

December 2007 NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

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Dan Thompson, Trustee
Glenn Martin, Strange But True Reporter
John Malaska, Publisher
John Malaska, Ride Co-Chair

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

*When Time who steals our years away
Shall steal our pleasures too,
The mem'ry of the past will stay,
And half our joys renew.*

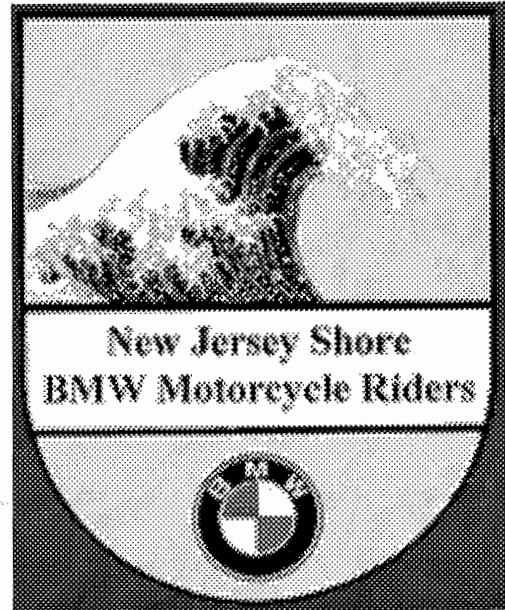
Song. From Juvenile Poems. Thomas Moore

*Where does discontent start? You are warm enough,
but you shiver. You are fed, yet hunger gnaws you.
You have been loved, but your yearning wanders in
new fields. And to prod all these there's time, the
Bastard Time.* John Steinbeck

President's Message

So December is here with its cold and windy weather, year end fast approaching with parties and shopping and the riding opportunities limited to an occasional nice day here and there. Got to get my electrics out and join in on the Polar Bear rides until spring returns which can't be too soon for me. After spending the month of November in south Florida I'm programmed for warmer weather and personally do prefer the warmer weather for riding which is probably not the profundity of the day but the obvious!

However, we do have one big ride remaining this year on Saturday Dec 15th. The club's Annual Children's Specialty Hospital Toy Ride will be starting from the NJ motor vehicle inspection station on Route 70 just west of the parkway on the westbound side. Please plan on being there at 10 AM for some tire kicking... then kickstands up at 11 AM for the short ride over to the hospital.



If you haven't been on this ride before... you need to mark the calendar and join in as it's a most moving experience. I'm sure our ride coordinators will pick an appropriate place for lunch afterwards that'll allow for more chatter. The Harley riders that joined the ride last year have been invited again to share the day with us.

This month will also provide for the end of my presidency of the club which I must say was a fun experience and I'd recommend your volunteering for stewardship if you haven't tried it before. It's a great way to meet people and be involved in guiding the club's direction. Our group is basically 'committee managed' with a nucleus of interested and spirited guys/gals who like to ride motorcycles and give freely of their time for the benefits of this type of social interaction. Congrats to Jerry, Joe and Art for stepping up to the plate in '08.

Very special thanks to Carl for years of service as the club's bookkeeper a/k/a secretary and treasurer. I hold that position for several other endeavors and can say that 'keeping all the paper and money in order' can be somewhat cumbersome at times. A BIG THANKS to Carl.

In conclusion, the Holiday Party is over and the trophy and mileage winners have picked up their hardware. We'll get the results on the website and into next month's rag.

See you at Schneider's for the meeting on Wed Dec 12th 6:30 PM, then the toy ride on the 15th. Happy Holidays to all. . .

Tom

harleeeetom@yahoo.com

2008 Elections – November meeting!

2008 elections were held at our November meeting. In a close election, the following officers were elected for 2008:

- **Jerry (Captain Nautilus) Rouvrais, President**
- **Joe Karol, Vice President**
- **Art Goldberg, Secty/Treasurer**

We'll be having our annual planning meeting sometime in early January at Crown Engineering. All members are welcome to attend – and if you can't attend and have thoughts/ideas to pass along – please see one of the officers!

Flea Market Destinations - Nov. 11

Dennis Swanson

New Jersey has diners and flea markets in abundance.

The diners are all the same, places where you can always get a greasy breakfast, a boring lunch or a good, but never great dinner. But flea markets are different. They have ambience and variety and polyglot crowds. They also offer great bargains on things you just must have but will never use. And they give you a destination if you need one.

