

July 2007 NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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Club Membership Application at:
http://www.njsbmwr.org/NJSBMWR_Application.pdf

President's Message

First a word or two on the annual Club Picnic June 30 at Allaire State Park. A perfect weather day greeted 63 members and guests who enjoyed a relaxing afternoon of chatter, eating, a 'Flight Parade' of gypsy moths at 3 PM and lots of laughter.

Special thanks to our club's Chef Grant who worked wonders on the grill squelching hardy appetites with a variety of appetizers and picnic type main courses.

Thanks to anchorman Roger on his GS who secured our sheltered spot during the predawn hours; Skip who 'blew off' and cleaned up the area prior to our arrival and to our food shoppers Mikey and Artie G.

If you missed this third annual picnic event . . . you missed a good clean family oriented time...including home baked peach and apple pies by our VP's wife Lorelei. Yummy!!

Within this issue are several photos from the picnic . . . including the winners of the special rules '50/50' with was actually a 50/25/25. Notice the happy faces and mark your calendar now to attend next year's Forth Annual Club Picnic @ Allaire.

Nancy G of New Sweden and Jersey Shore advised that four of our club riders pre-registered during the picnic for their October rally at Appel Farms in Elmer, NJ raising the pre-reg number to 33. Decent number considering it's still early but here's another opportunity



to join in on some group fun and fall riding so keep an eye on the website for more info and register!

So the mid-riding season is upon us! July is a hot time for riding and events...such as the MOA Int'l Rally in Milwaukee July 12 - 15. Hopefully you'll be joining in with me and a number of club riders making the trip and participating, volunteering and test riding the new BMW products. Wisconsin has more than cheese and lakes . . . it has beautiful roads, vistas, beers and a special relaxed atmosphere from the 'locals'. Check the club website for additional information on folks riding out and join in!! Solo riding is fun BUT joining in with others is also fun . . . so give it a try. You'll love it!!!

Also within are several articles on the RA in Ashville, NC last month. Lots of fun, great riding in the Smokey's Mtns, Deal's Gap and some of the best roads in the USA. Unfortunately there were also a couple of 'local pigs' (not on the grill but shouda been) that tried to ruin a couple of our riders fun but all in all the RA was a terrific time. Our club members volunteering for registration duty apparently was a 'life saver' for the RA and we thank all those that participated. A photo of that group should also be within.

So, if you can't make the MOA or subsequent wanderings in the mid-west mountains with Roger and Company, attend our monthly meeting at Schneider's Great German Foods Restaurant in Avon on July 11th 7 PM.

Remember, it's your club . . . join in and enjoy! Ride safe and see you in Milwaukee.

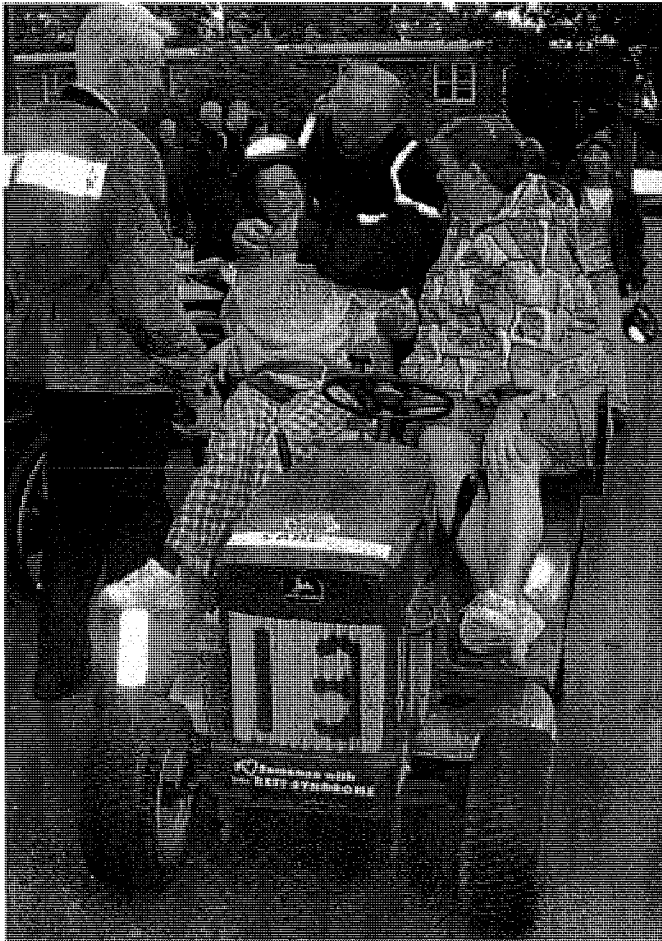
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Matheny Ride for Kids, June 13th

Eric Suhr, with commentary by Roger T..

Indeed, another fantastic night at Matheny. Mother Nature cooperated and temps were cool and comfortable, with no precip. Kenny Maas did an extraordinary job of procuring 6(!) sidecar rigs, 3 trikes, one racing lawnmower and one Honda - oh, sorry Bob, I mean ACURA sports car.

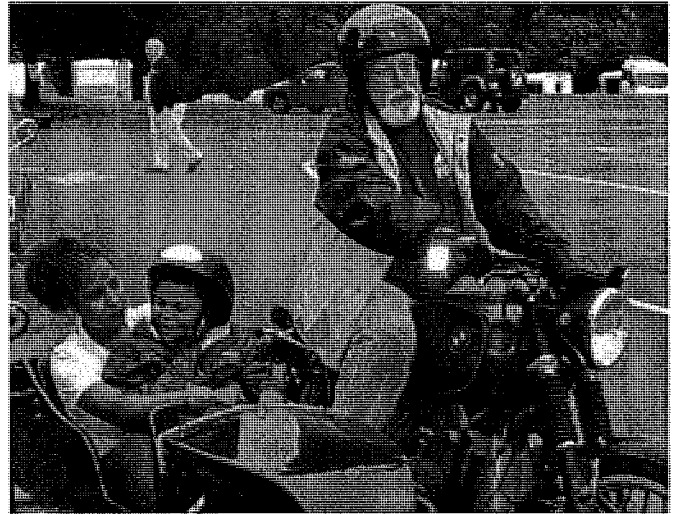
The Harley police bike leading the procession to the school (courtesy of Bernards Twsp.) was nice touch, too. I counted 29 total attendees and 48 Matheny "bikers".



Liz Seydell and the racing lawnmower

John Ryan and his family put on another incredible spread at their beautiful home: burgers, hot dogs, ribs, salad, cole slaw, corn-on-the-cob, baked beans, beer, wine and soft drinks, with fresh fruit, cookies and pastries for dessert. This has quickly become a major part of the tradition and I know I speak for everyone when I say that we sincerely appreciate their hospitality and generosity.

Thanks, everybody!
Eric Suhr



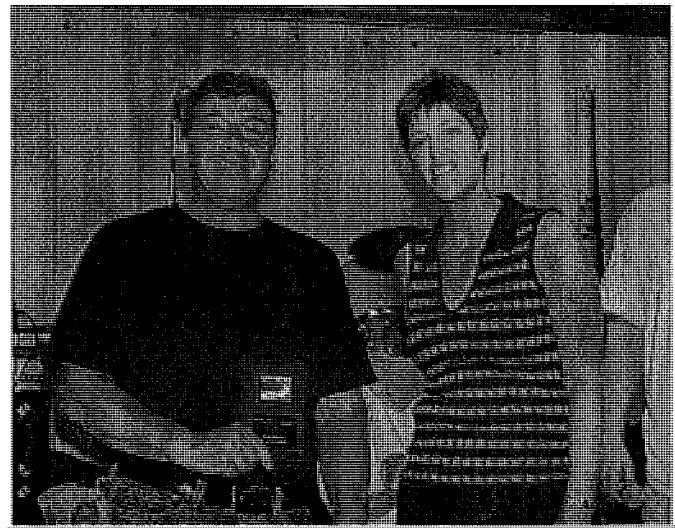
Kent Seydell and his sidecar rig

Additional Commentary by Roger Trendowski

The turnout was great, especially with the numerous tikes and side-car rigs. The Skylands club also bought helmets for use on the kids to insure their safety as they rode around the pylons in the parking lot. NJSBMWR Club members who participated included: Kenton and Liz Seydell, Betty and Joe Christie (whose son resides at Matheny), John Ryan, Don Gordon, Eric Suhr and me.

Square Route Rally – June 1st-3rd

Art and Ethan Goldberg



Ron and Kelly won the long-distance 2-up

My bike (R1200RT) and I started this trip on the preceding Thursday heading south to our Nation's Capital. It was a gloomy day as I navigated down the US Route 95 corridor. I arrived at my son's apartment to do the overnight thing.

On Friday, Ethan came home from work midday and we were off to the Catocin Mountains. We went the back way with Ethan navigating with his new Zumo GPS (eat

your heart out RT). At about four, we arrived at Camp West Mar and checked in. We set up our tents, walked around a bit and met up with the other riders.

Some of the friendly faces were John Aubin, Don Eilenberger, Al Peirson, John Ryan & Dan Thompson and on Saturday Ron & Kelli Scibetti.



The boys relaxerating..

Soon it was time for unlimited chili, which is good for the appetite but bad for your neighbors. After dinner, our own Mr. Donald Eilenberger was awarded with an MOA Ambassadorship. Pretty cool!



Don E., Don Faichney (AKA Kilty) and without his 'stitch, John Ryan

For the third time I watched "The World's Fastest Indian" while eating popcorn and drinking diet soda (and I wonder why I'm not lighter).

