

RETROTOURS SCHEDULE: 2015

Thursday thru Sunday, April 23-26:

Finding Lost River, West Virginia

This 4 day weekend is the perfect way to kickstart your riding season and shake off the winter time blues. We'll get an early start on Thursday and ride less than 250 miles to our cabin in the state forest. You set the pace/ frequent breaks. The next two days are for unlocking the asphalt (or dirt road) secrets of this stunning, remote corner of WV. Eat, drink and relax; we'll adjust the ride plan to suit the weather and how you feel.

You could take a day off, sleep in or take a hike in the woods, as you prefer; Lost River State Park is serene and this early in the season there's really no one around but us. The cabins are comfortable with full kitchens and bathrooms and stocked with firewood. The nighttime sky will amaze you. **BONUS: The rates are incredibly cheap.**



The ride home on Sunday is about 225 miles, every bit of it on superb back roads through PA, MD and especially WV. Great riding is assured in virtually every direction and views to die for are included. We'll do all the preparation and planning; you just show up and ride. Check out the fleet and let us know your bike choice. These classics are ready to roll! The cabin and the setting are to die for. The riding is absolutely world class; words cannot begin to describe it. You simply must come and ride these roads! Maximum 8 riders.

Reserve now, this ride sells out.

Average: 215 miles per day.

Sat. May 9 & Sun. May 10:

Custom Designed Tour

These 2 days are all about you; let's design this tour together. Tell me how many hours you want to spend riding each day or how many miles you want to cover. I'll draw a "destination circle" showing our range at average speeds and we'll look for destinations and points of interest within that circle. Tell me where your

interests lie: do you like old cars? Trains? Baseball? Astronomy? Vintage motorcycles? Just riding? Gourmet food?

Whatever interests you may have, we'll find something relevant and draw a route accordingly.



What is your preference for overnight accommodation? Want to stay in a houseboat? First class hotel? B & B? Cheap motel? Rustic cabin? Vacation rental house? Camper? We'll discuss ideas by phone or email and come up with the perfect weekend ride for you. First riders to reserve have first say but everyone's preferences will be taken into account.

If you prefer, you can just leave it up to me. Either way I will do my best to surprise and delight you with an adventure weekend that you will never forget.

Oh yes.....and which bikes did you want to ride?

Daily mileage and pace are whatever you want them to be. **IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!**

COUPLES TOUR 1: SKYLINE DRIVE

This ride is designed for couples. We'll take bikes that are suitable for two up riding but if both of you want to ride, no problem. We can choose bikes that have low seat heights and standard control layouts if desired, and my wife Lynn will join us on her own bike while I drive the

sidecar outfit. This opens up many possibilities: Lynn can take a turn in the chair and free up a solo seat so your passenger can ride solo for a while or be a passenger in the sidecar. It is even possible to nap in the sidecar and I can carry everyone's luggage in the sidecar outfit so you need not be crowded or overburdened on your bike

This is a THREE DAY EVENT, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Monday is Memorial Day so you won't have to rush back home. Arrive Thursday afternoon if you like and we will put you up. We have secure parking for your car or motorcycle. Flying in or taking the train or bus? We will be happy to meet you at the airport/station and provide transfer to and from.

We'll leave after a delicious breakfast and ride on back roads to Front Royal, Virginia where we will dine in style and enjoy upscale accommodations for 2 nights. There will be frequent stops at points of interest along the way, including a ride on an historic ferry boat. The pace will be relaxed: appropriate for two up riding on classic bikes.

On Saturday we will get a very early start to avoid potential tourist traffic and get onto Skyline Drive at the top, riding all of its 105 miles if we wish to lunch. The return to Front Royal will be via tiny back roads that take us through undeveloped areas where if you listen hard enough, ghostlike banjos can sometimes be heard echoing through the hollows.

Another amazing dining experience awaits and, thankful for our plush haven, we can enjoy a good night's sleep; essential for the ride home Sunday. This will include some of the best of south central Pennsylvania with a touch of Amish thrown in for good measure. Back at home we will unwind with wine and a celebratory dinner. You may choose to spend Sunday night here and leave Monday morning.

This ride will be limited to 5 couples and you should reserve your spot sooner rather than later as several couples from years past have already expressed an interest. Lynn and I look forward to meeting you and making new friends that share the joy of motorcycling and enthusiasm for the classics. Call or email if you have any questions. Let's talk.



LOCAL LOOPS I

This one day format is popular, with two rides selling out every year.

