

July 2022

# NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

**Mike Palmer, President** ([president@njsbmwr.org](mailto:president@njsbmwr.org))  
**Rick Shapiro, Vice President**  
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**Jim Thomasey, Secretary, Newsletter Publisher**  
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## President's Message

*Mike Palmer, President*

Welcome to Summer. Riding season is in full swing. I'm seeing more bikes on the road every day, I mean every day. Don't people work anymore? I'm enjoying weekday rides to the Fluffy-Butt destinations. I'm about a quarter of the way through and once again Jonathan has put together some enjoyable stops.

Well last month I said I might go to Cross Country and kick some tires. That turned into a new bike, a K1600 GTL. It will be here in September. I have had 2 Gold Wings and this BMW looks to kick some serious butt to Honda. I mean 0 mph to 60 mph in 2.3 seconds, who needs that and 160 HP? I guess I do. What is clutchless shifting? Just bang gears! It has a light under the bike engine so you can see the ground at night when parking. Once again my wife Jackie said this will be my last bike. As she has said 5 bikes ago.

I'm heading up the Ice cream social on July 20th to "Ice Cream on 9" in Howell just south of West Farms Road. See you there at 6:00pm.

This month's meeting we will have a guest speaker. Jerry Freidman who will go over having the proper bike insurance coverage. He has asked that we bring our declaration pages from our bike insurance companies and your auto insurance as well. He will explain the importance being sure both policies are synced up.

Don't forget the Moribundi Lunch on the 6th, at Mussuto's Market in Wall. Our meeting at Woody's in Farmingdale will be on the 13th, dinner at 6:00pm and meeting around 7:00pm.

Keep the greasy side down and keep riding.

*"But the gravest problem is that I don't lose my nerve before I jump. Hell, I don't feel I have a problem. I have a situation. I don't any problems in life, just situations. I'm positive I can jump the Grand Canyon because I'm a firm believer in the fact that any idea that a man can honestly conceive and honestly believe, if he wants to do the thing really badly enough, he can do it"*

*Evil Knieval*

*"All you have to do is pedal until the engine goes off and then steer it down the road, missing teams and street cars and small houses as long as you can. You increase the speed by turning one handle and control the spark by turning the other, brake with your right hand, work the clutch with your left and keep track of your oil and gasoline and electricity with the rest of your hands"*

*Colliers Magazine, 1913*

*"At the moment, even the growing movement based on simplifying life has spawned more commodities, books and magazines that tell you how to get there. But one uninstructed option remains to pack a very small bag and hit the road"*

*Melissa Holbrook Pierson*

*"All I ask is is the chance to prove money can't make me happy"*

*Spike Milligan*

# Last Month's Club Meeting Minutes

By Mike Palmer for Jim Thomasey

June minutes submitted by Lane Snarrow

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Mike Palmer. The minutes from the May meeting were approved and the motion passed to accept them. There was some discussion of maintenance costs related to BMW bikes which prompted Mike to say he may be getting a new bike by the end of the summer.

The treasurer noted we have just under \$1100 while the membership committee reported we have 55 paid members. The audiologist who spoke at the May meeting was well received and enlightening for the members in attendance. This month's meeting will have Jerry Friedman the motorcycle attorney as our guest. Please bring your car and bike insurance declaration page to the meeting if you would like Jerry to review it.

Jonathan will again be preparing the Fluffy Butt challenge stops for us this year. There are about 40 stops to visit and there are new photo requirements to encourage participation. Members approved money to be used for gift cards for the winners.

Ice Cream rides will take place the 3rd Wednesday of each month with a new leader for each ride. The first ride took place June 15 at Hoffman's in Spring Lake. The 50/50 was won by our newest member, Jeff Diorio. Additional prizes for June included a stuff sack won by Tom Suhocky and an MOA shirt getting a new home with Gary Shrunck

## Club Calendar

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

### July

- July 6 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM Mussuto's Market, RT35 Wall
- July 13 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to



SERVING THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY SINCE 1977

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eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

- July 20 Ice cream ride 6:00PM Ice Cream on 9, Howell

### August

- August 3 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- August 5-7 MOA Getaway all day Guelph, Ontario, Canada
- August 10 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- August 17 Ice cream ride 6:30PM TBD

### September

- September 7 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- September 9-11 MOA Getaway all day Sugarbush, VT
- September 14 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- September 16-18 MOA Getaway all day Cedar City, UT
- September 21 Ice cream ride 6:30PM TBD

### October

- October 5 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- October 12 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- October 19 Ice cream ride 6:30PM TBD

### November

- November 2 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- November 9 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

### December

- December 7 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- December 14 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

## **BMW MOA National Rally Trip**

Roger T

Sightseeing is just part of tripping. Unless you are an iron-butt kind of rider, stopping along a long route makes sense... at a tourist place or at least to gas up, rest or P. I particularly look for unusual places to explore on my long distance rides. On June 11<sup>th</sup>, Joe Karol and I took off for the MOA National Rally held in Springfield Missouri, about a 1200 mile jaunt. For an iron-butt rider, this would be a day ride. In fact, the MOA made it easy for riders to get their Saddlesore 1000 certification this year by documenting the termination of 1000 mile rides. Our first day ride was 500 miles to just East of New River Gorge, WV. Early on Day 2 we traveled down to the New River to Thurmond ,WV.

