

February 2023

NEW JERSEY SHORE BMW RIDERS Inc

Mike Palmer, President (president@njsbmwr.org)

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President's Message

Rick Shapiro, Co-President

The January club meeting is one of my favorites; it is at this meeting that members put forth planned and suggested rides and trips for the year. I listen with excitement and envy as folks share their past favorite rides and destinations and their planned adventures for the year.

I've historically walked out of those meetings with an abundance of enthusiasm, ready to forgo all life commitments and hit the road every chance I get. The road to hell is paved with good intentions, so they say. Inevitably, being the non-committal, world-class procrastinator that I am, I don't commit, schedule, and plan for these trips. Life commitments indeed do take over, and I am left at the end of the year wondering where the time went and wallowing with regret that I did not take more motorcycle trips.

So this year, in lieu of my usual mundane New Year's Resolutions to lose weight, read more, keep my garage clean, and listen to my wife more, I've committed to commit to some long-weekend getaways, rallies, and one long-distance trip. To this end, I've marked the trips on my calendar, I've scheduled my leave from work, and signed up for events.

I hope others follow suit and commit to club rides, trips, and rallies. I also hope to share these journeys with fellow club members.

Please keep an eye on the Club Newsletter for a list of upcoming events, and feel free to share your plans during our club meetings or via the club mailing list.

"Map out your future - but do it in pencil. The road ahead is as long as you make it. Make it worth the trip"

Jon Bon Jovi

"As you make your way along life's tumultuous highways, it's important to note that you should always carry a map, have plenty of fuel in the tank, and take frequent rest stops"

Octavia Spencer

I've never had a clear road map. When things come along, I benefit.

Greg Kinear

"As we sit here, continents are adrift, like leaves on a pond. GPS tracking shows North America & Europe currently moving apart at the same rate your fingernail grows, or about two yards in a human lifetime"

Bill Bryson

"GPS has saved countless relationships because us men do not like to ask for directions. Now if women could only come with relationship GPS we would be one step closer to world peace."

Ken Piorot

January Meeting Minutes

Jim Thomasey, Secretary

The January NJSBMW Riders meeting was standing room only for those attending until the room was set up and chairs were properly placed. Once comfortably seated the real work took place as this was also a planning meeting. With just under a \$1000 in the treasury and paid membership at about 30, we got down to business.

With the previous months' minutes voted on and accepted we began discussion of the calendar ahead. If anyone has any ideas for rides or places to visit, please come to the February meeting for discussion. We will be putting all the MOA events in the newsletter, so they are available for planning your spring, summer and fall trips.

Some members are already thinking about overnight trips to Niagra Falls, Nova Scotia and surrounding areas. If you wish to go along with those folks, come to a meeting to get details and times. Day trip discussions included trips taking advantage of using the Cape May-Lewes ferry to Delaware, covered bridge tours in PA, and a group ride to NJ Motorsports Park for go kart racing.

Ride Captains are always in demand for any weekend rides. Have an idea for a place YOU would like to go? Post it on the website and you can be the ride leader, too.

Some members are going to Fontana Village in the second week of April, and more are welcome. Just make your own hotel reservations. Details at the February meeting.

The MOA National Rally will be held the second week of June north of Richmond VA this year. About 6000 people are expected to attend. If you would like to go, you should get your hotel reservations now. There is camping on site. Visit the BMW MOA website for more information. Keep in mind when in this part of the country you are only a few hours away from the Blue Ridge Parkway, Skyline Drive and the Tail of the Dragon. Members are already planning their side trips to the Barber Museum in AL as well as other

sight in the area.

The massive 50/50 was won by Art G. and the second swag prize was won by Jim T. Smiles all around after the meeting.

Club Calendar

Note: Events may be canceled or modified. Check your email or the club website for updates

February 2023

- February 1 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- February 8 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

March 2023

- March 1 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- March 8 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
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April 2023

- April 5 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- April 12 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale
- April 21-23 BMW MOA Getaway, Fontana NC

May 2023

- May 3 Moribundi lunch 12:30PM
- May 10 Club meeting 7:30PM (6PM to eat) Woody's Roadside Tavern, 105 Academy St., Farmingdale

Exploring Maryland

Alvaro Trujillo

In May 2022, I made an epic road trip on our motorcycles with two of my closest friends!