They had a second movie, the classic "On Any Sunday", but by this time I was in my sleeping bag listening to the claps of thunder, pounding of the rain and watching the flashes of lightening. It certainly does rain at this rally.

Woke up Saturday and went to breakfast. My son complained about water in his tent and slept in the

bunkhouse (same problem three years ago). At 10 or so we went out riding one of the suggested rides. From Camp we went north on a road that went up and down like the last roller coaster I rode. We traveled into Pennsylvania and then headed back through a state park that had the twisties. Stopped for lunch in Thurmont, then back to camp. Soon after we arrived, it rained (what else is new?)

Caught a lecture on motorcycle electrics, the 18 gauge wire for your head light should be heavier. Pretty cool. Listened to the presentation of the door prizes (of course I didn't win). Kelli bought an auctioned off 'T' shirt signed by Nate Kern for Ron, that made his weekend (expensive gift). The Marsh Brother's Band was the evening's entertainment.



Kelly with the T-shirt she won

Sunday got up and motored back as it starting to rain yet again as we entered DC. On Monday I went back the way I came with the addition of some rain and stop and go traffic (hate that).

Over all it was a excellent, and wet Rally...Art & Ethan Goldberg

Photos thanks to Jim Bade

Americade Ride - June 9th

Roger Trendowski

Ginna and I returned home from our daughter's wedding in California on Wednesday 6/6. After recuperating for a day, I looked around to find out what was going on with our club and of course most everyone had headed south to the RA Rally.

The week-long Americade rally was still going on and I also found out later that there was a classic BMW

airhead event in Rhinebeck. Not knowing about Rhinebeck until almost a week later, I decided to head north (for the second year) to Lake George. As with last year, there were thousands of nuts driving around, crazy bikes, and plenty of bystanders (watchers).

The vendor areas were packed with people and products as was the demo rides from all the major manufacturers. I stayed on the West side of the lake, five miles north of the town of Lake George, at Mohawk Campgrounds. It was typical of most campgrounds where you have to trudge through someone else camp site in the middle of the night to hit the head. At about 5am on Sunday morning I heard a half dozen crows screeching in the nearby trees. With someone yelling and stones hitting the trees, they soon scattered and reconvened near someone else.



About this same time, another camper came walking through my sacred ground. He and I looked at one-another and determined we vaguely knew each other. It was Tim who rides a KTM from the Skylands club. We chatted; we packed up and rode in separate directions. Total = 525 miles over 1 ½ days.

Trip to RA – June 1st to 12th

Don Eilenberger

This trip has been in the planning for about 6 months - since I heard of the date and location for the RA Rally this year. I knew that Square Route was the weekend before, and it just seemed natural to go to SR and then take a leisurely backroads ride from Western Maryland to Western North Carolina. The fact that a few states like West Virginia and Virginia were en-route just made the idea all the more appealing.

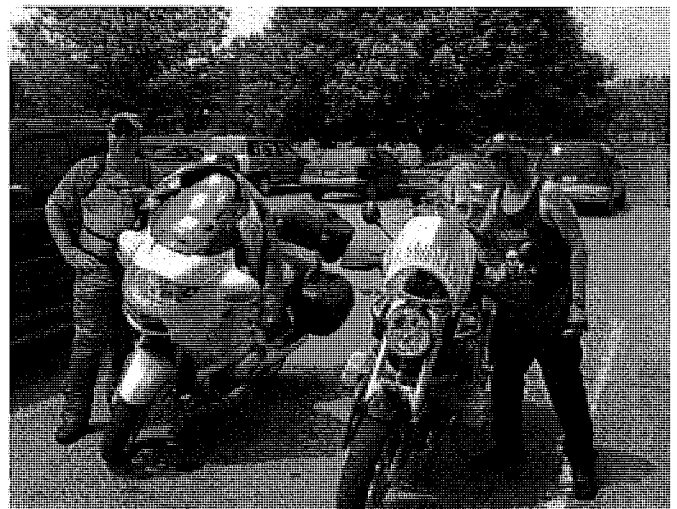
I spent a lot of time with my various mapping programs - and came up with a proposed rough route and asked if anyone wanted to join me. Dan Thompson immediately said he wanted to - and that made the ride a reality - I enjoy riding with Dan, he's good company and fine to ride with, he rarely ever gets impatient.

DAYS 1 to 3 – Friday to Sunday - NJ to Square Route (Thrumont MD) to Centreville, VA

Square Route has been reported on by Art Goldberg so I won't rehash it. Had a pleasant ride to Square Route with Dan Thompson and Al Peirson – taking the backroads of north-western MD – the scenic route. As many times as I've done this route over the past 12 years – I still enjoy it. Great roads, great scenery and after 12 years I know where to stop for lunch and where to stop to pee. Square Route itself was fun – if a bit wet (go figure..).

I was surprised (sorta) to be called up to the podium on Friday night – and awarded the BMW-MOA Ambassador award. Thanks to John Ryan who initiated this – and to everyone who lied about how great I am. Luckily – the Ambassador intro letter said that the Ambassador should just keep doing whatever they were doing before receiving the award.. so I can continue riding slowly and once in a while pissing someone off. Thanks again John (and Dennis and Roger, and whoever else helped!)

Dan, Al and I went for a Saturday afternoon ride to Antietam Battlefield. We actually stopped at the visitors center and watched a video explaining what happened at Antietam. I was amazed at the idiocy of both sides in waging battle by standing face to face and shooting each other... it made military intelligence an oxymoron.



Dan and Al at Antietam

We left Antietam and got back to the rally site just as the traditional Saturday afternoon Square Route downpour started. Saturday night dinner was enjoyable, the entertainment wasn't deafening, and there were lots of people to talk to – so a good – if somewhat wet - time was had.

The Sunday night after SR I had been invited to a party/dinner at an old Internet friend's house near Washington DC., Don Graling - who is well known in the WDC BMW community.

Don invited a number of other mutual friends, such as Bob Higdon ("From the Bunker" column in OTL, and noted moto-journalist), Paul Taylor (2005 Iron Butt first-place winner), Gary Harris (old friend from NY moto circles and the Internet BMW Riders), Walker Powell (another old friend from the IBMWR), Bill Shaw (Columnist for Motorcycle Consumer News, and IB finisher in 2005, an old IBMWR friend) and a few others. Good company all.

DonG offered to put us up for the night, so we could start out Monday for our ride south. We had a great time, a great cookout - and enjoyed the company of a lot of old friends as we told lies, kicked tires, and listened to Bob Higdon educate Paul Taylor about the risks of fleeing the West Virginia police.

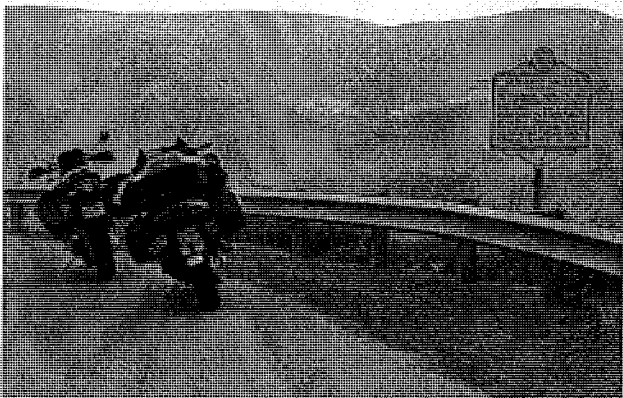
Bob Higdon said he's adopted my style of motorcycling - he gets much better mileage and better tire wear if he limits his max speed to 50MPH.

Sunday was rainy on and off - but it was almost the only rain we rode in for 10 days on the road.

~~Monday~~
~~Tuesday~~
DAY 4 - Tuesday - Centreville VA to WV and some great twisties, National Radio-Astronomy Observatory - ending in Snowshoe WV

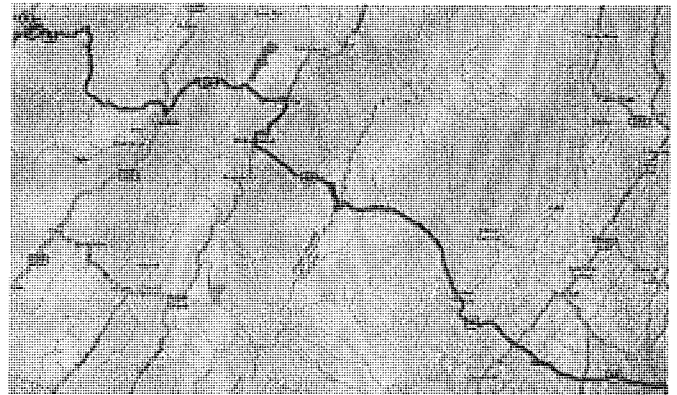


Monday dawned sunny, dry and pleasantly warm - and the weather stayed this way for our entire trip - it doesn't get better than this. We headed west from WDC - eventually heading up Rt 33 in West Virginia into the mountains.