Thurmond was the heart of New River Gorge carrying shipments of coal from surrounding coal mines to industrial areas around the country. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway was completed through the area in 1873 which was the same year that W.D. Thurmond acquired 73 acres along the river and railway. Coal and timber shipments expanded which made the town also grow. Activity at the depot peaked in 1910. That same year, 75,000 passengers passed through the town. Two hotels, two banks, restaurants, and a movie theater served visitors and residents. Thurmond thrived until the Great Depression and changing transportation impacted its economy. Its economy, buildings and community continued to decline throughout the 40's, 50s and 60s. In 1958 the last steam locomotive engine in New River Gorge was retired which meant there was no longer a need for steam maintenance shops or workers. In 1978 New River Gorge was designated a unit of the National Park System. In 1995 the restored New River Gorge Depot was opened by the Park Service. Today there are a number of restored buildings including the depot, banks, coal tower, commissary building, and hotel. The Park Welcome Center is actually the old passenger depot... nicely done with relics, photos, items to buy, and bathrooms of course.

After Thurmond, my bright idea was to head due West toward Bowling Green KY where the Corvette Museum is located. (programmed in Dufus-the GPS) Well, due West via GPS shortest

route took us over some interesting curvy, mountainous roads in rural West Virginia and Eastern Kentucky. I never thought I would get tired of curves but I did in this case. My new tires wore off the rubber nipples on their sides. Curves were so tight and I was leaning so far over, that I felt like I was nearly horizontal. The curvy roads are nothing like the Blue Ridge Parkway or the Dragon. Those routes are twisty but not as tight as the WV/KY back roads we were on. We definitely had to ride slower than in the Carolinas. About 100 miles into the mountainous route, Joe and I stopped in a town (at least I think it was a town) which had a dilapidated school, overgrown basketball court, and some rusty old cars. I analyzed my GPS potential routes and Joe concentrated on his phone (luckily there was cell service). Both devices wanted us to retreat back out the way we came. The only alternative was to continue another 100 miles to civilization. Of course as a glutton for punishment, we forged onward. By the way, most roads in West Virginia go North and South and not East of West, the way we wanted to go. I suppose the reason is the mountains and rivers flow N-S due to the direction of glacial ice flows. Our route toward the West to Bowling Green actually was a series of North, then South then North zig zag roads.... going North, crossing a river, then South,... then across another barrier, then North again. By the time we traveled across 1/3 of KY, we moved out of the mountainous "coal mining" area and the region flattened out and major roads were now East to West. We stayed overnight one more time before arriving at Bowling Green KY Corvette place.

The Corvette Museum is interesting even if you aren't a car-buff. Their story has changed substantially since the cave-in in the center of the building Feb 2014. It was a sink-hole, undiscovered when the building was constructed years ago. Before the catastrophe which swallowed 8 priceless corvettes, the museum showed detailed history and many unique cars. But after the cave-in and after rebuilding the center of their structure, they reoriented their story. Now, besides displaying many excellent historical and current model cars, they provide 1) a window in the floor where you can look down into the cave, 2) view a couple destroyed cars, and 3) a dark room simulation. In the dark room you are directed to look upward. There's a light in the ceiling (like looking at a small hole with light). Then the hole begins to open wider and wider. It's the

floor of the museum as if you are in the bottom of the cave. The “floor starts to cave-in” and cars begin to fall through. Looking down now, you see priceless Corvette falling to the bottom of the chamber. It’s cool to watch this realistic animation. In a nearby relics room, there is a night security camera video of the actual disastrous cave-in and another video showing how cranes removed the cars.

We arrived at the rally site in Springfield MO on Tuesday late morning. Luckily we stayed only 100 miles from Springfield the night before after searching and unsuccessfully finding a hotel for a couple of hours. Even though we traveled on US60 between Bowling Green and Springfield there were few name-brand hotels although there were several B-rated motels scattered along the route. Upon checking-in with MOA staff at the rally site and volunteering to help, we found and took inventory of our event storage container. Joe and I were “chair organizers” for the People’s Choice Bike Show/Judging event on Saturday. Tuesday evening we attended the “volunteer dinner” with about 300-400 others who showed up early to help setup the rally grounds.... good food and free beer.