We explored the beautiful state of Maryland, visiting St. Michael, Easton, Berlin, and the

bustling beach town of Ocean City. We then headed to Virginia Beach and Charlottesville before taking in the stunning views on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The journey continued to Front Royal and Harper's Ferry before finishing up in the heart of it all in Washington, DC. Each city offered something unique and memorable, and I can't wait to hit the road again with these guys!



Book Review “Jupiters Travels” by Ted Simon

Arte Fishul

"Jupiter's Travels" is a classic motorcycle travelogue written by Ted Simon. The book, first published in 1979, chronicles Simon's four-year journey on a Triumph motorcycle through 58 countries, covering over 75,000 miles.

One of the most striking aspects of the book is Simon's writing style, which is both poetic and evocative. He masterfully captures the sights, sounds, and emotions of his journey, transporting the reader to far-off lands and immersing them in the culture and people he encounters.

Another noteworthy aspect of the book is the author's willingness to delve into the darker aspects of travel, such as the fear and loneliness that often accompany long-term solo travel. Simon is candid in his reflections, and this honesty adds depth and nuance to his story.

One of the most remarkable things about "Jupiter's Travels" is its timelessness. The book was written over 40 years ago, yet the themes and experiences Simon writes about are still rele-

vant today. It is a testament to the universality of the human experience and the enduring appeal of the motorcycle journey as a means of self-discovery.

Overall, "Jupiter's Travels" is a must-read for any motorcycle enthusiast or anyone with a sense of wanderlust. It is a beautifully written, thought-provoking, and inspiring account of one man's journey around the world on two wheels.

Can AI write stories for the newsletter?

Don Eilenburger

You've probably been hearing about Artificial Intelligence, and the recent capabilities being shown, where AI can write articles, pass law tests and all sorts of other advanced things.

Being a curious chap - I tracked down the one everyone is talking about, and gave it some challenges to write articles for our newsletter.

"Write a story about the NJ Shore BMW Riders riding their BMW motorcycles to Oktoberfest at the Crystal Brook Resort in Round Top NY. The club president is Mike Palmer. The club curmudgeon is Don Eilenburger. Include them in the story and make it humorous."

Once upon a time, the NJ Shore BMW Riders motorcycle club, led by their fearless president Mike Palmer, decided to take a trip to the famous Oktoberfest at the Crystal Brook Resort in RoundTop,NY

As they set out on their BMW motorcycles, Mike, who was known for his love of planning, had mapped out the perfect route to avoid traffic and construction. However, the club's resident curmudgeon, Don Eilenberger, had other ideas. He insisted on taking the "scenic route" which ended up adding an extra two hours to the trip.

As they finally arrived at the resort, the group was greeted by the sight of lederhosen-clad revelers and the smell of roasting bratwurst. Mike and Don, still bickering over the route, decided to call a truce and enjoy the festivities.

As they indulged in traditional German fare and drank steins of beer, they couldn't help but notice a group of Harley riders nearby giving them dirty looks. Don, never one to shy away from a confrontation, sauntered over and asked, "What's the matter, fellas? Jealous of our superior engineering and handling?"

The Harley riders just scoffed and walked away, but the BMW riders had a good laugh and continued to enjoy their Oktoberfest experience.

As the day came to a close and the group mounted their motorcycles for the ride home, Mike turned to Don and said, "You know, that 'scenic route' wasn't so bad after all. I might have to start listening to you more often."

Don just grinned and replied, "Don't get too used to it, Palmer."

The NJ Shore BMW Riders rode back home with fond memories of their Oktoberfest adventure and the camaraderie they shared.