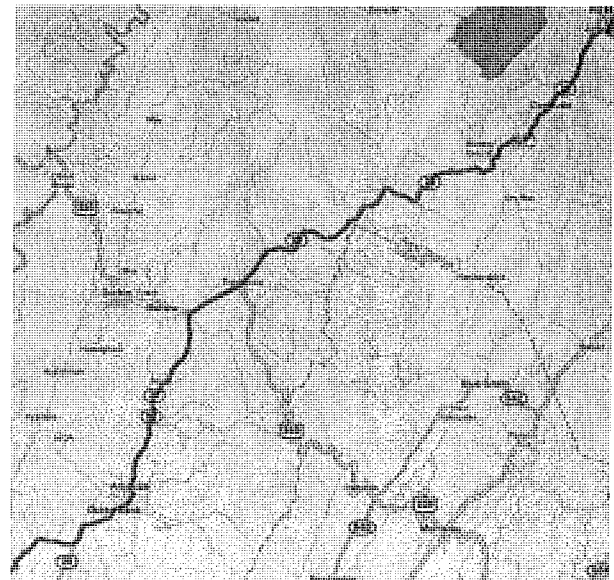
An overlook on Rt 33 in WV - note the gravel

You'll see mention in this issue of Deals Gap - the motorcycle twistie Mecca. Deals Gap has nothing on WV-33. I'm willing to bet there are more curves per mile on WV-33 than Deals Gap has - and it goes on much longer than 11 miles. WV-33 heads east-west, over the mountain ranges.. it's a series of gaps - each one multiple switchbacks (some up to 270 degree switchbacks) up to the top of the gap, then multiple switchbacks back down the mountain. It was all 2nd-3rd gear riding. West Virginia apparently has a large crew assigned to throw loose gravel in the apex of every curve on WV-33. It made for interesting riding, and the desire to never over-ride my sight-distance. There were 4 ranges of mountains that this road crossed in about 40 miles.



West Virginia RT 33.. a small section of it

All good things must come to an end - but in this case - the end just lead into another great road - WV-28. Instead of crossing the mountains - WV-28 goes roughly north-south, and follows the valley between two mountain ranges, following a stream that runs through the valley for most of it's route. WV-28 is great sweepers, great scenery and wonderful pavement. Not a spot of gravel in the corners - just perfect pavement for mile after mile.



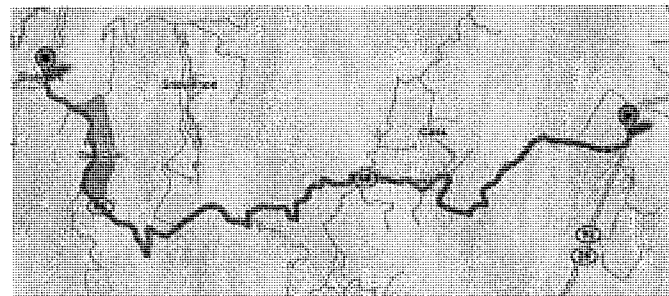
Rt 28 - following the valley

We had hoped to stop overnight at a place a friend suggested - Boyer Station and Restaurant (and campground, and motel) - but when we got to it - it was closed for the day. In looking at my GPS - it appeared the next reasonable place to stay was a ski resort called "Snowshoe" - about 30 miles further on. Since we had a bit of time before it started to get dark - we took the free tour of the National Radio-Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) at Green Bank. A few photos from the tour (which is well worth stopping for - and it's free!)



Dan and the BIG radio-telescope

After leaving NRAO - we continued south on Rt 28 to Rt 66 - another east-west road, climbing over mountains and what seemed like hundreds of switchbacks to Snowshoe WV - where we spent the night at the ski resort hotel.



Rt 66 - more twisties and curves and switchbacks

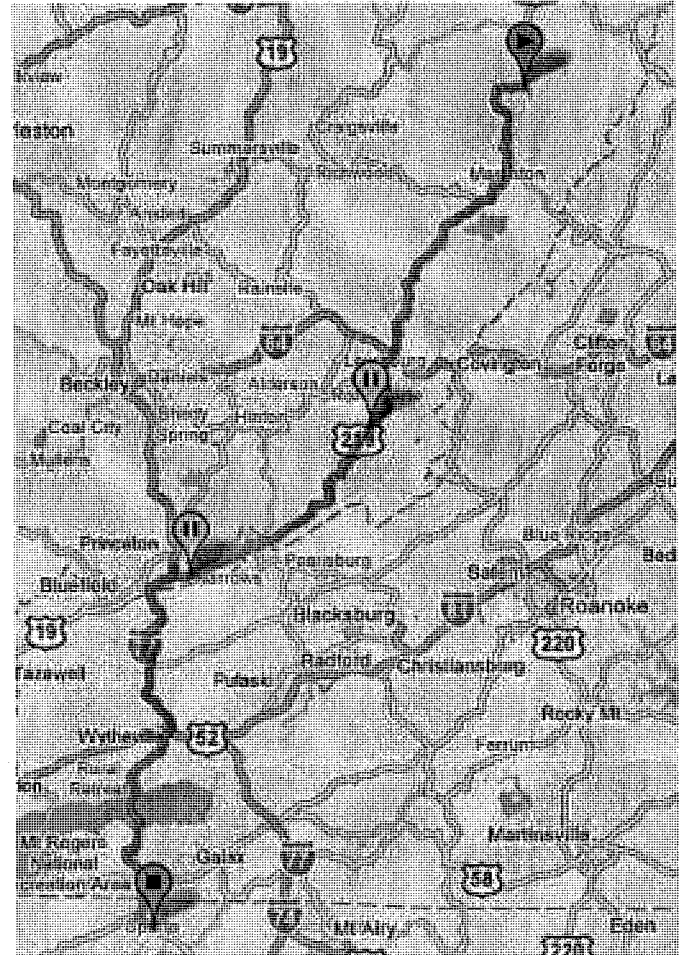
The hotel wasn't cheap, was sort of run down, and had no WiFi access except stealing a neighbors standing in front of it in the rain (which started and finished after we were off the bikes!) Dan found the hot-tub in the pool area, while I wandered the basically deserted hotel with my laptop looking for a WiFi signal.

We had dinner across the highway - at a small do-it-all food, gift store, and general store that normally catered to the skiers who were tired of the prices of the resort.

The person who waited on us - a great lady named Beryl - was lots of fun, and a hoot to talk to.. she made the entire evening... and the next morning when we went back for breakfast. By then we were her friends

from NJ.. and the sun was shining and all was well in the world.

Day 5 - Snowshoe WV, to Sparta North Carolina via Route 219 and other wonderful roads



Just when it seems as if the roads can't get any better - another great road comes along. I'd be very hard pressed to decide which road on this trip was my favorite (although Rt 28 is very high on the list.) We left the Snowshoe resort and headed south and west again on WV-219, another road that I'd had great recommendations for. It's yet another wonderful road - winding along river valleys and farms as it heads south and west, eventually ending at the North Carolina border.

It can - take an a good part of a day to do the length of WV-219 - it was roughly 150 miles from where we got on it at near Snowshoe, and where it ends blending into WV-12 at Peterstown - a wonderful road worth riding again.

We stopped for lunch along 219 at a small town named Union - finding the café where the local law enforcement ate.



**Union WV – lunch stop
“You boys aren’t from around here..”**

The local village idiot had been sitting on the brick wall that we parked next to – as soon as we stopped, he gave us the peace sign, then scouted out our license plates as being from NJ – asked if we’d ridden all the way there – and went on his alert to the town. He must have been very effective – everyone we met knew we were from NJ – “Those boys aren’t from around here..” was overheard more than once.. “They’re from New Jersey..”

One fellow came up to us when we were paying our bill at the café to tell us that he was originally from NJ – moved to West Virginia over 30 years ago. I asked – and he confirmed – the locals often commented about him “He’s not from around here..”



Dan wasn’t from around here either..

We left 219 crossing over into North Carolina.
Wonderful road, friendly people, worth revisiting.

We ended up for the night at the Alleghany Inn in Sparta NC - a motorcycle friendly inn, with a good WiFi connection, clean beds and towels just for use on cleaning off the bikes. Dan and I ate at the restaurant

adjoining the motel, both for dinner and for breakfast. It showered again during the night - but the next morning dawned sunny, dry and very low humidity - in the high 60's. Perfect day for a ride.



**Seen in the Alleghany Inn parking lot –
thought these went away in the 70's..**

**Day 6 - Sparta NC to Asheville NC - miles of smiles
on the Blue Ridge**

I'd been avoiding the Blue Ridge Parkway on this ride - the reason being I'd hated it the last time I did it on a motorcycle... in 1997 on the ride to Fontana NC for another RA National. I'd been riding the '85 K100RT (which is still in our club - it just moves from member to member) - and the temps had been hot, the humidity high, and the RT was just an oven on the Blue Ridge. I hated that bike from then until I sold it..

I had planned on skipping the Blue Ridge entirely on this trip - but somehow - I'd planned a route that would require us to take about 10 miles of the BRP on the way to lesser state roads..

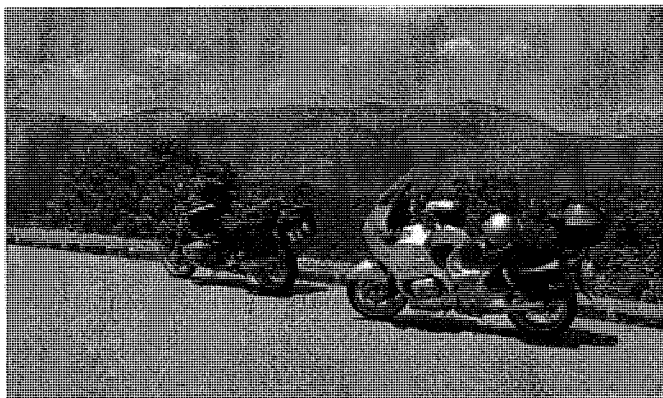
We started out Wednesday from Sparta in bright sunshine, cool temps and no humidity, and cut over to the short jaunt on the Blue Ridge. The short jaunt ended up being the entire Blue Ridge between Sparta (the NC northern border) and Asheville.

