

March 2004 NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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Congress consists of one-third, more or less, scoundrels; two-thirds, more or less idiots; and three-thirds, more or less, poltroons - H.L. Mencken

President's Message

The winter weather finally broke late in February letting us enjoy the first rides of the season.

The newsletter reintroduced a feature this month... a list of the upcoming rides for the next month. That way everyone can plan their schedules. Additionally, the rides are posted on the Yahoo Group site under the heading "Calendar".

This month's meeting, March 10th, Scott Barkey from Cross Country BMW is going to speak about his trip to South Africa and the introduction of the new R1200GS. Scott's experiences in South Africa and Botswana promise to be interesting.

For the April meeting, we have scheduled Glen and Janet Martin to talk and present a digital slide show about their recent motorcycle trip to Costa Rica.

Our first weekend trip of the year is scheduled for May 21st ~ 23rd to New York State. We will ride along the Hudson River, visit the motorcycle exhibit at the Albany Institute of History & Art, pass through the Catskill Mountains, and return home along the Delaware River. Read the article in this newsletter and sign-up soon.

See you Wednesday evening the 10th.

Skip Palmer

Cross Country Tech Session, Feb 19th



On February 19, 2004 Cross Country BMW of Metuchen presented another tech session.

The integral ABS brakes and add on lighting were the topics.

Naturally, we started with pizza served in the shop area at about 7:15, with soda and some salads for those that aren't pizza fans.



Present were 21 Jersey Shore members along with 11 others from Skylands and New Sweden clubs.

Our plan was to take back roads west and end up at the super store and meet with them and plan an afternoon ride. We did that and arrived there shortly before 12 to a "jammed" parking lot and store. Despite the massive crowds, we soon found them and started kicking tires and basking in the warm sunshine. Even John Welch, cracked ribs and all, had made the trip on his "wing."

Since Skip's group wanted to eat at Wendy's and then start back, we separated. Our plan was to head north to Jim Thorpe and have lunch in one of the many restaurants there. Lots of snow was still to be seen, but other than some run-off water on the roads, we had a good ride there.

You know the usual Pennsylvania ride. Winding roads with double lines where you never pass slow drivers on double lines, and one little decrepit town after another.

Who lives there and what do they do for a living and why don't they paint their houses?

Nevertheless, the roads and scenery sure beat central Jersey for riding. Jim Thorpe is sort of a neat little town. Surrounded by mountains, it has clearly seen better days, but seems to be in a revitalization and has a certain charm. It could be a good destination for future rides.

Back on the road after a good lunch in a local tavern, we headed north to go south which bothered Grant. But sometimes you have to do that and it proved to be the right direction. We peeled off from Max and the group at Saylorburg and headed south on 33. From there it was 78 to 287 to the Parkway and home. Grant and I rarely went faster than the posted speed limits. Home by 5, it was a rare winter treat to have a day so fine for riding! - *Dennis Swanson*

RIDE TO CABELA'S OUTLET STORE a second viewpoint..

Sunday, February 29th, the weather gave us an early taste of spring. The sun was strong with the temperature was already in the upper forties by 9 AM and later in the day reached the mid sixties.

Jim Baechle, Dan Thompson, George Roberts, John Welch, Tom & Moe Mahan, Mike Palmer and I met at the Cheesequake Rest Area. Tom Spader was also there; however, he was unable to ride with us because of a leaking rear seal.

We rode the GSP, I-287 & I-78 west to Cabela's Outlet store in Hamburg, PA arriving around 11 AM. The place is huge, crowded, and overwhelming. Dennis Swanson, Grant Duncan, Max Monaco and a half dozen Skylands Rider arrived at noon. After a brief visit

in the parking lot, they headed toward Jim Thorpe, PA for lunch.

Our return route took us north through the gap in Blue Mountain and passed the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. Then, we followed several smaller roads along the northern base of Blue Mountain and Kittatinny Mountain. These winding, rural roads followed several small brooks and streams past rolling farms and through the forests. There was snow still melting under the trees and as a result, the roads were wet and littered with winter gravel. The bikes got dirty, but the scenery and twisting route made for a great ride.

We arrived in the town of Delaware Water Gap about 3 PM and headed south following the western side of the river to New Hope and the Triumph Brewery. Our return route was across the river to Lambertville and home through Trenton and I-195. The total trip was 350+ miles.

Skip Palmer

SPRING WEEKEND TRIP May 21st ~ 23rd

The Hudson River ~ Museum Motorcycle Exhibit ~ Catskills

Friday morning, May 21st, we are scheduled to leave the Cheesequake Rest Area for a ride along the Hudson River enroute to Albany. The trip will take us to Bear Mountain State Park, across the Bear Mountain Bridge and north along the river. We will see the Old Dutch villages of the seventeenth century and the impressive estates of the nineteenth century as we ride through the farms and orchards along the river's edge. The first night, we will stay just south of Albany.