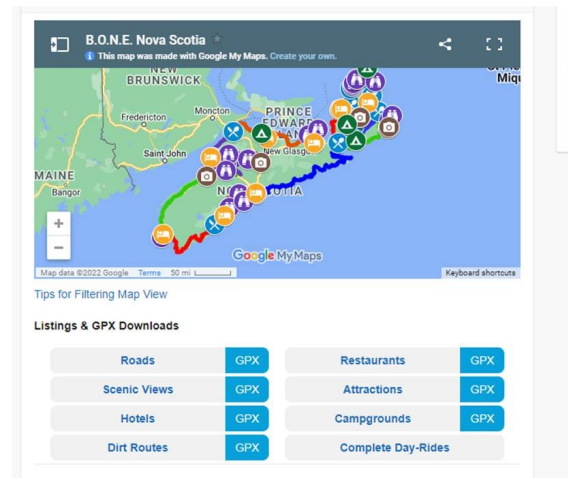
RIDE PLANNING SITE for N.E.

Roger Trendowski

How do you plan for a long distance ride? By this I don't mean "how to plan to tell your wife." I don't mean "how to plan what to take or how to load your bike." What I'm talking about is planning for best routes, hotels, restaurants, and scenic views. I typically talk to club members, look at GPS maps with points-of-interest, drag out old magazines, and even go through AAA books/pamphlets. There are also magazines that show motorcycle routes such as the MOA magazine/website and Road Runner magazine. But the challenge with this approach is that I have to look back at old magazines and webpages to fine my target area. (The good thing about the MOA is that a few months before their National Rally and Get-a-Way rallies, they publish articles and routes by local clubs.) There are also some good websites/companies that provide best routes but they may have a fee, such as Ride-with-GPS (<https://www.rwgps.com>) and Roadrunner magazine. <https://www.roadrunner.travel/articles/motorcycle-navigation-finding-your-route-using-gpx-files/>

Well, I just found a motorcycle website created by the New England Riders (NER) Club that provides a lot of details on places and routes in the North East U.S. and Canada. This is the same club that I wrote about last month where they published how to use the Garmin BaseCamp software. <https://www.newenglandriders.org/b-o-n-e> (use the hyphens)

Their Best of the NorthEast (or "BONE") presents a list of roads that have been vetted and reaffirmed by NER members over many years. You can choose 13 areas (regions) to research. Travel attractions and amenities are recommended and rated by your fellow riders, especially in relation to visiting them by motorcycle. What you get besides a map view and a downloadable GPX file for your GPS (see figure). This includes waypoints and points of interest. The downloaded GPX routes can be complex with many turns – they are best displayed and followed using good mapping software like Garmin BaseCamp or other and/or a dedicated GPS device. NER members update our listings and GPX files frequently, based on the first-hand experience and input from the rider community. Check back often to get the most recent data. You can choose items to look for: Roads, attractions, scenic views, restaurants, hotels, dirt roads, camp grounds, etc. URL links to other information are also included for border crossing info, area maps, parks and tourism information. Good luck if you are going to the North East this year. Hope you find this useful. If you have other great planning software/sites, then go ahead and write an article for our newsletter.



This is an example from the Northeast Riders website. It shows detailed output for Nova Scotia. Note the additional links they provide for more travel information.

Links;

<https://www.newenglandriders.org/border-crossing-information/>

<https://motorcycletourguidens.com/>

<https://www.canada-maps.org/nova-scotia.htm>

<https://www.lighthousefriends.com/pull-state.asp?state=NS&button=Go>

<https://cabottrailbiker.com/>

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/ns/cbreton/>

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/ns/cbreton/visit/tarifs-fees>

https://pcacdn.azureedge.net/-/media/pn-np/ns/cbreton/WET4/PDF/2017_carte-map_HTCB-CBH.pdf?la=en&modified=20170523194749&hash=47D8A553045E3BFC7092D1B98E4F2CA799C744B9

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFe2L_foaRk

<http://www.explorenovascotia.com/>

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/>

Motorcycling is a very sensual thing': Will bikers accept losing their Vroom?