The BRP was simply a delight on the right bike - and this time - I was on the right bike and the weather Gods were smiling on us. I loved that road and it was a great day riding.

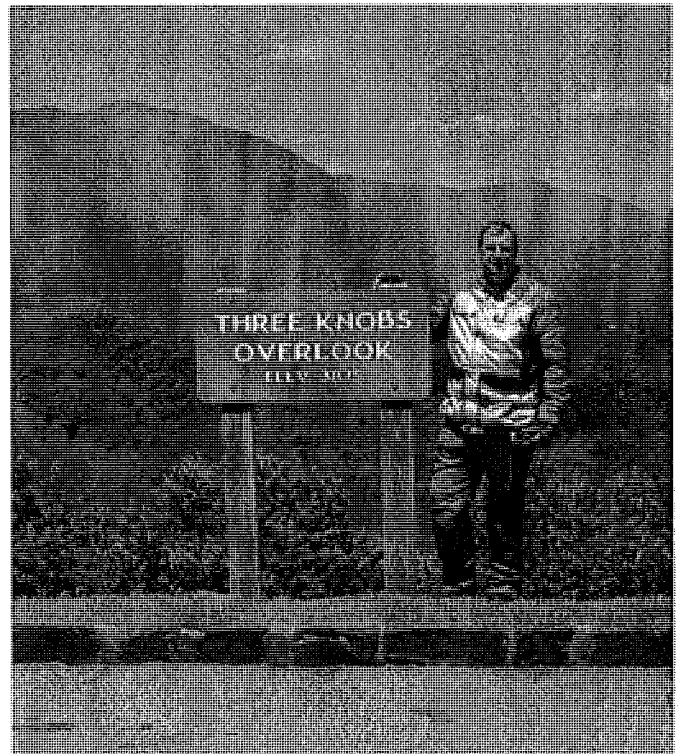


Amazing what the right bike can do for mental attitude

The ride along this section of the BRP, was new to me, I'd never been on the NC sections. It varied from 45-50MPH sweepers to some tight sections with lower speed limits. The entire ride – we never saw a ranger, and until we were almost to Asheville, we actually saw very few other people – and no wildlife.



Does it get any better than this? I don't think so..



One, two... oh yeah.. three



Traffic jam on the BRP

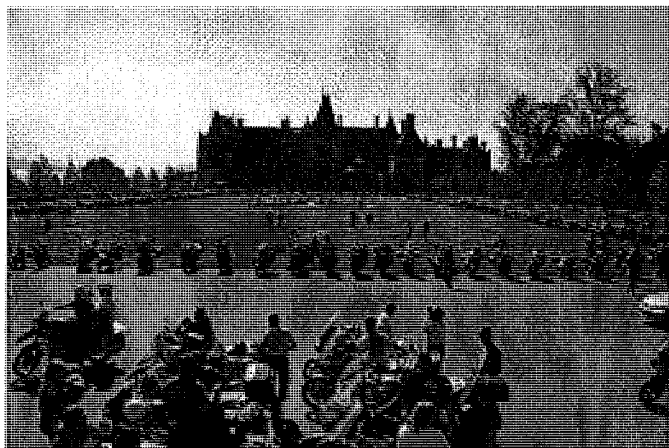
Not far from the Asheville exit on the BRP – we encountered this traffic jam – caused by someone on a BMW motorcycle riding a bit too enthusiastically.. he was helicoptered out to the Asheville hospital, apparently without life-threatening injuries. Finally – we arrived at our motel in Asheville on Weds, found it comfortable, with a TGI-Fridays in the parking lot. We ended up eating at the TGIFs a lot.

Days 7-10 Thursday to Sunday – RA Rally in Asheville

Lots to say about the RA Rally – it was the first RA Rally I'd been to (and I've been to a lot of them) where there was no disaster. The local people loved us, the Biltmore Estate loved us, the weather was wonderful, no police action, no record floods and rains, no

hurricanes, tornados, or earthquakes.. it almost was a disappointment – but a good disappointment. I thought for sure an earthquake – RA never had an earthquake.

The Biltmore was open to us for 4 days – and we took advantage of it. Besides visiting the rally site daily, we took the opportunity to tour the mansion, visit the on-site restaurants, and finally to attend the closing ceremonies – held on the grand lawn in front of the mansion. Roughly 2,000 bikes gathered around the great lawn..

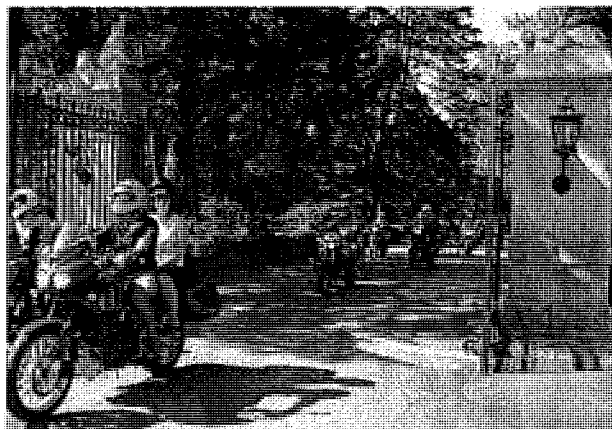


2000+ bikes surround the Great Lawn

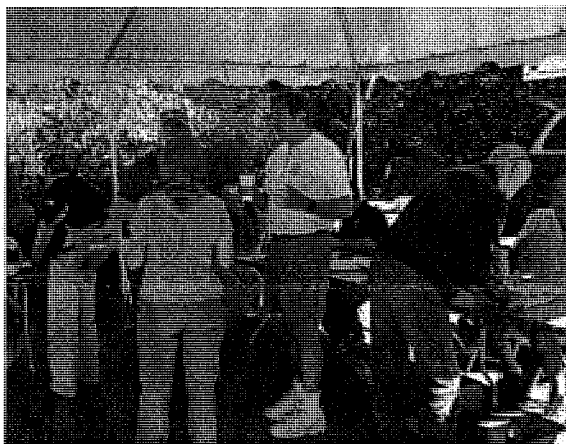


Closing ceremonies

Finally – the rally came to a close – and the 3,000+ people attending started leaving the Biltmore Estate grounds.



Other people will report on club activities during the rally.. Needless to say, food was consumed, rides were ridden and a good time was had. The club also volunteered as a group to do Saturday AM registration, and their help was greatly appreciated by the rally organizers – we were the only club to volunteer!



**Club doing Saturday AM Registration
Day 10 – Ride home – Asheville NC
to Winchester VA**

Since I'd planned to take 2 days wandering home from Asheville, and most of the other club members wanted to do marathon runs – and do it in one day, I ended up riding solo going home.

This actually is often my preferred way to ride. No distractions, nobody to worry about loosing, no one else's schedule to keep. Stop and look at things when I want to, stop to eat, pee and sleep where and when I want to. I had a grand time riding home solo!

I checked out of our motel at around 8AM after having a light breakfast, and headed east and west. East on NC-40 until I could pick up I-81 heading north. Ended up taking I-81 Sunday all the way north to the same motel that we'd stayed in several years ago on the way down to West Virginia for the MOA Rally in Charleston, the Comfort Inn near Winchester VA.

The big reason to stay there was I remembered we found a great restaurant within walking distance of the motel. I wasn't disappointed – had a great dinner, went

back to my room and watched the final Soprano's episode (I liked it), checked on my email, and then off to sleep early for a change.

Day 11 – Monday – Winchester VA to Spring Lake Heights, NJ

The other reason I'd selected this motel to stay in Sunday night – I remembered that it was possible to go all back roads from there to the Delaware Memorial Bridge. The route went through Virginia, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, Virginia again, Maryland and eventually Delaware. Some of it was the reverse of the ride out to Square Route more than a week previously.

Great ride – except for the heavy thunderstorms that caused me to hide out for an hour in a Micky'D's before crossing the DE-Memorial Bridge. The storms caught up with me again on I-295 in NJ – so I did a "John Ryan" – and ducked out of the storm in an ATM booth.

The ride was great – too short – I was ready to continue on, but work and family called..

I'm thinking about the next long ride – I can only hope it will be as great as this one was. Thanks to Dan T for being a great riding companion. Never bitched once, and for traveling with me- that probably sets a record!

I arrived home at about 6:30PM Total trip miles – 1757.2. Average moving speed 42.9 MPH, average fuel mileage – 48 MPG.



The ride home in Western MD..

Ride to Deals Gap and the Cherohala Skyway – June 8th

Skip Palmer

Friday morning, June 8th at 8 AM, Michael Mulroy, Alex Edly, John Malaska, Tom Spader, George Roberts, Dan Thompson, Dan Ludwig, Tom Scalora, and I left the Shell station in Asheville for Deals Gap. We decided to go on Friday because there would be too many riders over the weekend to enjoy the road.