Wednesday through Friday consisted of setup and operations volunteering as well as reviewing all the 80+ MC vendor’s offerings. Most of the vendors were located indoors in air conditioning which made the 95-98 degree temperature outside avoidable. However there were at least two dozen companies in the outdoors heat... companies installing tires, lights, seats and other farkles. One food vendor was located inside but most were outside. I had the opportunity to attend two other MOA sponsored dinners (Magazine Contributor dinner and MOA Ambassador dinner) while Joe had dinners with NJ club members Henning van der Worge, Herb Konrad and Jim Nanfeldt. We took the opportunity to attend several of the 50+ seminars. While passing the door of one of the seminar rooms, all you could hear is a loud roar of laughter. It was Jack Riepe hosting a 1 ½ hr seminar on “how to write articles” but mixed with his typical hilarious entertaining K-bike and brunette life-stories. We squeezed in the over crowded room. Joe said afterward that he “can’t remember when he laughed so hard out loud.”

The main event for Joe and me was the People’s Choice Bike Show/Judging on Saturday. Our dis-

play area was a large portion of the parking lot next to BMW /5 display area. We had 10 bike class areas for AirHeads, Oil Heads,.. and side-car rigs. It took 10 volunteers to run our event... to register participants, help locate bikes in correct class area, encourage people to vote, input voter data. After 7 ½ hours of registering, display, voting and tallying, we had 203 voters, 1436 votes, 38 bikes. 1st-3rd place certificates were awarded to the winners of each class and one best-in-show certificate. The overall best-in-show award went to a deserving young woman whose F900XR bike was a beautifully repainted pink. Volunteers Herb, Jim, Henning, Ron Scibetti (old NJ Shore member) as well as 6 others were instrumental in making our event a great success.

The MOA gave out a beautifully restored 1972 Monza Blue Toaster Tank R75/5 bike as part of rally registration ticket. (The MOA foundation also raffled two other beautifully restored /5s.) There were a total of 4636 rally attendees. Numerous awards were given for longest distance rider, longest two up, youngest ... etc and oldest female rider. This award was given to a lady who was 80 years old... however I have a friend at the Rally from Toronto who is 84 and rides a full blown R1200GS (but she didn’t register for this award).

The Rally officially ended Sunday and like most people, we headed for home early morning. Our route home was pretty direct, via interstate... Northeast to Illinois, East on interstates 70 and 76 to Carlisle PA. We ate at my favorite restaurant, Middlesex Diner on Rt 11 near Carlisle which is about 180 miles to home. Because of time of day, we overnighted in Carlisle... and finished the ride on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup>. Overall, we did 2600 miles in 11 days with 4 days commuting between the hotel and fairgrounds. Overall, we hit very few miles in light rain (on day 1 in PA) and the rest of the time it was clear but **hot** in KY and MO. The return trip home was comfortable riding in mid-70’s most of the way. An exception to comfort was two long traffic jams on I-70... but Joe had a solution for that.

See it on our trip video on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/u5NDhn8Wzn8> I will now call Joe “leader of the pack.”





Total trip miles was about 2600. The lower jagged route from Thurmond WV to Bowling Green KY included a lot of back roads. This was preprogrammed for GPS shortest route. Routes between Harrisburg and Springfield are shown.



Single-lane bridge leading to Thurmond... at the end of a winding secondary road.



Abandoned coal town of Thurmond WV on the New River. This railroad town had it's high-point in early 1900s but as coal mining diminished, so did the town. It was taken over by the National Park System in mid 1990's.



Roger and Joe inside the Corvette Museum .





*This year's MOA celebration was for 50 years of the /5s. The MOA gave away a beautiful /5 based on your registration ticket.*



*Just one of a 203 Rally attendees who is voting for bikes in 10 classes.*



*Kristen Caravello won best bike in the F- Bike Class as well as Best-In-Show with her F900XL.*



*Peoples Choice Bike Show & Judging event layout. 38 bikes entered and 1436 votes counted in order to determine 1st-3<sup>rd</sup> place winners for each of 10 bike classes.*



*Volunteers left to right: John Hoopes, Herb Konrad, me, Marc Souliere, Henning von der Wroge, Jim Nanfeldt, and Joe Karol . Joe and I were leaders of the Peoples Choice Bike Show/Judging event. 7 ½ hours long in the heat. Several other folks helped to make our event successful. Vince Kelly (our club MOA rep), John Strickland (Skylands), Ron Scibetti (previous NJ Shore member), Tom Werstler, and Colleen Sepulveda are not shown since they worked earlier shifts.*

Youtube link for the Peoples Choice Bike Show and Judging event

<https://youtu.be/dCFaugjdB2g>

## **Fluffybutt 2022**

Jonathan B

FluffyButt is back for 2022, now with both motorcycle and car classes running in parallel.

