

February 2005 NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

Website: <http://www.njsbmwr.org>

Messageboard:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/njsbmwr/>

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Skip Palmer, Trustee and Ride Co-Chair

Glenn Martin, Strange But True Reporter

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John Malaska, Ride Co-Chair

Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces up, snow is exhilarating; there is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather. - John Ruskin

President's Message

Well, it definitely cooled down a bit from last month and the first few days of January. As most of you can see by the Yahoo Group correspondence, some of the club's die-hards are still out there, especially riding to the Polar Bear sites. I noticed an email from a member who showed up at the usual Wawa departure site and no one else came. My recommendation is that you use Yahoo Group email to communicate that you will/might/could possibly be going on the ride. At least then, anyone interested in riding will know who else is considering it. Then our NEW club membership telephone list is the best last-minute way to confirm intentions, etc.

Our Executive Committee has been working on improvements to the new member process. By the February 9th meeting, it should be fully ironed out. New members will receive electronic verifications of their application submittals, a welcome letter, membership list, events list, and instruction to use the club Yahoo Group website. It should be everything they need to learn about our club and get them acclimated to our communications channels.

If anyone is not currently using the Yahoo Group website and wants to, then please email me. Faster yet, go to the site and try to subscribe to it. That will send a notification to Don Eilenberger and he can add you. If you experience a problem, then please contact me. If you are getting emails from the site but want to change the method that you receive them, then go to the site <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/njsbmwr/> and edit your



membership profile. You can have 1) INDIVIDUAL yahoo group emails sent to your PC asap, 2) DAILY DIGEST of all emails for the day, 3) NO EMAILS (therefore you would have to log onto the website to read emails).

In case you haven't noticed, our Yahoo Group site, FILES FOLDER, now contains updated membership lists. One contains the typical name/address/telephone info and the second contains email addresses. Membership data has been cross-checked with recent application renewals and should be correct. Thanks to Carl Cangelosi, our treasurer, secretary and all-around membership database manipulator. Please review and provide comments to Carl via email or phone. Also, if you haven't noticed, our public website <http://www.njsbmwr.org/> has been updated to include a fresh new look with 2005 material and officer updates. Thanks to Alex Edly for helping out.

Put these dates on your calendar: Feb. 9th Club meeting and Feb. 17 (Thurs) Tech Night at Cross Country BMW. Polar Bear rides are scheduled throughout the month
<http://www.polarbeargrandtour.com/>.

Roger Trendowski

Snowbound Motorcycle Show

Dennis Swanson

Jan. 22, 2005

You watch the weather channel and they are always predicting doomsday and you tell yourself that you should ignore their predictions. But then again, they might be correct and you will pay a big penalty. Think back to the RA Rally in West Virginia last year. The hurricane was coming north and if you were foolish

George said it took three hours for their bus to reach Bordentown.

** The "walk was more like a crawl since by the time we left there was about 8-10" of snow on the ground, no cabs would stop and the roads and sidewalks weren't cleared. We ended up struggling to Penn Station up the middle of the road since the sidewalks were impassable. That and the 50MPH winds pretty much sucked. Don*

Babblings from Biker Tom

Dr. Tom Spader

Camp Blanding, FL - Well...now it's Friday noon Jan 14 and after riding since Tuesday with temps at 80 degrees along the coast on A1A...it's time for the Coolest Winter Rally hosted by the Northeast Florida BMW club. The week included a trip to Daytona Speedway for NASCAR practice and a Double D plate of wings at Hooters across the street. But, my third year of attendance underscored the rally motto known for 'bad weather and great steaks'.

I was joined by Jim Hoehl of Spring Lake AND Sun City, SC (just outside of Hilton Head in case you need a place to stay) and former prez Skip Palmer...for a biking weekend in northern Florida. As noted earlier, the weather was grand all week until Friday morning when the rains began. Although the rain cleared up about 3 PM and we saw the sun, it was short lived until Sunday afternoon. I didn't realize Hoehl was of Japanese origin until I saw his strange practice of Feng Shui during the tent erection ceremony alongside the lake. Feng Shui for a tent?



Skip didn't bring his bike but was prepared for the rain as noted in this photo. Jim was trying to land a spot on the Ark for himself and his RT on the left.



So, why not have some wind too? Both Jim and I thought the winds off the lake would blow our tents down on Friday night and we actually considered going out into the darkness looking for the wolf who was creating such discomfort. But again, the rally is noted for bad weather and great steaks so why try and fight it? Besides it wasn't safe outside the tents. After Friday's dinner of brats, kraut, chopped onion and baked beans the Rally Tent Symphony started up around 1 AM with harmonic belches, farts, tent zippers, snores, more farts, more snores, coughs, occasional sounds of barfing and running water (?) throughout the night. All we needed was a fiddle section and a Jew's harp. Yikes...why do I do this?