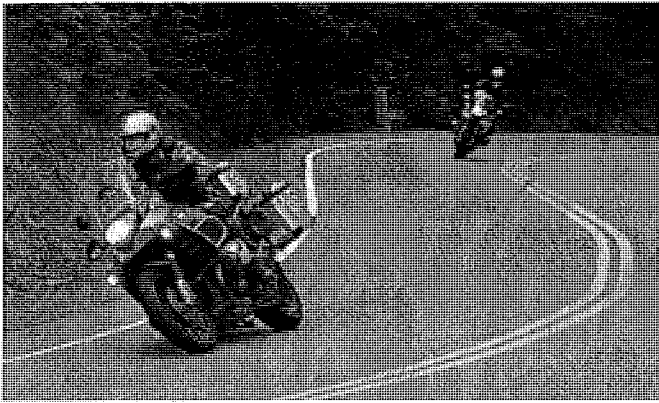
We rode west on I-40 to the edge of The Great Smoky Mountain National Park and exited on NC Rt. #74 to skirt just south of the park and the tourist trap town of Cherokee. Along the way, Michael Mulroy headed south to Cashiers, NC to visit a friend for the day.

We turned Northwest on NC Rt. #28, known as Hell-Bender, along Fontana Lake and the Cheoah River to start the climb up the foothills of the Appalachians. This road has all the twisties and scenery anyone could ask for, but it is just the warm-up for Deals Gap.

NC Rt. #129 is the turn off for the "Real Deal". There is a general store on the corner for everyone can see the "Tree of Shame" (decorated with shattered bike parts from those that didn't know their limits) and the wall of crash photos. The eleven mile long "Tail of the Dragon" doesn't begin until the Tennessee border. In just eleven miles, there are 318 turns as the road climbs through a gap in the Appalachians and down the western slope to Tabcat Bridge. Many of the corners are named for characteristics or someone's demise: Crud Corner, The Dips, The Wall, The Hump (followed immediately by), Gravity Cavity, Parsons Curve, Busa Basher, Brake or Bust Corner, The Mud Wall Corner, Shaw's Grave, Guard Rail Cliff, Triple Apex Corner, Pearly Gates, The Whip, Rocket Corner, to name a few.

We started the run with each of us setting individual goals as to how we wanted to handle the road. Some wanted a sporting ride to challenge their riding skills and others preferred to take a slower pace and enjoy the turns at a more moderate speed, which was posted at a mean 25 MPH, by the way! George Roberts (R1100S) never left my mirrors with Tom Scalora (R1100S) keeping a tight formation and Dan Ludwig (K1200 LT) mere lengths behind.

In hind site, I was probably holding them up, but none seemed to want to pass. Reviewing the 1,500 plus photos taken that day by "Zee Photo" I didn't see very many riders that were actually riding well or hard at "The Mud Wall". We all gathered safe and excited at the end of Deals Gap on the overlook to Chilhowee Lake.



Skip causing traffic to back up – right!

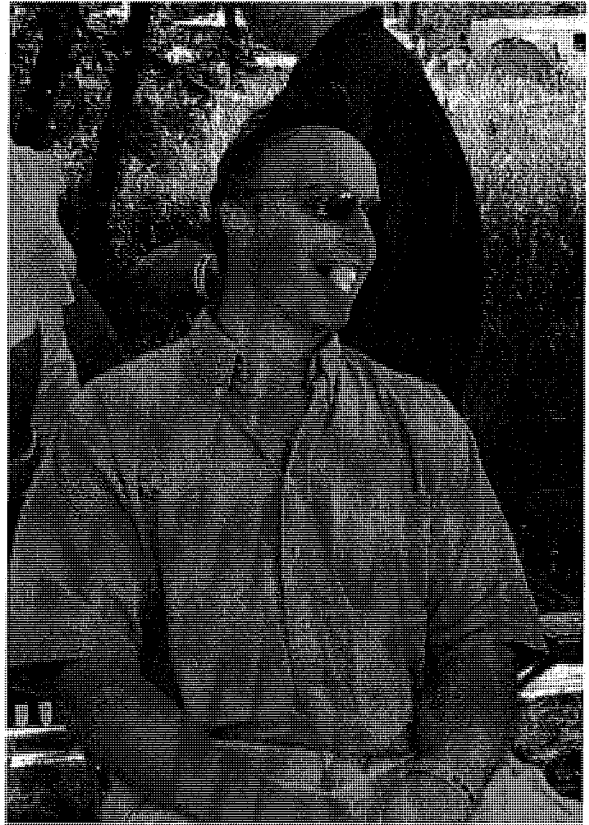
TN Rt. #129 lead us to TN Rt. #72 along Talico Lake then Rt. #411 and then the scenic TN Rt. #360 to Talico Plains. There we started the Cherohala Skyway on TN Rt. #165. This 130 mile route is entirely within the Cherokee and Nantahala National Forests and climbs over several ridges of the Appalachians, which reaches heights of 5,425 feet. This road has great straightaways, sweeping turns punctuated by 180 degree switch-backs and spectacular scenery. At the North Carolina border, the Rt. # changes to NC Rt. #143 which eventually returned us to NC Rt. #28. From there, we backtracked to Asheville arriving before 4 PM. Our total mileage was approximately 330 miles and more than a million smiles for the day.

The Babblings of Biker Tom

Tom Spader

The RA in Asheville, NC last month proves to me that 'getting there is half of the fun'...in fact, the ride down and back was the entire fun!! Don't get me wrong, the camaraderie, dinners, Skip led rides into the beautiful mountains was great...but the rally itself was small and sort of hokey at best. Turns out the actual rally spot...while at the Biltmore Estate, site of America's largest and most grandiose house...was actually in a 'dust bowl' miles away.

Oh well, can't have everything however there were a couple of fun things...like new member Dan Ludwig purchasing a pair of earphones that left him in a chair for 30 minutes with green globs of yuck dripping from his ears while he was biting down on a wad of white gauze. They should have screened him off with a shower curtain as passers by were itching to throw vegetables at him to see if he fell into a tub of water.



New member Dan Ludwig

The second interesting area was the 'camping facility' provided by the organizers which looked more like Guantanamo Bay without the red prisoner suits, blindfolds or fences. Yikes, you had to feel for these campers...90 degrees, plenty of dust blowing about, no toilets nearby or running water (but you did get a fresh towel every other day). You can't see it in the photo but the tents are actually chained together!! Guard shack is at the far end.

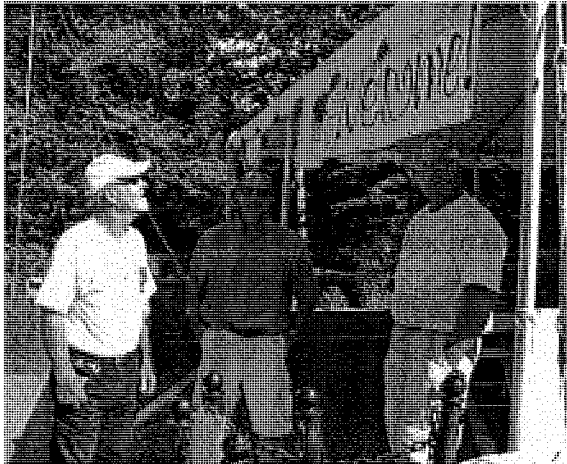


I said previously the camaraderie was great...which is generally the case during these adventures especially after dinner as evidenced by this group's eyeballs. Photo is titled 'Eyeballs after Highballs', the participants were checking the map with a local on directions back to their motel which was actually next door to the restaurant.



Eyeballs after Highballs

The nicest thing about this event besides the wonderful ride down through the Blue Ridge, Deal's Gap et al, was our club joining together to assist with registration on Saturday morning. The RA group was in a pickle for volunteers so the NJSBMW group...musta been 10 – 12 who handled the chore, enjoyed meeting a variety of attendees from the States, Canada and Europe and left the rally with a 'feel good' feeling.



Well that's it for now...must go wash the LT and prep for the Milwaukee MOA next week. See you there. BT

RA Ride Moments

John Malaska

Day 1: The Dawn Patrol

On June 6, I rode over from Wayside via I-195 to Our WaWa. A light rain unexpectedly falls in Howell. At "OWW", I meet Skip, Grant, Nancy G., Glenn L., and George R. We depart OWW at the ungodly hour of 6:00 AM. Hook up with late-arriving BIL Alex near the NJ Turnpike entrance. Cross into Pennsylvania via the PA Turnpike, avoiding the rush-hour traffic. Grant is forced to catch-up with us, after he stops to secure some unattached gear. We refuel outside Hershey, PA. Continued down I-81 to Front Royal, VA, where we met up with Mike Mulroy. We refuel and have lunch at the Royal Oak Tavern. Crossing over Chester Gap via US-522, we skirted the eastern edge of the Blue Ridge mountains (including a ride past Walton Mountain Goodnight, John-Boy), joining the Blue Ridge Parkway at Rockfish Gap. There, Skip led a spirited ride down

the BRP to the Peaks of Otter Lodge near Bedford, VA, while I lag behind with Alex keeping me company. Great road! Scenic vistas abound (with equally spectacular drop-offs awaiting the careless navigator!) Flora & fauna in abundance ... huge fir trees, rhododendron in blossom, porcupine, snakes. The Lodge sits on the bank of a picturesque lake. But just OK accommodations. I kept roomie Alex awake with my snoring, until he retreated to his sleeping quarters in the bathtub. 496 miles for the day.