This time we're shaking things up a bit.

Instead of staying close to Kennett Square we are planning to range out towards the north, with our sights set on an unusual landmark.

The ride to Reading, PA will be on the smallest back roads. Our route will be scenic, technically challenging (but taken at a relaxed pace), and very interesting: perfect for our vintage mounts. With stops every 20 miles or so, you will be able to bond with your co-riders and change machines often. Sample them all if you wish!

The day includes a light breakfast, lunch on the road and a celebratory dinner back at home. Stops will be planned at small parks or local points of interest but the highlight will be the Reading Pagoda perched high on a ridge overlooking the city. This seven story structure is anchored to the mountainside by 16 tons of bolts. Built in 1906 as a resort which failed, it was eventually sold to the city of Reading for \$1. We'll have a cup of tea and enjoy the fantastic views. The road in is called Skyline Drive (for good reason) and the road out includes 10 hairpin turns.

YOU'LL LOVE IT!



If you can identify the rider in this shot your lunch is free.



MOTORCYCLEPEDIA!
250 LAKE STREET NEWBURGH NEW YORK 12550

A motorcycle enthusiast's paradise, where you'll find:

- * 85,000 square feet of museum space
- * Over 450 Motorcycles
- * Motorcycles from 1897-Present
- * Rare vintage bikes such as a circa 1897 DeDion
- * Military, Police and Harley Davidson galleries
- * THREE Incredible Motordromes!
- * Much, much, more! Come and see for yourself!

Friday, Saturday, Sunday. June 26, 27, 28

This really is an amazing place. *You have to see it.* The Catskills are calling and RetroTours will answer. This 3 day tour will depart from Kennett Square early Friday. Taking advantage of the long summer days, we will cover nearly 300 miles on gorgeous back roads passing through the Delaware Water Gap, some of the most beautiful parts of north-eastern PA and over the "Alps of New Jersey" in that state's remote northwest corner. Finally we reach the Catskill Mountains, the Hudson River Valley and our amazing vacation home in the woods. After some well deserved R&R it's a short ride Saturday to the museum then a second night at the house before returning home where a delicious hot home cooked meal awaits.

Two very full days of great riding, classic bikes, summer weather, perfect motorcycle roads, the company of like minded enthusiasts PLUS one of the best motorcycle museums in the world. It just doesn't get any better than this.

All you have to do is show up. We'll prepare the bikes, plan the route, and make the reservations. If you ride in you can park your bike in our secure climate controlled garage. Drive here and secure outdoor parking is free. Fly train or bus into Philly or Wilmington, DE and we'll provide transfer to and from the airport or train/bus station. You are welcome to arrive the afternoon before and stay here before and after your trip. Breakfast before and dinner after the trip are included. Let me know if there is anything else I can do to help make this happen for you. I promise it will be special.

Reserve now. Limited to 6 riders.

Saturday/Sunday July 11-12: NEW JERSEY MOTOSPORTS PARK
AHMRA RACING & VINTAGE SWAP MEET

An easy 2 day trip, we' ll start with a full breakfast here Saturday morning, leave at a leisurely hour and maintain a relaxed pace. Crossing the Delaware Memorial Bridge into South Jersey, we' ll then get "off the grid" by hugging New Jersey' s little known western shore which follows the Chesapeake Bay through quaint towns like Bi-valve and Dividing Creek where crab fishing once powered the economy. This unused, little known route passes through scenic farmland and orchards for just over 75 miles before we arrive at the racetrack facility which contrasts sharply with the countryside we have been enjoying all morning; it' s huge and modern.

Inside, you will be allowed access to the pits to view the fabulous vintage race bikes up close and talk with the riders. There is also action on the track as races will be running all day. Track food is better than average, you can take lunch whenever you feel the need and in between the racing action you will definitely want to peruse the large swap meet: parts, accessories, bikes and plain old junk. There is a little bit of everything for sale here but of course enjoying the summer weather and just looking is the best part. This is *full immersion* in vintage motorcycle culture. Live music adds to the atmosphere. You could decide to stretch out on the grass and catch a nap. Late in the afternoon or early evening we' ll take our leave of the race track and ride about 20 miles to a rented house where we can wash and change before finding a good restaurant. I recommend the sea food!

