



'THE JERSEY GANG' CUSTOM TOUR: 09-30-22

Here is a note I received near the end of March 2022, accompanied by a check for \$400. Incredibly, Mike was not only willing to “herd the cats” and organize a group of his friends for a RetroTour, but he was also willing to put up the non-refundable deposits for all 8 riders, and 6 months in advance to boot! There is not much more that I could ask for.

In the end, Mike showed up with 6 of his friends, so with me, we were a group of 8. For a 1 day ride, I decided to duplicate the Local Loops event that ran 2 weeks before, adding in one extra stop for good measure. The previous ride report essentially describes the route. Bikes were chosen to honor riders’ requests. I have to say that this was a terrific bunch of guys; I am so glad to have met them. They all rode magnificently, like the seasoned enthusiasts that they obviously are. We bonded over food and drink, kicked tires, remembered how things were back in ‘the day’, rode a good 150 miles in grey but gorgeous Autumn weather, and just generally had a ball. My only regret was that Mrs. V had to cancel at the last minute. RetroTours are always better when both genders are represented.

Here are some pictures that should give the flavor of ‘The Jersey Gang Tour’:

JOEL 03-28-22

HERE IS THE DEPOSIT FOR OUR
GROUP OF 8 ON FRIDAY 9-30-2022
I WILL HAVE MY LIST OF NAMES
AND THEIR CONTACT INFO TO YOU
IN ABOUT 4 WEEKS. A GROUP YOU
WILL CERTAINLY ENJOY, ALL ARE
RATHER SERIOUS GEAR HEADS.
REGARD'S MIKE WHITE



Valley Garden Park

As usual, Lynn tried to up her culinary game; is it any wonder that I have a hard time keeping the weight off?

***RIDE TO EAT,
EAT TO RIDE!***





Someone is lovin' that BSA



STROUD'S MILL PRESERVE

For a little added adventure, the GS550ES, the most modern and latest model of the lot, decided to go tits up at the last layover spot. Inexplicably, the battery was totally dead when we mounted up to leave. I was sure that someone had left the headlight on, but no one in this group of highly experienced riders would ever make a mistake like that. We tried to bump start it, but only wound up at the bottom of a big hill with a dead engine. I was considering swapping batteries with another bike when a maintenance guy pulled up in his pick-up truck. He had jumper cables and a willingness to help. THANK YOU SO MUCH! We pulled out the headlight fuse to improve our odds and with the rider keeping the rpms up all the way, hightailed it home. It turns out that the previous owner had fitted a fancy-pantsy, lighter than air, Lithium battery and it just had had enough. So much for advanced technology. Old school rules!



Just to prove what a thoughtful and forward thinking guy Mike is, he sent me this note around Christmas time, followed soon after by a deposit for his 2023 RetroTour.

JOEL

SEASONS GREETINGS TO YOU,
LYNN, FAMILY AND STAFF. HOPE THIS MESSAGE
FINDS ALL IN GOOD SPIRITS AND DOING
WELL. I THOUGHT THIS IS A GREAT PICTURE,
I'M CALLING IT EL PADRE OF
CLASSIC MOTORCYCLES JOEL SAMICK
GIVING OUR GROUP THE BACK STORY ON
A VERY SPECIAL LITTLE CHURCH.

GREAT EXPERIENCE, THOUGHTS OF
SUCH DAYS HELP ME GET THROUGH
WINTERS IN THE NORTHEAST. I'M ALSO
MAKING GOOD PROGRESS ON A 1975
R75/6 I PURCHASED IN JULY SO THAT'S
ALSO A CARROT DANGLING IN FRONT
OF ME HEADING TOWARDS SPRINGTIME.

TAKE CARE HAVE A GOOD NEW YEAR
AND SAFE TRAVEL'S

I look forward to seeing more of you all soon.

Rider

Mike W....Medford, NJ
Ed B.....Mantua, NJ
Steve C....Blackwood, NJ
Roland C..Newfield, NJ
Matt V.....Hainesport, NJ
Frank R....Blackwood, NJ
Bruce V...Lumberton, NJ
Joel S...Kennett Square, PA

Started out on:

1975 Suzuki T500
1974 Benelli 650 Tornado
1971 BSA 650 Lightning
1983 Suzuki GHS550ES
1977 HD XLCR 1000
1976 Yamaha RD400C
1976 Honda GL1000
1973 Laverda 750SF