Day 2: Going It Alone

After breakfast, Skip again led the group south on the BRP, with me again lagging behind, enjoying the views (and struggling with the curves.). While I originally want to go to Asheville with Skip & Mike via I-81, I made an ad-hoc decision to continue my trek down the BRP. As the group waited for me near Roanoke, I waved "bye bye" and keep on trucking south. They all thought I was lost. My Garmin proceeded to offer some confusing refueling routing information, requiring me to backtrack 10 miles to refuel at Bent Mountain. The BRP would not be an ideal place to run dry, so I play it conservative, although gas were readily available had I continued a bit further. While heading back north, I passed George & Alex (who are heading southward on their own mission to buy cigars in Statesville, NC), confusing them even further. I realized that I would have regretted leaving the BRP, as it's a magnificent motorcycle ride. (And the cooler temps in the high elevations are welcome.) The K75 got another fill-up in Boone, NC. Generally, it ran sluggishly due to the higher altitudes on the Blue Ridge, but I was getting over 55 MPG. I arrived in Asheville at 4:30 PM., bumped into Dan Thompson, checked into the Sleep Inn, and registered at the Biltmore for the Rally. I accompany Dan and Ambassador Don to dinner with Bob Higdon. (Is there anyone in the BMW world that Don doesn't know????) 354 miles for the day.

Day 3: There Be Dragons!

Although initially I wanted to take the day off from riding, I joined Skip as he lead a group ride down to the fabled "Dragon" ... US-129 on the NC/TN border. Glad I did. NC-28 outbound was challenging, and "The Dragon" was downright intimidating at first, then became serious fun. I broke in some new rubber on the edges of my tires. 311 turns later, the road flattened to follow the Lower Tennessee River. We turned onto TN-70, then US-411 at Vonore. After refueling, we took TN-360, another great road, down to Tellico Plains, and the start of the Cherohala Skyway (TN-165 & NC-143). "Skyway" was very appropriate, because as we gained elevation, we rode into the clouds and mist. Towards the end, a light rain fell, but the sun came back out as we descended into Robbinsville. From there, we took curvy, rain-slickened TN-143 over the mountains to TN-28 (circumnavigating a VERY slow cement truck in the process.) We then retraced our route back to Asheville, getting momentarily drenched in a brief cloudburst. One of us drew the attention on NC's finest ... who bestowed an award for said rider's enthusiastic

performance. Over adult beverages and victuals at a steakhouse in Asheville, sympathies were offered. A meager 305 miles for the day.

Day 4:

Finally, a day of rest? Hardly! At 9:00 AM, many of us (Grant, Nancy, Prez Tom, Dan, "new Dan", George, Alex, Mike, Skip, and yours truly) took to the Rally Registration tables, where we were quite busy. We dispersed after our shift ended at noon. I then got my first glimpse of the Biltmore Estate grounds, which are truly stunning, and the modest ... and dusty ... Rally facilities. I had lunch with Ambassador Don and Dan at the Deerpark Restaurant on the grounds, enjoying some savory crab & shrimp bisque. Don helped me attend to a weepy master cylinder back at the hotel. Then it was back to the Biltmore's Great Lawn for the Rally's closing ceremonies. Had dinner with a hobbling Alex, who sprained his ankle at the Biltmore. Then it was off to sleep, as Dan & I planned to start heading home at the crack of dawn. Mileage for the day? Maybe 20?

Day 5: Dawn Patrol II

Dan & I are off at 6:00 AM, heading northward via I-26 to Tennessee. At Kingsport, TN, we hooked up with I-81 northeast. Sun glare is initially a real PITA. Somehow we avoid a performance award at a radar trap, doing 75 in a 65 thank you Virginia State Police! We continued down the Shenandoah Valley, where Stonewall Jackson's Army of the Valley confused and confounded much larger Union forces in 1862. Then onto the PA Turnpike eastbound and Route 1 to Trenton, avoiding the customary weekend ugliness on the NJ Turnpike at Exit 7A. Home at 4:50 PM. 702 miles. My butt is still complaining.

The RA put on a good rally at a beautiful venue. Great riding weather accompanied us throughout the trip, with the exception of the welcome drenching on Friday. The BRP and Cherohala Skyway are spectacular motorcycle roads, as is US-129 (if you like to drag foot pegs.) The company was great. And we all got home safely.

The Ride From Asheville Home

Skip Palmer

Early Sunday morning, we all parted ways to start home. Some would drive straight through, others take a couple of days and I would head south and then west for a few days. I followed the Appalachians south through Tennessee and Georgia until they faded into the flat lands of Alabama. From there a line due south got me to the pan-handle of Florida and the sugar white sands of Pensacola Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. I haven't been here since Katrina and want to see how the recovery was progressing. I followed the coast west on the barrier islands to Gulf Shores, Alabama for lunch at LuLu's (Jimmy Buffet's sisters place).

Next stop was the just opened I-10 bridge over Mobile Bay. Katrina knocked it down and it took two years to reopen. The damage from the hurricane is everywhere with some recovery, however not much. Mississippi was even worse. I left the coast and headed for Natchez on the Mississippi River. Great old river town that has been restored and marks the beginning of the Natchez Trace National Parkway. The temperature had risen all day and was now 101 degrees. The gel-pad I added to my seat for comfort was having the opposite effect, causing too much sweat in this heat. I crossed the river and was heading toward the Red River when I ran into a weather front and got a good hard bike wash and decided to stop for the night to dry things out. I had over 800 miles and seven states for the day anyway so the thought of a dry room and sleep was not a hard decision.

The next morning, the front had passed and the weather couldn't have been better. The heat and sweat from the day before provided me with a bad case of "baboon ass" that was very uncomfortable. I rode Rt. #84 west about one-hundred miles into Texas and picked-up Rt. #259 north to cross the Red River again into Oklahoma and the Choptaw Indian Reservation. North of Broken Bow there are some nice rolling hills along the eastern portion of the state and eventually I crossed briefly into Kansas.

The next stop was the south shore of the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri and continued southerly toward the Ozark Mountains and Buffalo National River in Arkansas. I rode east to the Mississippi River again and started north in the direction of the intersection of the Ohio River near Paducah, Kentucky. I stopped just short of my goal with well over 800 more miles and six states for the day.

Tuesday, I crossed right where the Ohio River intersects the Mississippi. I spent the day crossing back and forth on the Ohio River between Kentucky, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. I tried to avoid the cities and stay in the fertile farm lands of the river's floodplain. Evening found me just outside of Wheeling, West Virginia for the days end. Seems I was falling into a pattern of 800 +/- miles and six states each day.

First thing in the morning, I followed the Ohio River the rest of the way to Pittsburgh and the Pennsylvania Thruway. Several times during the morning I caught some mild rain showers as I headed east. I planned to turn north at Carlisle on I-81 north to I-78 east and attend the Ride to Metheny School, but the weather forecast for New Jersey was for even more rain. I chose to head home instead arriving about 3 PM with about 3,000 miles and nineteen total states visited.

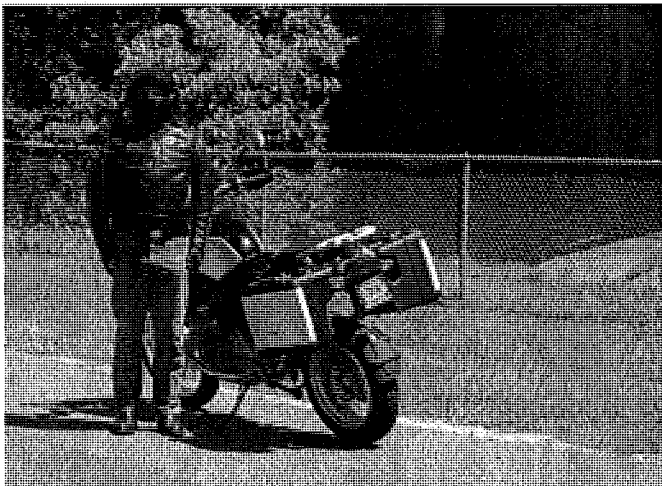
Coastal Ride June 23

Der Capt. Dennis

Capt. Don and I, both having brand-new rides, discussed the ride options and decided to take the coastal ride from Spring Lake to Sandy Hook. The only challenges to this ride are dodging drivers looking for parking spots, beach-goers laden with kids and umbrellas crossing the road, and keeping your eyes on the road when the occasional eye candy strolls or runs by. There was plenty of each on this ride. And the weather was perfect, perfect, perfect.

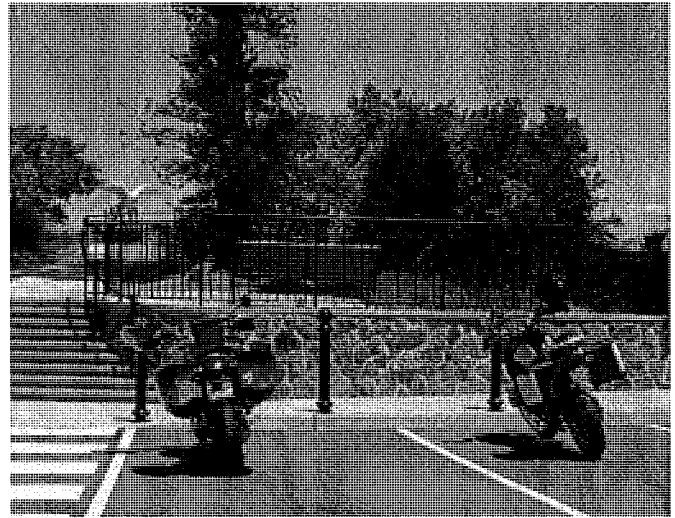
The Jersey Shore is a wonderful and changing place. Asbury Park seems to be in the beginning of a transformation for the better. Long Branch seems to be in the latter stages of a transformation that has removed large areas of blighted structures and replaced them with new and sparkling homes, condos, hotels and boardwalks. Spring Lake, the Irish Riviera, is as beautiful as ever but Belmar, Avon and assorted other little beach towns are beginning to emulate their southern neighbor. All in all the Shore is in a transformation for the better.