Max Obray

The Guardian, 7th Jan 2022

The advent of electric vehicles will eventually extend to motorbikes, despite a deep cultural attachment to the internal combustion engine on two wheels

The guttural roar rising from the start-up pits was flag marshal Shane Adderton's cue. The 34-year-old technician has been involved in the motorbike world since he was a teenager, and volunteering at South Australia's racing mecca of Mallala Motorsport Park always gave him a special thrill. "When you hear them start up and leave the pits, that sound is something you look forward to," he says. "That note of the exhaust – the emotion it creates is part of the attractiveness."



Boris Mihailovic, a motorcycle writer and consultant to an e-motorbike company, estimates at least half of riders will be resistant to the new technology.

The vrooming from the pits also serves a more practical purpose. As a flag marshal, it was Adderton's signal to march out and wave bikes into position, highlighting any dangers and hazards on the track. One race day at Mallala, Adderton missed his cue completely. In his first time officiating an electric motorbike race, Adderton learnt a valuable lesson: he could no longer rely on a deafening rumble of forewarning. "I didn't know the electric bikes were even on the track until they'd gone past me," he says.

Adderton, a technical cadet, loves to tinker around with his four bikes, but the unfamiliarity of the mechanical workings means he isn't sure if he'll be adding an electric model to his collection.

He's not alone in his reticence. That guttural roar he loves so much has inspired not only art and culture, but thousands of clubs around the world full of people dedicated to cruising the roads with nothing between their body and an internal combustion engine except a good set of leathers.

But those engines will eventually become a thing of the past, and motorbikes have to be part of that. Global Market Insights estimates the international market for electric motorbikes will grow from \$42bn in 2020 to \$56bn by 2027 – but this analysis assumes increasing government support and stronger emission regulations.



Thyron Van Vuuren on a Voltron-Evo electric motorbike at Queensland Raceway in 2016.

The sound of engine silence

For such small vehicles, conventional motorbikes have an outsized environmental impact. Although petrol-fuelled cars emit greater quantities of pollution overall, they are subject to stricter exhaust regulations than their two-wheeled counterparts, which emit higher levels of hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide. The quest for ever-louder motors contributes to this problem, with the removal of emissions gear a popular modification by bikers to give their exhaust systems extra resonance.

“There’s something guttural and intense about [conventional motorbikes] that reverberates through you,” says Michelle Nazzari. “Obviously there’s the carcinogenics and everything to think about, but there is a beauty to it too.”

Nazzari used to be a bit of a petrolhead herself, mucking around on farms with her two-stroke dirt bike, but then she dreamt up a plan to manufacture emissions-free motorcycles while riding through Colombia in 2010. She co-founded the Fonz Moto company and these days gets a different kind of thrill out of her rides.

When she gets a moment from her Redfern workshop, Nazzari wheels out one of her electric motorbikes and escapes two hours south of Sydney to Macquarie Pass.

“It’s one of the best rides in New South Wales,” Nazzari says of the winding hairpin turns that lead up from the coastline to the spectacular reaches of the Southern Highlands. Without the distraction of engine noise or shuddering, Nazzari says she feels more present in the moment, with the only vibration coming from the texture of the road. “Not having any vibration in the power train, you can really focus on the quality of riding, not mucking around with the clutch,” she says. “When you go into some real winding bits, you can really feel it.”

On the safety concerns related to the silence of the bikes, Nazzari counters that the quiet motor means the rider can be more alert to the dangers around them. “You can hear everything going on around you, and are a lot more present for that reason,” she says.

The Sydney-based electric motorbike company’s social media feeds are littered with plenty of what Nazzari describes as “emasculating commentary” about the lack of vroom

“One of the most common questions we get from naysayers is: ‘do you make one for men?’,” she laughs. “It’s just trolls I guess, with that masculinity thing around the sound.”