The absolute cheesiest is the New Egypt flea market on route 537. It's open on Sundays. It's also Capt. Don's favorite. This place is surrounded by acres of abandoned equipment and located in what must be an abandoned camp left over from the Great Depression of the 1930's. Just walking around this dump is depressing. The buildings are in an advanced state of decay, crying out for condemnation, and the merchandise is the stuff that Goodwill Charities has rejected. They don't offer any food, but if they did you wouldn't want to eat it. Never-the-less, I did find something to buy. It was a leather holster for which I have absolutely no use.

(Editors note: The buildings at New Egypt are WW-II army barracks bought from nearby Fort Dix – and the owner stated in a recent APP article that he'll be fixing the place up soon. That remains to be seen..)

Collingswood Auction (there is no auction) on route 33 in Howell does have good Russian rye and garlic pickles. It also has a lot of ratty things at pretty low prices and an abundance of porno DVD's. You can find bargains from time to time. It also offers aluminum pottery. Don is the leading collector and authority of this stuff in the state of Jersey. He buys it for his wife who proudly displays it around the house.

(Editors note: There actually IS an auction – held on Friday evenings and I believe Sunday afternoon. It's in the only remaining building from before the fire. I've

looked at the stuff to be auctioned – and nothing interested even me..)

My favorite is the market just outside Lambertville on route 29. The people are almost normal and it has some neat things. The bathrooms, however, remind me of the worst in the world, even worse than Guatemala.

They do have a diner and it's not too bad. Despite my fears, I did not get sick after eating there. You want straight-back chairs from a Masonic Lodge or an authentic 19th century sleigh? They have them. You want antiques? Ditto. They have a guy there who sells artisan breads and has even supplied bread to Air Force I. And it is very good! I could go on but it would take too much space to describe all the items. Let's just say that it's kind of fun to walk around there because they have neat things. Even aluminum pottery.



Dennis at the Lambertsville Auction

The largest by far is the Columbus Market on route 206. Walk around there and you could, with just a little imagination, be in old Mexico. Mexican music is blaring away, the smell of tacos and burritos fills the air, and yes, there are lots of Mexicans. The signs are in Spanish. But it is large and you can find lots of other stuff too. I'm going to return to sample the Argentine Grill meat pie and do some further exploration. Perhaps I will even find the place where George Hickman gets all his bargains.

Englishtown also has a big flea market, but I haven't been there in years. Word is out that it's not much good anymore, but I know Don will be looking for more aluminum pottery so perhaps a short ride and walk is in the future.

(Editors note: I also haven't been to Englishtown in years – but it's right in Klaus's shops backyard – so we have a good place to park if we decide to try it. Anyone interested? Perhaps we'll post a few flea-market rides on the website..)

Cross Country Open House November 24th

RD Swanson himself

Skip, Capt. Don, Bobby Truex and I met at Crown at 10:30 to attend Cross Country's open house. My moto was in repair again and Skip graciously let me use Mike's GS with the big tank and the sticky throttle. I got used to the big gas tank and the additional weight, but the throttle sort of threw me off my usual pace.

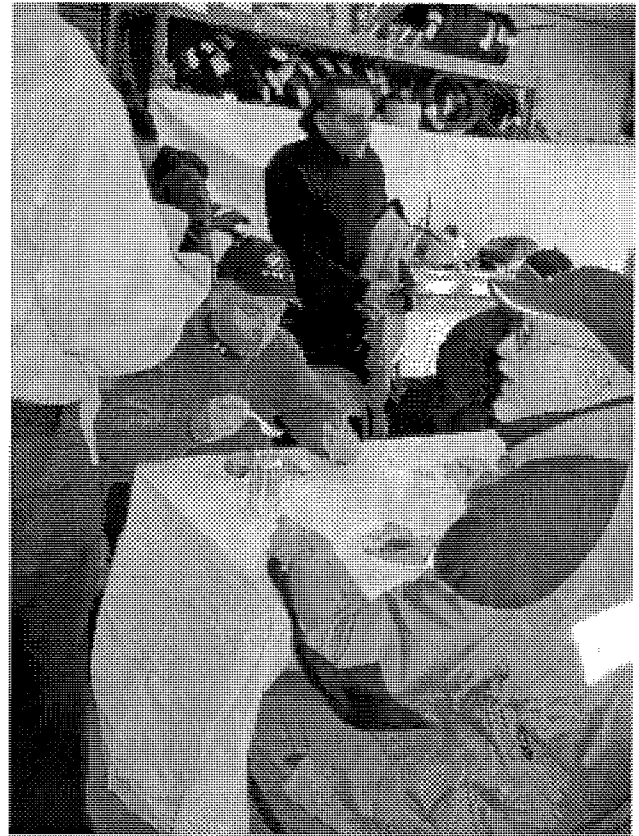
Nevertheless, I very much appreciated the loan. You would think that the ride to the event would be up the GSP and off on 287 to Metuchen, but Skip found a way through back roads in my backyard that I did not know existed. That's probably because I'm always in too much of a hurry. The main reason we took the back roads was that Don was cold and didn't want to go too fast and suffer from too much freezing wind.