So we set a leisurely pace and enjoyed the ride. For such a nice day the traffic was inexplicably light. No lines or traffic greeted us at New Jersey's National Park. And this park is a wonder too. On the west side you have the bay, sand bars, picnics, wind surfers and etc. On the east there is green foliage and beach. At the end there is Fort Hancock: artillery ruins, bird-watching towers, and assorted abandoned military structures and great views. We made a stop and relaxed in the balmy sunshine.



Capt Dennis and his new wheels

We decided to take an inland route on the way back. Next stop was Mount Mitchell and the spectacular view of New York City. I had not been there in a while and was impressed by the 9/11 memorial site. It is a respectful and well-done reminder of that fateful day.



Mt Mitchell Memorial

On to Dot's Hot Dog stand on the dock area of the Highlands. We have reported on this excellent cuisine in the past. It's a "must stop" on any shore ride. As we filled our faces, passers-by admired our sparkling rides (Don's is not completely crapped-up yet).

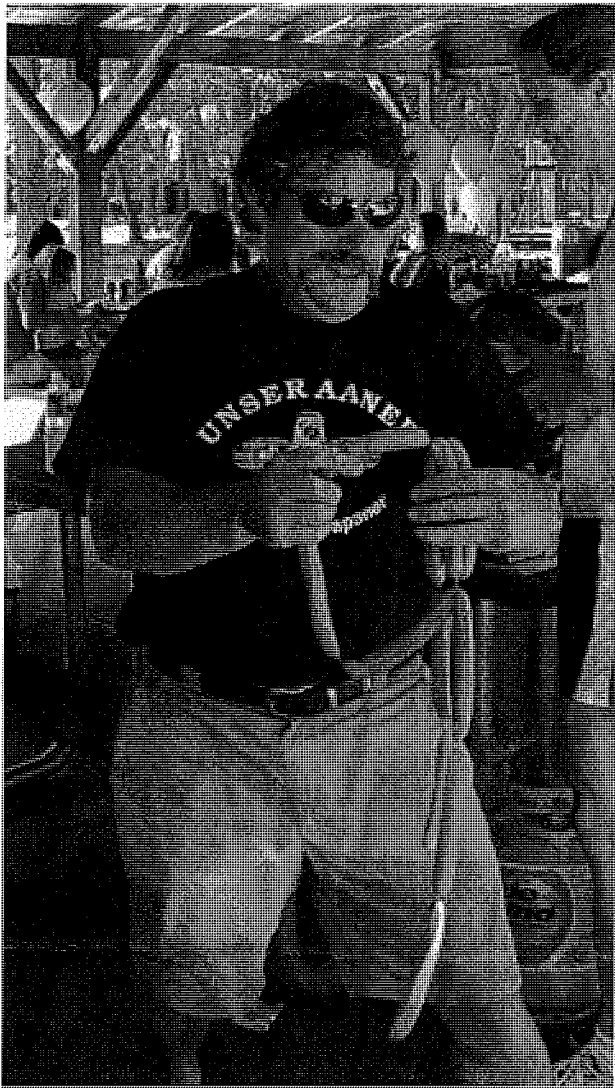
Then it was west along Navesink River Road, possibly the nicest residential area in the state of New Jersey. Still the traffic was light. Was this ride blessed? Out through Holmdel (which still has some farms) and back into route 18 and home, we decided to stop and see Mikey in Howell. Outside Farmingdale on I-195 we were buzzed by a speeding GS Adventure. Was it Jerry Rouvrais? Mike greeted us with soft drinks and stories. It was a nice conclusion to a pleasant ride.

Pickanick Pleasure, June 30th

RD Swanson Inc.

Prez Tom did a great job organizing our annual outing at Allaire State Park. Thanks to Tom and to Art and Mikey and Roger and Grant for being his eager assistants. The weather was perfect and that helped too. This is a family event. I didn't count, but I would estimate that about 60 members, wives and family attended.

The food was picnic stuff: hamburgers, weenies, fruit trays, chips, chicken and the like. Grant, as usual, was the chef. Some rode to the event, but mostly it was a day for cars.



Grant doin' the dogs

Stories were told, experiences shared, food consumed, and plans hatched for new rides and events. Solid gold trophies were considered for the end of the year and it was proposed that a trophy be awarded to the wife who has suffered the most. Interesting. Who do you think might win this one? We also have some ideas for new awards such as "buzzard-slayer". Nancy was soliciting. She was eager to get the few holdouts to sign up for New Sweden's "Last Chance Rally." It was the last chance for Shore Riders to take advantage of the \$20 subsidy offered by our club to sign up by the end of the month. She snared a few more.

John Aubin came all the way from Pennsylvania to attend. Skip brought his new pup for everyone to admire. He also brought his mother and it was a pleasure to meet the lady about whom we had heard so much.

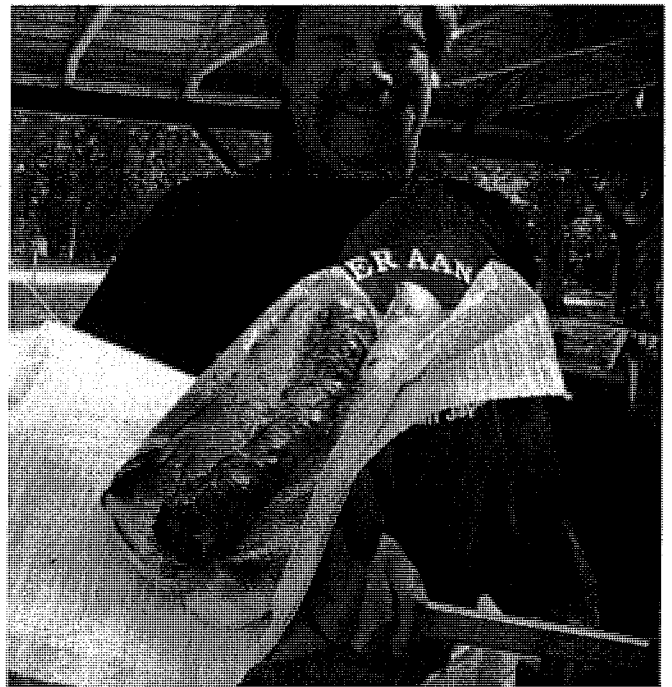
Don brought his shiny BMW auto, but made Eileen ride in the back seat. Why, Don? (*Humph.. Dennis is just jealous – Don.*) Dan rode in with Gigi and was so excited to tell us about the Boy Scout Camp that he will attend next week. I told Dan that I still had my Boy

Scout manual. Jerry asked if it was written on clay tablets.



Big 50/25/25 Winnahs

A "50-50" was started and went rather well. Top prize was \$140 and second and third prizes were \$67. Nancy, down to her last \$3, won the prize. Mikey won second and I captured third. By this time it was approaching 4pm and the group drifted away. The site was cleared and cleaned. Everyone had had a good time.



Grant delivers the goods

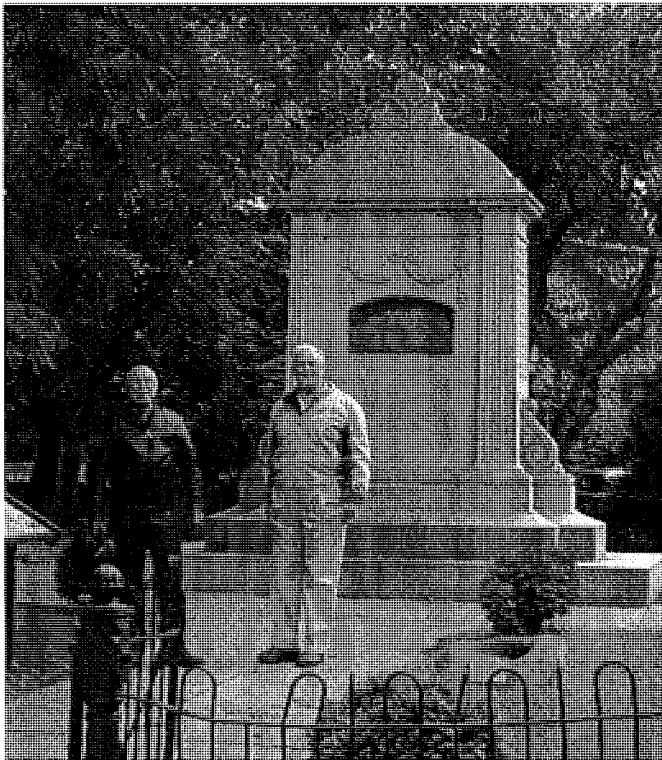
Ride to Greenwich – July 1st

Denny Swanson



Pit stop in Green Bank

Greenwich had a "tea party" in 1772 and there is an impressive monument, erected in 1908, to commemorate the event. Not as noteworthy as the Boston Tea Party, perhaps, but part of the story of the American Revolution.



A Fossil, John Welch and a Monument

It's on the main street of this little gem of a town that time has almost forgotten. Large trees and restored colonial style homes with large yards line this main street that takes you to a New Jersey that is almost gone. A dog could take a nap in the middle of this street and rest almost undisturbed. Don took a photo to prove the point.

Farms surround this town that's located near the Cohansey River and Delaware Bay in the southwestern corner of the state. It's the area most of us never visit. Perhaps that's a good thing.