Fonz Moto company co-founder Michelle Nazzari with one of its e-bikes

The comments veer from sexism and homophobia to a simple rejection of the silence. “Stuff that,” read one person’s take. “I’ll stick with my

2000 R1 that makes me smile when I hear it rev up ... can't call yourself a petrol head if you like electric vehicles."

'Range is a real issue outside cities'

Boris Mihailovic, one of Australia's leading writers about motorcycle culture, doesn't think he'll ever flick the switch to electric. The burly, tattooed author of *At the Altar of the Road Gods* has been a vocal critic of electric models, which he says feel more like appliances than true motorbikes. "Motorcycling is a very sensual thing," he tells *Guardian Australia*. "I love the noise they make ... The first thing many people do when they buy a bike is can the exhaust system and put on a more tuneful exhaust. Ducatis, Harleys – they live on the amazing aural pleasure they give."

Mihailovic, who is advising Australian e-motorbike manufacturer Savic Motorcycles on how to appeal to true petrolheads, says he personally needs "that connection between exploding dinosaurs and the throttle", and estimates at least half of bikers will be resistant to the new technology. "Motorcyclists are generally an ageing demographic, older guys 50 and over." So e-motorbike manufacturers, he says, are looking to younger generations. Mihailovic suggests they will be more interested in the emissions side of things, as well as the instant rapid acceleration that electric offers.



Michelle Nazzari on an e-motorbike 'When you go into some real winding bits, you can really feel it.'

"Younger people are happy to eschew the whole thunder-and-lightning thing, and just ride on the lighting without the thunder," he says.

But a deal breaker for many riders is the lack of charging infrastructure to facilitate the long haul road-trips so iconic in biker culture. "Range is a real issue outside cities," Mihailovic says.

Meanwhile, the Australian Electric Vehicle Association's national secretary, Dr Chris Jones, says federal and state EV policies in general overlook electric motorbikes at best, and in some cases deliberately exclude them.

"Governments have spent the last 30 years demonising motorcycles as coffins on wheels," he says. "The last thing they want to do is promote such small, congestion-busting, efficient ways of getting around after demonising them for so long."

Jones is an electric motorcycle enthusiast himself, and was one of the engineers behind the Voltron-Evo that dominated Australia's e-racing circuit in the mid-2010s. The ingenuity he saw on display in development of the racers has him convinced that Australia could have a thriving electric motorbike industry if it was supported. Electric vehicles are too big an opportunity to miss.

Here's what Australia should be doing. Jones wants to see state government subsidies available for electric cars extended to motorbikes, and stronger emissions standards for conventional motorcycles. Others in the industry are lobbying for the removal of stamp duty – a policy already in place in the ACT and New South Wales.

Whatever support electric motorbikes get in the end, the open question remains whether bikers will be able to overcome the cultural attachment to the vroom.

Back in Adelaide, Adderton hasn't totally ruled out getting an electric model. He's heard they accelerate a lot faster these days, and could be good for city commutes. Adderton is also aware not everyone is quite so besotted with the rumble of engines as he is.

"I've got friends who have bike tracks in the hills and they make a lot of noise," he says. "So yeah, I could see electric being good there, you know – out of consideration for the neighbours."

Great Expectations

A small section dedicated to those vague, thinking about it, rough, yet-to be flushed out ride ideas.

Have a destination or route in mind? Seen a cool place to visit? Discovered some long lost relative using DNA testing that lives somewhere with some very twisty roads?

Send your ideas in. Please list the destination approximate time frame and contact info.

Not all will happen, but lets start the conversation and see where it (we?) go. Once they reach critical mass, they will be added to the calendar.

- 1) Nova Scotia Tour. Tentative Sept '23
- 2) Air and Space Museum, Chantilly, Va Timing tbd. <https://airandspace.si.edu/visit/udvar-hazy-center> POC: Paul
- 3) MOA Getaway, Fontana Va . April 21-23 POC: Roger

Highly Classifieds

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

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

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

For Sale: 1996 Triumph Thunderbird. 885cc triple, 5spd. As seen on occasion at club events. Somewhat standardized, original seat, bars etc..available to return it to stock. Contact Paul bmt213a@gmail.com

And Lastly...

Since we're talking GPS ride planning..