Nice country this, and nice state! I continue to be surprised by our tiny little state and all the sights it holds. Most of this ride was through Colt's Neck, past farms and fields that brought us out to the GSP at Cheesequake. The weather had started out in the 20's but warmed to the high 30's. With lots of sunshine and little wind, it made a nice riding day.

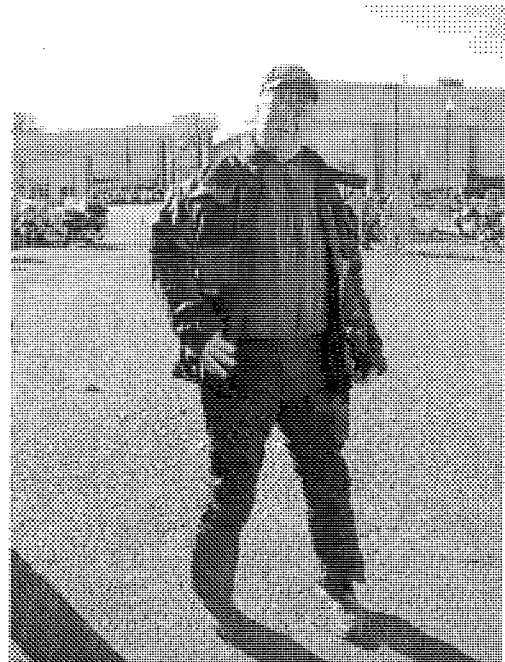


Arriving at Cross Country we were greeted by Dan Notte who took us on a tour of the new building that will be the new shop and BMW showroom. It's much larger than the current facility which will soon be used for Ducati and motor scooters. Roger Trendowski, Alex Edly, John Dunn, George Roberts, TB McFadden, Bobby Truax, Jerry Rouvrais and wife, and Joe Karol also were there and also took the tour with us.

The food was good and plentiful and there were bargains on motorcycles, accessories and etc. We didn't see any New Sweden riders, but Matt Fretag, Duane Kerzik and Peter Bartholemew represented the Skylanders. So as usual, Shore Riders were in the majority. What a group!



After sampling the weenies, telling stories, looking at the motos and checking for bargains, we took our leave. The ride back was also a really nice ride with lots of curves and little traffic.



We went north on 287 and exited south along the Raritan Canal and Millstone River, through Millstown, Griggstown, Rocky Hill, and Kingston and then past

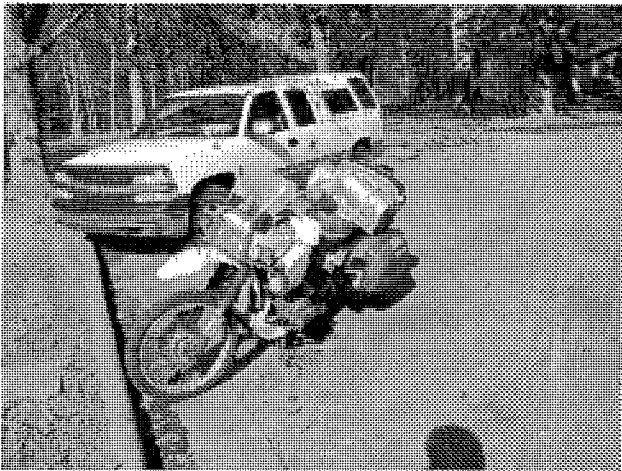
Princeton, through Hightstown, then New Sharon and 524 and then some more roads I didn't know existed. So I'll be redundant. Amazed again I was that so many old colonial houses and broad fields and farmland still exist in this overcrowded Garden State. But they do! You also see a lot of signs that say "preserved farmland". So maybe Jersey is corrupt and overtaxed, but someone is doing something right at least in this area of preservation.