The next morning, we will visit the Albany Institute of History & Art. The museum's current show is "Designs Through Time: Motorcycles Past, Present & Future". The rest of the day, we will ride through the Catskill Mountains. That evening, we will visit the Country Inn at Krumville, NY. This little inn is subdued and doesn't even have a sign out front. Fodor's travel guide rates this one of the best beer bars in the world. More than thirty-five years ago, Larry Erenberg, the owner, wanted to expose people to new ideas and different beers. Today, he sells over 500 ales and beers from over forty countries. As you enter, there is a score-board style menu listing all of the beers on the wall.

Sunday morning, we will ride to the headwaters of the Delaware River. From there, riders have the option to follow the river home or continue on to Watkins Glen and the Finger Lakes. For those not registered for the Super Bike School on the 24th, please consider joining us for the extended ride.

ATTENTION: You **MUST** commit for this ride so that we can make the necessary reservations. Contact Skip as soon as possible. - *Skip Palmer*

ORGANIZERS:

Your organizers are: Allen Clarkson, Brian Curry, Don Eilenberger, Harold Gantz, Al Peirson, Mark Zimmerman, along with special help from our friends in the Citibeemers, Mac-Pac, New Jersey Shore BMW Riders, and New Sweden BMW Riders clubs, as well as many of the folks who attend!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW - Saturday April 24
- Sunday April 25**

Harold Gantz

Oilhead Tech Weekend – March 13th - 14th

Gary Smith, "Tech Sessions" columnist in the BMW MOA Owner's News, will be hosting the 2nd annual Oilhead Tech weekend at his shop in Pittsburgh the weekend of March 13th & 14th. I attended the "inaugural" Oilhead tech weekend last year, and it eventually evolved into the standing-room-only Oilhead Tech Session at the MOA Rally in Charleston.

On Saturday morning master machinist and renowned BWM wrench Al Vangura will take us through the transmission, and in the afternoon Al and Gary will tear apart the engine as they did in Charleston, right down to splitting the case. Sunday morning will be a hands-on session when we'll have a chance to do it ourselves. Because attendance is limited everyone will have chance to get their hands as dirty as they want. The session will end at noon on Sunday. Novices and experienced wrenches both welcome.

Gary converted an old transmission shop into a veritable playground for gearheads, completely dedicated to working on BWM's both old and new.

There is NO COST for the tech session itself; you just pay for your lodging is at the local Motel 6 and meals. You will never have a better chance to see and understand how these engines are put together, right down to the crankshaft. This is also an opportunity to learn a few things from some of the most knowledgeable guys in the BWM community.

Attendance is extremely limited and by invitation only, so if you would like to attend please let me know ASAP as there are a few spots left. First come, first served. Gary or I will provide travel and lodging information once your attendance is confirmed. You should plan to go out Friday (3/12), as the first session will begin promptly at 8:00AM Saturday.

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Strange but True!

Glenn Martin – our Internet Reporter

In case you haven't seen this, it looks useful for folks who need help, ideas or inspiration for a ride. I just need more vacation time...so many roads, so little time. - Glenn (PS - I have no affiliation or experience w/ these people.)

<http://www.budgetbiketours.com/> "Tour prices include accommodations, breakfast and dinner, maps and guides. Participants are responsible for lunch, gas, alcohol and other miscellaneous expenditures. All tour prices are based on double occupancy. (If single occupancy is desired, and there is availability, an extra \$65/night will be charged.)

Scheduled tours begin on Sunday evening, include dinner and accommodations that night, and end after breakfast on the last day of the tour. For instance, a 5 night/4 day Tour would begin on a Sunday evening, tour Monday - Thursday, and end after breakfast on Friday morning. This allows you the weekend before and after the tour to get to and from the tour's start and end points."

Daytona 200 aims for *bigger* crowds

www.motorcyclenews.com

Daytona bike week will undergo the biggest rescheduling in its history next year in a bid to get more people to attend the racing rather than just the parties and street shows.

The event was built up around the superbike races but over the years the gathering of bikes and the resulting parties have become more of an attraction than the racing itself. So the AMA, organizers of all the racing events has opted for a major re-shuffle to the racing calendar for 2004 to try and boost the trackside crowds.

The main changes will see the Daytona 200, the opening round of the AMA Superbike championship, moved to Saturday, March 6. It is usually held on Sunday, when most people are thinking of packing up to go home. The Daytona Supercross will take place on the evening of Friday, March 5 under floodlights. The Supercross race is traditionally held on Saturday afternoon.

Other changes to the schedule include the flat track and 'Hot Shoe' races moving to Wednesday, March 3 and Thursday, March 4, the Supersport and **BMW Boxer Cup** races will take place before the Superbike race and the Superstock and Formula Xtreme races will take place on Thursday, March 4.