summer. So I browsed through Revzilla's round oval helmets and gravitated towards three-quarter helmets with a windshield. The choice that stood out for me was the HJC i30, in an XL white. Sadly, Revzilla and many of my favorite stores were low on stock. I lucked out at the Dennis Kirk site so I placed my order and received the helmet before the projected delivery date.

The HJC i30 is a three-quarter helmet with a thick face shield that has catches on the side to help secure it when closed. This feature gives me some enhanced peace of mind since the chin area is vulnerable in a crash according to statistics. It has a drop down sun visor to allow me to ride in bright sun, although it is more of a medium smoke than a dark smoke. The disadvantage of a drop-down sun visor is that it will interfere with top front venting schemes. There is a top intake vent further back on top of the helmet to clear a retracted sun visor and a passive exhaust vent in the back. It has Pin-lock posts to accept an anti-fog insert. While overseas versions use a ratcheting closure, US versions come with double-Ds (rings that is, my mind gets easily distracted). The helmet can be fitted with a Bluetooth communication system and has cutouts in the ear pockets for speakers.

I have taken a few rides to try out this helmet with temperatures in the 30-50 degree range. I ride behind a touring windshield in both calm and windy conditions up to about 65mph. I noticed that the jaw was initially tight. It has become slightly more comfortable as it breaks in. There is a snug feeling overall which keeps the helmet from moving around. The face shield is thick, has great optics and provides an outstanding field of vision. It does have a slight tendency to fog up

in the usual conditions. I can feel some air coming in from the top vent but it is nowhere like my Shoei's. The HJC is very quiet, maybe quieter than my Shoei RF-1100, from behind my windshield. I raised my head into turbulent air coming over the windshield and I can induce a rattling sound from the top vent but it disappeared if I stood up further into the wind. It seems that there is a trade-off between quietness and venting. However, the lack of a chin bar may allow more air from below come summer. Speaking of chin bars, the lack thereof makes it more of a hassle to carry the HJC i30 around. Overall, the helmet is comfortable, with great materials and construction and functional operation of the face shield, sun visor and vent. It doesn't have a premium feel like a Shoei or Arai but it works. I bought the helmet for \$149 with free shipping. I think it was a great choice and I would recommend it.



I regretted buying the Escher GPS.

Holiday Gear Testing

Ben Paraan

This article is not what you thought it would be but it lives up to the title. The test involves an HJC i30 helmet, a Macna Geo jacket, a pair of Ariat work boots, IXS Arctic gloves and IXS Namib pants. Props include a BMW scooter and a large female deer.

A recalcitrant member of Santa's new and more inclusive team of sleigh pullers (no longer limited to just reindeer), figured on escaping the low wages of the north pole to find better pasture and working conditions in the Pine Barrens. Unfortunately, it included a mad dash across a roadway right into the left side of yours truly while riding a scooter. It sent me and the bike spilling along the asphalt. After a short overnight stay, I was able to go home with some broken ribs and a scare.

When I came to my senses, I was wiggling my extremities and looking left and right and generally feeling comfortable laying on the cold macadam. That was until I tried to get up. Bone cracking sounds and a sharp pain indicated that I did not escape harm completely.

The equipment damages:

The HJC ¾ helmet lost its face-shield but my face was unmarked. Small scuff over the right forehead and a larger scuffed area on the top left. Helmet did a wonderful job. Too bad it was only a month old.

The Macna Geo jacket came with Level 2 armor for the shoulders and elbows. I added a Knox Level 1 back armor. Armor was fantastic but the jacket didn't shield me from rib injury. The zippered vent on my right forearm tore but the rest of the

jacket suffered very minor scuffing.

The 6-inch high Ariat lace-up work boots suffered a scuff on the outside of the left foot. The laces held and boots stayed on my feet.

The IXS gloves look relatively unscathed except for very minor scuffs on leather fingers.

The IXS pants must have taken a beating as I saw a spot that almost wore through from abrasion on top of my left thigh. I didn't suffer a bruise in that area but I was aware that the area felt a tad sore. The bottom edge of the pants also had some wear.

The gear I was wearing definitely limited the damage to my body. Good stuff!

Would an inflatable vest have prevented my rib injuries? In my estimation, probably not. Here's why: most inflatable vests are designed for the tumble after disconnecting from the bike. If the impact with the deer caused the injuries, maybe built in chest armor could have mitigated some, but not all of it. If falling off the bike caused the rib fractures, then an inflatable vest would have been worth its weight in gold. It felt like the rib area under the armpit was the only unprotected area that most chest armor does not cover entirely.

I managed to spend a nice quiet Christmas at home. I'm healing remarkably well and I'm starting to wean away from the Motrin. Too bad the scooter is gone. I've walked for 1 and 2 miles and pedaled 10 miles on my bicycle within 5 days of getting home. I hope your holidays are joyous and free of the wrong kind of adventure.