BMW Performance Center – Off Road Course – Thanksgiving Weekend

Dave Mason

This trip began like many of my trips with my boss sending me to a meeting. This time the meeting was in Arlington, Virginia, for several days, starting the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. That meant traveling down on Monday and with a day of vacation time I would have a four day weekend that I could use to start the trip to Arlington. I had just heard about BMW offering on and off road courses in Spartanburg, which is practically on the way to Arlington.

I left on Thanksgiving morning at about 0900 on my 1990 R100 GS/PS and since I had a fair number of miles to go, the route was basically simple; go south on I-95 and turn right on I-85. It was all slab but the trees were changing colors so it was still pretty. The state police along the way did not have the day off but seemed to be finding ways to entertain themselves. I also passed two dead deer. I only made four stops; a cinnamon sticky-gooey in Delaware, gas in Virginia, explaining the headlight modulator to the Virginia state police and a hotel in South Hill, Virginia. Along the way, the left front turn signal quit working. There is a problem somewhere in the wiring. I had dinner in a Chinese buffet that was serving turkey dinner. (If you are looking for a diner on Christmas or Thanksgiving, Chinese is the most likely to be open.) I got to the hotel at 1715 with 430 miles accomplished.



Overloaded on the Road

I started again at 0800 on Friday and since I was over half way there, I was able to make some stops. The first was at the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. The second was at the Kings Mountain National Military Park. The third was at the Cowpens National Battlefield. These are all battlefields from the southern campaign in the revolutionary war. The first of these three to occur was at Kings Mountain, which was the only battle in the war solely between American militias. The Patriot Militia beat an entrenched Loyalist Militia. The second of these battles to occur was at Cowpens, where outnumbered American regulars defeated British regulars by a narrow margin. The British won at Guilford Courthouse, but at a cost so high that they declared that they could not afford many more victories like this. After this battle, the British retired to Yorktown for re-supply and re-enforcements.

All of these parks have driving tours through the park, which were especially pretty with the trees turning colors. I actually had a local resident come up to me at Guilford Courthouse and apologize for the early falling leaves, due to the draught this year. I also met the mechanic from the Greensboro BMW shop there. Kings Mountain is strange in that it is in South Carolina but the main way there is from North Carolina. Then you return to North Carolina before continuing on to South Carolina. I did arrive at Cowpens too late to take the driving tour but I was in time to visit the museum and walk some of the grounds. That got me to my hotel near the training center by 1730, after a total of 730 miles.

The School

BMW has information about the school on their web site at www.bmwmotorcycles.com. It is not easy to find. Scroll down to "Announcements" and click on the little blue dots. Then click on "BMW Motorcycle Rider Training at the BMW Performance Center". There are links to PDF files at the bottom of the page. The price for the course runs from \$550 to \$650 if you ride one of their bikes or \$480 if you ride your own BMW. (It has to be BMW insurance reasons.) I rode my own because I was told (wrongly) that all the company bikes were taken.

I have some corrections from the instructors to the information provided. First is that they can handle 12 students per class and they have 10 bikes, two of which the instructors will need. We had nine people in our class and I was the only one on my own bike. The person who answers the phone is an answering service in California. The second bit of bad information is that you can take the two classes on consecutive days. The on-road course was not offered the weekend that I attended, which kept me from that error. According to the instructors, there is a 50% drop out rate due to exhaustion among riders that take the off-road course the day after the on-road course. We lost one to exhaustion shortly after lunch and my legs were wobbly at lunch. You will spend eight hours standing in a crouch.

You need to be there at 0815. Park in the parking lot on the buildings right. If you stay in one of the Marriotts on the welcome letter, they have a shuttle. Since I was going to ride my own, I stayed at the Hampton (free breakfast), which is actually closer. The Performance Center has been giving classes for cage drivers since 1998. They started giving the motorcycle classes this September. As a consequence, the welcome packet that they mailed me had one page on the class I was taking and eight pages on car courses. It didn't mention the other motorcycle class. The instructors trained in Germany and then built the course here themselves.