Main Street – Greenwich NJ – mid-day Sunday

Just outside the town is a marina and restaurant on the river where we had a nice lunch. Fresh seafood dominated the menu and our meals were very good. John and I had soft shell crabs and Don had a hamburger. *(One has to wonder how the fossil's memory is doing.. shrimp and scallops looks like a hamburger?)*



The Bait Box, Greenwich, NJ

The view out over the river and bay was memorable. It would be a nice place to take your "main squeeze" or "she who must be obeyed". You probably wouldn't want to take both, at least not at the same time.

Captain Don planned and led this most pleasant ride. John Welch and I followed at a leisurely pace on an all backroads ride across the south of the state. We passed through Vineland which is bigger than I remembered. We also crossed Bridgeton which might soon be called Juarez.

The weather was perfect for riding or anything else. The roads are not a challenge, but the scenery is pretty good and the traffic was almost non-existent. In short, a real nice ride. Ever been to Norma? How about Othello? Me neither until this ride. We even came near Millmay which I thought did not exist. It took us about

over three hours to reach our destination, but we weren't in any hurry.

After our lunch we headed north. Don and John continued on back roads, but I needed to run the shit out of the GS so took the Turnpike and I 195. I think it took me a little over two hours, I'm not quite sure and you would want a radar detector. The point is that you can reach this area fairly quickly and easily if you are compelled to do it. It's a recommended ride and one you can take if you attend the "Last Chance Rally" in October.

Heads up - Catskill Caper August 3rd-5th

Don E..

The club has been invited to join the Harrisburg BMW riders in their first "Catskill Caper" – modeled after the Blackthorne non-rally our club held a few years ago. The Blackthorne is a sort of old fashioned family resort in the Irish Alps in the Catskills.

Food is extraordinary – and included in the room price.

There is also a pub on the premises, with \$1 drafts in the afternoon and entertainment in the evening. A pool provides a great place to cool off and chill out after riding some of the great roads in the area.

Don and Dan are planning on going – are you?

Contact Don (deilenberger@yahoo.com) for more info. While not cheap – it's a fun weekend and there is some great riding and scenery in the area – plus it makes a good break in August which is a month lacking in BMW events.

Upcoming Rides and Events

The following rides and events are sponsored by the AMA or other organizations and are not NJSBMWR's sponsored. Please feel free to personally arrange rides with your friends and attend.

- Jul. 11th ~ 7 PM ~ Shore BMW Riders Monthly Meeting at Schneider's Restaurant, Main St. Avon NJ
- Jul. 12th - 15th ~ BMW Motorcycle Owners Association National Rally @ Washington County Fair Park, West Bend, WI
- Jul. 25th ~ 7 PM ~ New Sweden BMW Riders Monthly Meeting ~ Casa Carollo, Rt. #73, Marlton, NJ
- August 3rd-5th – Catskill Caper at the Blackthorne Resort. Contact Don for details.
- September 7-9th ~ Radnor Hunt Concourse, Radnor, PA
- Oct. 5th – 7th ~ Last Chance Rally with New Sweden Riders (w/ NJSBMWR Para-Site Rally), Elmer, NJ
- December 28th-30th – NY Motoshow, Javitts, NYC.

Found on the Web – True STUFF..

Glenn Martin

From:

<http://sev.prnewswire.com/auto/20070615/CLF06915062007-1.html>

Michelin has notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Transport Canada that it is recalling Michelin(R) Pilot(R) Power 2CT and Pilot(R) Power 120/70 ZR 17 (58W) front motorcycle tires with the "Made in France" markings in the United States and Canada. This recall involves these specific tires only and has no impact on any other Michelin tires. Related actions are under way in other countries.

An examination of these tires showed a possible defect in the tread due to a manufacturing irregularity. No cases of pressure loss have been reported and no accidents have occurred.

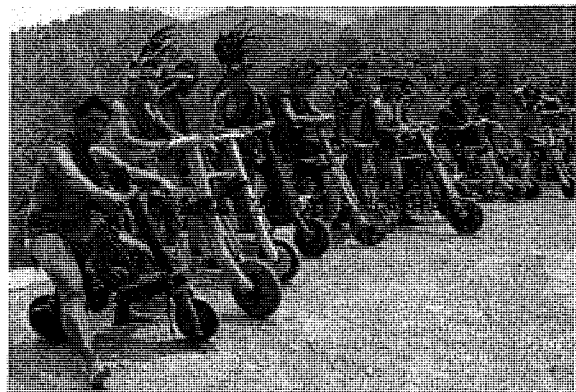
Because rider safety is the primary concern, Michelin has decided as a precaution to replace the 120/70 ZR 17 (58W) Michelin Pilot Power 2CT and Michelin Pilot Power front tires, which can be identified by the following markings on the sidewall:

- a "Made in France" label
- DOT 6UCW 980T or DOT 6UCW 979T

Any consumer in the United States or Canada who believes they are affected by the recall should not wait to receive notification but should call Michelin Consumer Relations at 1 866 324 2835.

The company will be replacing all potentially affected tires in a comprehensive commitment to retrieve from the market any tire that does not meet Michelin quality standards. Replacement tires are available at no cost (including mounting and balancing) to consumers through participating Michelin(R) motorcycle tire servicing retailers.

Senseless Filler



Papua-New Guinea Hog Chapter

New Jersey Shore BMW Riders

c/o Carl Cangelosi

20 Beechtree Lane

Plainsboro, NJ 08536

(Postmaster: Address Service Requested!)

TO:

Dues OK until 11/01/2007

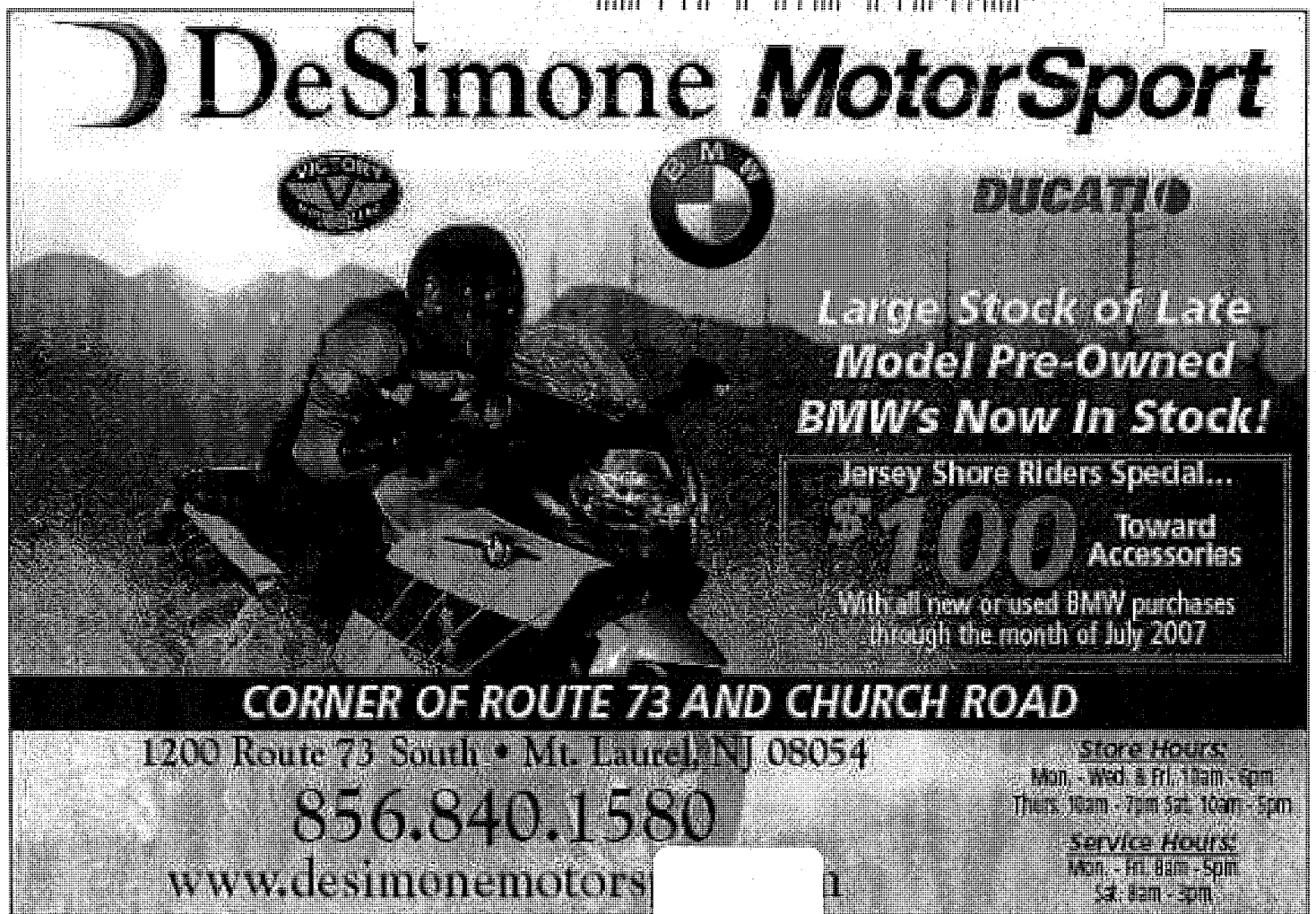
Don Eilenberger

1213 Pond Rd

Spring Lk Hts NJ 07762-1962

Club Meeting - July 11th, 7PM

Schneider's German-American Restaurant, Rt 71, Avon



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