This year, the game will consist of a list of 39 objectives around NJ, Eastern PA, Southern NY, and even DE. You will navigate to the objective and take a photo of your vehicle with the objective in the background to prove you captured that objective. Each objective will be worth some number of points. There will also be opportunities to obtain points by going to places like rallies. It's not a race. The winners are those with the most points at the end of the season.

All of the objectives have GPS coordinates and a sample photo. You get these via a Google Sheet, a custom Google map, and a GPX file to upload to your GPS unit.

I hope everyone in the club joins up. Even if you're not playing to win, you can get some nice day trips in.

If you're interested at all in joining the club members that are already participating, send an email to [fluffybutt@casano.com](mailto:fluffybutt@casano.com), and I'll send you the instructions that include the links for the above files.

### **3 Club Rumble**

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Obtained below, exclusive, long distance, blurry (therefore genuine), fly on the wall paparazzi pictures from our stealth attendee who tracked the action.

All requests for on-the-record comments from NJSBMW attendees were turned down as either "I can't talk and eat at the same time" or "Hell no, the wife might find out I'm not really at Home Depot."



## **The K1200RS Bug**

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Gary S

Seems I've been stung by the "I want a K1200rs that I can afford" bug.

I helped co-member Pete Weigley shop for one a few months back.

They are not hard to find but getting one in nice condition can take some hunting around, especially if you already have a perfectly fine 2022 Ducati. Price needs to be low so as not to upset the wife.

We found a nice example in Staten Island, a 2003 model in silver and red. Fine running machine with good body work to boot. A short test drive later he bought it on the spot and drove it home from there.

I was sold on getting one for myself. The search goes on for another one... what happened to all the fine examples I saw earlier? I searched the ads and Internet for something in my area and price range. I found one up in the Montclair area but the seller would not allow a test ride. Seems he was burned on a previous sale in which the prospective buyer crashed his bike on the test drive and he was stuck with his wrecked bike. Not for me. I found another example in New Brunswick but the pictures hid a lot of of the body damage. Again not for me. I saw an add in Facebook Marketplace for a good looking 2000 model, silver with blue accents - my favorite color next to the red one. Now comes the zinger, bike has been sitting outside in the weather for 10 years and has not been started in that time either. It happened to be in a town next to the one I grew up in so I had to go and at least take a look at it, right?

Pete comes along for the ride and moral support. I bring some tools and a spare battery to see if the damn thing even turns over. I wasn't expecting much but had nothing better to do. We drove to the location which turned out to be a car repair and used car lot. The bike was indeed sitting outside against the garage wall and pinned in by an old engine hoist. The owner was more than happy to help get the bike out where we could look at it. I'll have to admit the bodywork was in great shape for sitting outside uncovered in the



rain and snow and sun for 10 years. The seat was another story. The owner tells me the bike belonged to an ex-employee who left him with the title, the bike and said good riddance. The new owner planned on getting it running and selling it. Well that never happened and there it sat. Until that is, I came along. I checked the oil – it looked new. Battery was of course dead. It was a bear to push with a flat front tire. Front brakes appeared to be dragging a bit even after filling the tires with air. Gas smelled something awful! We added a little gas that I had brought from home and it was time to see just how bad this bike really was. Hooked up the jumper cables to the battery leads and turned on the key. Warning lights came on as expected, turn signals worked, brake light worked headlight even came on. Then turned the key to start. Bike cranked over freely without any unusual mechanical noises, but no start. I wasn't expecting it to, but it would have been nice. Well, I decided I wanted a project bike to work on over the summer so why not try it on a bike I've longed for..

Two days later I rented a U Haul trailer and the bike is currently in my garage being taken apart bit by bit.

Wish me luck!

## Highly Classifieds

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**For Sale: Triumph Bonneville 65 w 12 update;** has orange 66 tank, professionally reconditioned. \$5000, call Jerry at 908-472-8585

**For Sale: 1995 BMW R100RT** – call Jerry at 908-472-8585

**For Sale: 1973 R75/5** that has been garaged and covered for almost 30 years since last being ridden. The gentleman's name is Bill Shera and can be reached at 856-745-2031 or [wgshera@yahoo.com](mailto:wgshera@yahoo.com) Bike is located in Gibbsboro, NJ

## And Lastly...

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Summer...Weekends away and BBQs

I don't know who this man is but I do know that his wife was out of town for the weekend.



Gotta love them "Biker Chicks"