The first thing they do is break the class into two groups. While I have several miles on the road, the dirt is not my best thing and I opted for the beginners group. The course starts in the garage with instruction on how to drop the bike without getting hurt, how to pick up the bike after you drop it and how to balance the bike, including the proper crouch. After a little time practicing holding the bike in balance and adjusting controls, we headed for the back forty, where most of the off-road course is located.

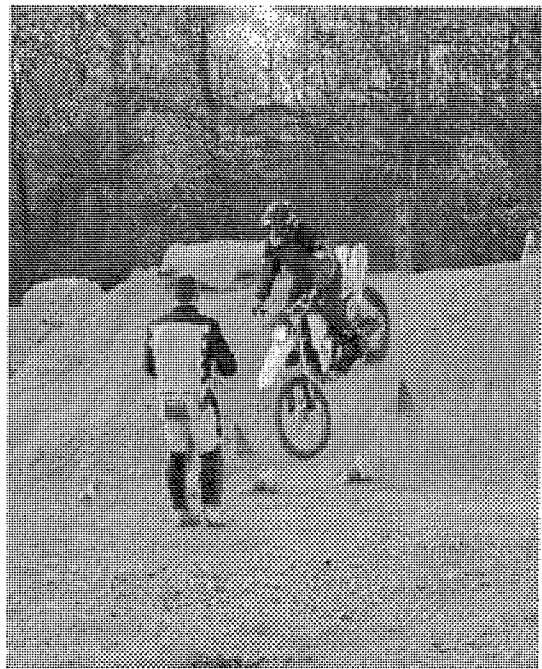
The course starts out fairly easy, riding in big circles, standing on one foot, standing side saddle and side saddle one handed. Then we moved on to doing these things riding a slalom course and then doing circles and figure eights in a box. Next we did some enduro laps around the back forty. The next thing we practiced was washboard roads and ruts. They made the washboards with railroad ties and the rut had a small log on each side of it to throw you off the bike if you tried to steer with the handle bars. This was followed by a longer rut and small camel back humps. The jumps were large enough to stall the bike if you went too slow or launch it if you go to fast. (I stalled it once.)



Humps and bumps and railroad ties

Next comes larger humps. The final humps and troughs here are exactly a wheel base apart. Crash, bang, crash goes the suspension over these humps, especially if you go to fast. After some more enduro laps, we practiced riding across the side of a hill. This is a particularly good place not to screw up as it is a long way down on one side of the bike. After some more enduro laps, we broke for lunch.

After lunch, we practiced braking in the dirt with only the back brake (locked up). Then we lock up and released the front brake. Finally, we did full panic braking in the dirt. After some enduro laps, we rode the gravel pit and also practiced turning in the gravel pit to exit out the side. Then it was on to the big humps. The troughs between the humps are bigger than the bikes. Next came riding up a hill, stalling the bike and letting it down the hill backwards using the clutch and the stalled engine. This is in case you get to the top of a hill and decide not to go into the lake or road on the other side. Then we did some more enduro laps followed by practice riding up a hill, turning and riding back down, with a right turn at the bottom of the hill. Once we had this mastered, we rode around to the front area by the main road. Up here we practiced on a gravel hill and the water crossing.



The course was well taught and safely taught. No one was injured although we were all sore. I saw nine times when someone in our group dropped their bike, sometimes two at a time. I didn't drop my bike at all, which made me feel good, especially since it was my bike. I did have to dab several times, including a heavy duty dab turning in the gravel and another coming down off the gravel hill. According to the odometer, I rode 40 miles during the training. My legs were killing me.

They are planning to offer several additional courses in the future. One is an advanced off-road course and another is a sport bike riding course. They are also looking at a couple of off property, multi day training events.

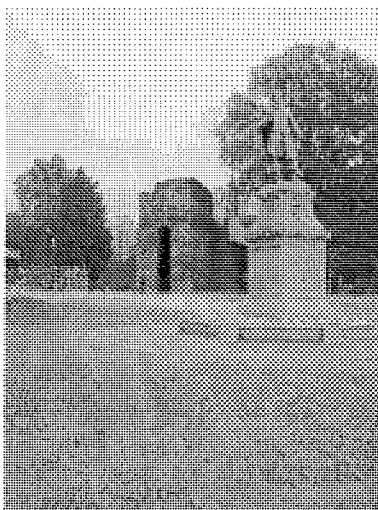
Sunday I got an 0900 start on a chilly but dry day. My legs were killing me. I was fine riding the bike but it hurt to put my feet down or pick them up.