Sunday promises to be an especially interesting day. We ride southeast for about an hour and hit the Atlantic Shore at Cape May, New Jersey' s southernmost point. From the docks we will board a full size ferry boat for a 17 mile trip across the Chesapeake Bay, landing in Lewes, Delaware about 90 minutes later. From historic Lewes we will make our way north to Dover where we pick up DE Route 9 which follows the Delaware River north. This road is the 'old road' and perfect for vintage motorcycling. There is no traffic at all: no towns, no gas stations, just relaxed cruisin' past reedy marshes and over numerous hump back bridges that cross meandering inlets. If the mood strikes us we can stop at the Dover Air Force Base Museum of Transportation where a delightful collection of vintage military aircraft is on display. There are many other interesting possibilities on this route including an optional lunch stop for the local delicacy: Chesapeake Bay crabs in the rough. We' ll need a tad more than 100 miles to get from the ferry boat back home where a home cooked meal is waiting. There may even be a few cold beers. Surely there can be no better way to experience vintage motorcycling.

Limited to 6 riders so reserve your spot now!

THE TOWN THAT TIME FORGOT: A BLAST FROM THE PAST IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

Departs early AM on Friday; July 24th. Returns at sundown on Monday, July 27th

Here is a 4 day jaunt designed to give you a healthy dose of vintage touring the way it was meant to be. This trip will take us through the forests and mountains of Pennsylvania's core region and just might alter your priorities in life. This area has seen some economic development in recent years from 'fracking' yet there is still very little traffic to contend with as we enjoy the natural splendor of the Pocono and [Endless Mountains](#).

You should plan to arrive in Kennett Square sometime Thursday afternoon or night for orientation and loading. You can spend the night here if you like. We'll set out after breakfast Friday morning, heading north. Our back roads path will take us through scenic, wooded French Creek before a short but interesting dirt road that crosses the Eastern Continental Divide where it meets the Appalachian Trail. A bit further on is Ashland, whose broad main street is lined with row houses where a few hundred descendants of coal miners still reside. Frankly, the place is a little run down, but the food is good and plentiful. On top of the ridge is the Pioneer Tunnel Coal Mine. If you like we can visit and descend nearly a mile into the earth to learn how real men earned a living back when coal was king.

Plentiful food is just what we need, for the next section of road is twisty and challenging, and features abrupt elevation changes that make this 25 mile segment feel like a long roller coaster joining tiny villages and farms that dot the landscape. We pop out of the woods at route 11, which we follow for just a few miles before turning north again on more open roads. Several hours later, we are descending on a torturous narrow road, having crossed a huge expanse of state forest land. Before bottoming out, we turn back up the road, into [Hyner View State Park](#). As the sun sinks into the west, we sit on the edge of a 2,000 foot high cliff, enjoying the view. Weariness creeps up on us as, headlights on, we follow the Susquehanna for a few more miles into Renovo, where we check into the aptly named Yesterday's Hotel. Unchanged from the 1950s, what it lacks in luxury, it makes up for in character. There is a bar just off the lobby and bonus: the showers are really, really hot. If you don't feel like riding anymore we could eat at Yesterdays Diner or take a 1 1/2 mile walk to get the kinks out and visit the best restaurant in town, where we feast before retiring for the night. Yesterday's is unique, and you'll have to trust me on this one as there are no hyperlinks to 1950.

Saturday is open for discussion and can be a light day. We could explore some of the incredible tiny mountain roads, make the 70 mile run up to Coudersport for lunch or just lay low. If it's really hot we just might have to jump into the Susquehanna River.

Sunday morning finds us reloading our bikes early, and making our way to <http://www.dot.state.pa.us/Internet/pdNews.nsf/0/7cf45f424994e62685256c36004f82cf?route> 144 which cuts south for 35 miles across more forest lands. At one point, the roadway looks like a length of black ribbon snaking up the mountainside, as our machines weave rhythmically like ballet dancers. As 144 ends, we turn east and follow the quiet Poe Valley. The long smooth straight road encourages relaxing looks at the fertile farmlands framed by receding ridges. Zigzagging south and east, we run into the Susquehanna River, and notice that there is no bridge: we must rely on the Historic Millersburg Ferry.

On the east side of the river now, we keep angling east and south, then pick up route 772 which bypasses Lancaster, but not the local Amish heritage. It's Sunday afternoon, and we share the road with [Amish families in their horse drawn buggies, returning home from Sabbath](#). The final leg of our journey is relaxed, and a cold beer while soaking in the outdoor hot tub lets us decompress. Tomorrow it's back to work, but no one is in a hurry.