After Saturday morning breakfast in the mess hall with some of George's soldiers departing for Iraq, we rode over to St Augustine for lunch and stuff at a biker bar. All the other bikers were home...electing to avoid the incessant wind and drizzle. But we had fun and while Jim and I enjoyed grilled grouper sammys, Skip loaded up with raw oysters and shrimp. Wonder what he was thinking?

Okay, now for the steaks and the Saturday evening awards presentations. The tradition is for participants to grill their own steaks, which was a hoot in itself. Then while eating dinner the awards are passed out to bon vivants and debonair riders for various feats of strength, daring, qualities of handsomeness, brains, modesty and contributions to mankind. Deciding to take a break from the prestigious presentations, I was heading out of the main room to check the Jet vs Pitts score in the bar...when my name was called out as the single rider who had all those qualities and rode the greatest distance to the rally. Of course, what else? So as the crowd of 400 plus cheered...I humbly accepted the award and gift (free pass next year) and thanked the NJ Shore BMW Riders for assisting me with the weekly club rides as training for achieving this goal. More applause. Okay, it wasn't my fault...I simply misunderstood the 'ridden' part.

Mar. 14th: Ride south on I-95 to Boynton Beach area
Matt Dobbs and Michael Mulroy are both in the area:
260 miles

Mar. 15th: Key West: 210 miles

Mar. 16th: Dry Tortugas National Park by high-speed
Cat Evening in Key West: 0 miles

Mar. 17th: Everglades National Park: 300 miles

Mar. 18th: Amelia Island: 400 miles

Mar. 19th: Myrtle Beach to meet Mike and Tom: 350
miles

Mar. 20th: Home: 465 miles

Anyone who wants to ride with me please call me by
February 10th at 732-890-3832 to be included.

Road to Nowhere Ride, June 2005

Skip Palmer

Friday, June 3rd Mike Palmer is leading a ride to the end of the northern most road in Quebec Province. This road is privately owned by the Power Company of Quebec and ends on the James Bay. At the northern end of the road is the town of Radisson with hydroelectric generating plants that produce enough electricity for all of eastern Canada and much of New England. The plant, which we will tour is the largest underground facility in the world. It has been described as a "James Bond" set with an "eat off the floor" clean generating room.

The ride north will take three days. We will travel about five hundred miles each day and spend one evening in Montreal, Matagami, and finally three nights in Radisson. Monday, in Radisson, we will tour the electric power plant. Tuesday we will take a heli-tour of the region including the James Bay in the morning and in the afternoon take a canoe tour on the James Bay with Cree Indian guides.

There are two return options:

1. The first is to back track the same route with Mike and arrive home on Friday evening;
2. The second is to travel with Skip east across the tundra to Lac St. Jean on Thursday. Friday, we will follow the Saquenay Fiord to the St. Lawrence River and spend the night in Quebec City. Saturday we will ride south to the coast of Maine. We will arrive home on Sunday.

So far, we have six riders that have made firm commitments to ride: Dennis Swanson, Bob Truex, Tom & Moe Mahan, Mike and myself. We have only a little over one hundred days before we leave.

If you want to be included, you **MUST** contact Mike at 732-371-2358 by **February 10th**.

February Rides and Events

Feb. 9th: 7 PM Monthly meeting @ Schneider's

Feb. 13th: Polar Bear Ride to the Landslide Saloon, Pattenberg, NJ

Feb. 17th: 7 PM Tech Night at Cross Country BMW, Metuchen

Feb. 20th: Polar Bear Ride to Hooters, South Wayne, NJ

Feb. 27th: Polar Bear Ride to Bahr's Landing, Highlands, NJ

Strange but True

Glenn Martin, Internet Reporter

<http://www.ananova.com>

Man peed way out of avalanche

A Slovak man trapped in his car under an avalanche freed himself by drinking 60 bottles of beer and urinating on the snow to melt it.

Rescue teams found Richard Kral drunk and staggering along a mountain path four days after his Audi car was buried in the Slovak Tatra Mountains. He told them that after the avalanche, he had opened his car window and tried to dig his way out. But as he dug with his hands, he realized the snow would fill his car before he managed to break through.

He had 60 half-liter bottles of beer in his car as he was going on holiday, and after cracking one open to think about the problem he realized he could urinate on the snow to melt it, local media reported.

He said: "I was scooping the snow from above me and packing it down below the window, and then I peed on it to melt it. It was hard and now my kidneys and liver hurt. But I'm glad the beer I took on holiday turned out to be useful and I managed to get out of there."

Parts of Europe have this week been hit by the heaviest snowfalls since 1941, with some places registering more than ten feet of snow in 24 hours.