My interesting stop of the day was at Carl Sandbergs's home. He wasn't home but the house is nice with a great view. There was a great quote on the wall from his "Little Girl, Be Careful What You Say". "...be careful, be careless, be careful, be what you want to be."



Carl Sandberg's Lake

There were a couple of interesting signs on the road. One was for Home Depot / Harley Davidson. I am not sure if they were just sharing the sign pole and parking lot or if Home Depot has branched out. Or maybe you can buy Harley branded building supplies. The second sign was for Motocross Paintball Express. I am not sure what this is or that I want to know. Several images come to mind. After passing two major accidents, on the other side of the road, and one dead deer on my side, I pulled into Oxford, North Carolina for the night at 1630.



On Monday I got started at 0900, after some serious fog alerts. There wasn't much rain but there was enough fog that I wore my rain suit to ward off further rain. My first sightseeing stop of the day was at Jamestown, which is the oldest settlement in the United States. I took off the rain suit as it appeared to

clear up. From here I rode to Yorktown, which is just up the road. This is where Cornwallis surrendered at the end of the Revolutionary War. Riding here without my rain gear was enough to start the rain so I put it back on and the rain went away. I got into Arlington at 1930 and spent three days in boring meetings, before head back to Jersey. The total trip was 1631 miles.

AMA Polar Bear Ride November 25th

On a brisk cool Sunday morning, November 25, a seven of the clubs members met at our Wawa and as always our ride leader Skip Palmer took us out on some of the nicest back roads in the area as we made our way to towards Hopewell, N.J. . It was a great day for a ride as the temps were warming up and the scenery was great.



Gathering at our WAWA

We arrived at Hillbillys shortly before noon and we looked around and checked out some of the other bikes that were there. We even saw Santa Claus riding by as we were entering the restaurant.



We were treated to a nice large room where we enjoyed a nice quiet and tasty lunch. After lunch Skip and some members continued on for a nice afternoon ride as it turned out to be a nice autumn day.

Don and I returned home after a great day of riding. We would like to thank Skip Palmer for another great riding adventure.

Keep an eye on the email from the website and join us in keeping our tires turning this winter!

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.

- **Dec. 12th** ~ 7 PM Shore BMW Riders Monthly Meeting at Schneider's Restaurant, Main St. Avon NJ
- **Dec. 15th** ~ 10 AM Shore BMW Riders Holiday Gift Ride to Toms River Specialized Hospital, Stevens Rd, Lakewood, NJ
- **Dec. 16th** ~ AMA Polar Bear Ride to The Cabin, Howell, NJ
- **Dec. 23rd** ~ AMA Polar Bear Ride to Sweetwater Casino, Sweetwater, NJ
- **Dec. 28th - 30th** ~ International Motorcycle Show at the Javits Center NYC
- **Jan. 6th** ~ AMA Polar Bear Ride to Wearhouse Grill, Lake Hopatcong, NJ
- **Jan. 7th** ~ 7 PM Skylands BMR Riders Monthly Meeting ~ The Warrenside Tavern, Rt. #173, Bloomsbury, NJ
- **Jan. 9th** ~ 7 PM Shore BMW Riders Monthly Meeting at Schneider's Restaurant, Main St. Avon NJ

Found on the Web

Glenn Martin, Internet Reporter

Versus, who will have coverage of the **Dakar** in the US, has announced their schedule. It may change, so you might want to check on their website as it gets closer.
<http://www.versus.com/schedule>

Sunday, January 6th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Monday, January 7th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Tuesday, January 8th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Wednesday, January 9th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Thursday, January 10th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Friday, January 11th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Saturday, January 12th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Sunday, January 13th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Monday, January 14th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Tuesday, January 15th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Wednesday, January 16th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Thursday, January 17th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm

Friday, January 18th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Saturday, January 19th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Sunday, January 20th	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Monday, January 21st	3:30pm - 4:00pm 6:30 pm - 7:00pm
Sunday, January 27th	4:00pm - 5:00pm

Tasteless Filler (Caption Contest)



"I knew I shouldn't follow Jerry that close.."
 Or - "Pumkin'Chunkin gone bad.."
 Or - "I wish we'd stopped at the last restroom.."

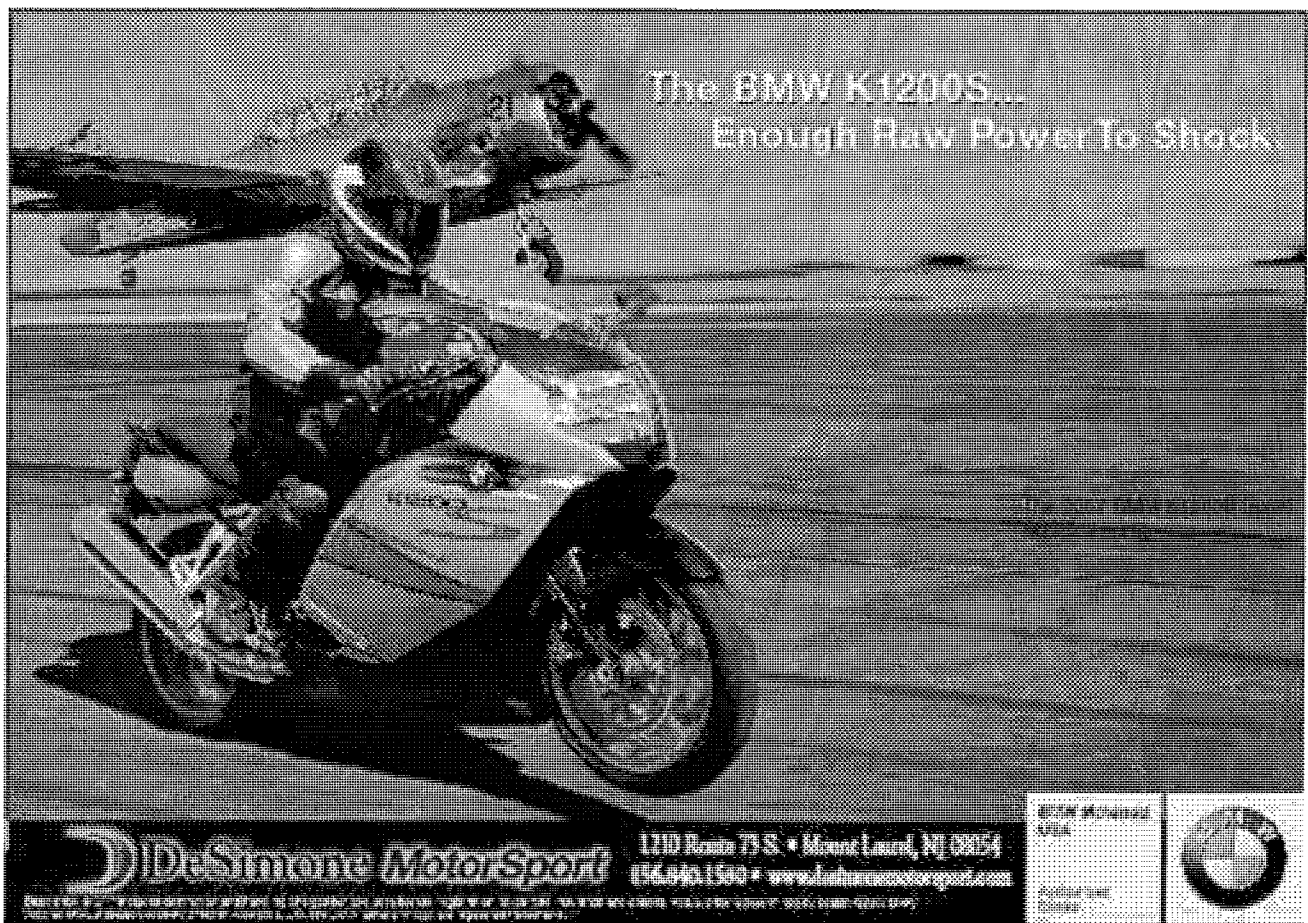


"New field event for the 3-Club Rumble.."
 Or - "We gotta stop meeting like this.."

New Jersey Shore BMW Riders
c/o Carl Cangelosi
20 Beechtree Lane
Plainsboro, NJ 08536
(Postmaster: Address Service Requested!)

TO:

Club Meeting - December 12th - 7PM
Schneider's German-American Restaurant, Rt 71, Avon



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