Saturday/Sunday, August 15/16 *Couples Tour II*

The way I see it, some people ride to get away from their significant others while others use riding as a means of spending quality time together. This two day tour fits squarely into the second category. Whether your partner is a rider or a passenger here is a chance for you both to experience an upscale weekend on classic bikes. No marathon days and plenty of interesting off bike activity. The sidecar machine will be our sherpa so you can bring as much baggage as you wish and still ride unencumbered. In fact, passengers can take a shift in the sidecar if they want to nap or get really comfortable. We'll choose bikes that are big enough and comfortable enough for 2 up riding but we'll also be sure to include a few light weight bikes with a low seat height to accommodate any vertically challenged participants. Riders and passengers can switch bikes as they wish. My wife Lynn will also join us and believe me that's a treat!

After a continental breakfast, if you like, we could take an early morning private tour of a family owned and operated mushroom growing operation nearby. Kennett Square is, after all, the "Mushroom Capital of the World". Really!

After this 1-hour-or-less tour we would head west into Amish country. There are many interesting possible stops including the Haines Shoe House, an Amish buggy ride and the Train Museum in Strassburg. There are lots of covered bridges, slow moving horse drawn buggies and narrow twisty roads that roll through the old Amish farms. It is actually quite heavenly in mid August, though the temperature can become quite warm.

We'll end day one at a farm based B&B near Ephrata, PA which has it's own attractions, such as the Ephrata Cloister (an old religious hermitage) and a huge antique market. (Guys can stand around outside smoking cigars and scratching themselves while the women shop!) After settling in a bit, we can shower and change into civilian cloths then head off to dinner at an Amish home or one of the many Smorgasbord Houses. After a pleasant night's rest and breakfast we'll take a scenic route home with more interesting stops along the way. Daily mileage can be adjusted, Ephrata can be reached directly from here in just 50 miles but we'll be able to loop around on the abundant great country roads with little traffic and interesting stops every 25-50 miles. I would shoot for a maximum 125 miles each day.

Upon our return we'll enjoy a home cooked celebratory dinner before saying goodbye. We'll make it convenient and affordable to come from out of town. Please contact us through this website for details.

BONUS: You may make some new friends!



Bill's Old Bike Barn: August 29-30

This ride will be an all Japanese bike event. The selection will include 2 Hondas: CX500 and CB500T, 3 Yamahas: RD400, XS 650 and TX750, 2 Kawasakis: KZ750 and W3-650, and a single Suzuki: T500. That means only 8 spots are available. It also means standardized control layout: they all shift the same way! Switching bikes will be easy and you get to switch every 75-100 miles so you can try them all.



It's just 150 miles as the crow flies, somewhat longer on the path less taken: the perfect distance for A Two Day Round Trip to this fascinating collection of all things motorcycle and much, much more. We'll stay nearby, either in upscale modern air conditioned cabins or in a new motel with swimming pool. We can enjoy dinner at a nearby biker friendly steak house and a breakfast at the local Sunday morning diner then spend as long as we want exploring the museum which usually opens early just for us.

The roads up and back through "Pennsylvucky Coal Country" are to die for: among the best in the state. A real treat!

We'll arrange to pick you up at the airport or train station if you come in from out of town and if you stay overnight Thursday or Sunday we'll hook you up with a sleepover. You'll get breakfast here Saturday morning and dinner Sunday night. Best of all, you get to spend a weekend riding all the bikes you wish you had bought back in the day.

Are they as awesome as you remember? Well, bikes have come a long way in 40 years but spending a weekend away with like minded individuals riding classics on some of the best back roads anywhere.....that IS awesome. **COME ON/YOU DESERVE THIS!**



REDNECK GYRO V: WELCOME TO THE NUT HOUSE

September 19-21 (Saturday, Sunday, Monday)

Why not Friday through Sunday? West Virginia is stunning at this time of year and in mid September the leaf watchers are just starting to come out. We schedule this trip for Saturday through Monday to avoid potential traffic on Friday and Sunday. It works. I plan to rent The Nut House as we did in 2014. It sleeps up to ten people and has a great hottub and outdoor fire pit as well a screened in porch. It's located way up on the mountain on a dirt road, right next to the scenic, lazy Capon River. There are kayaks available if you are so inclined but the roads in any direction are, well, it *is* West-by-God-Virginia and these *are* the best of Italian Classic Motorcycles.



The ride from Kennett Square is about 200 miles and I have plotted a route that will delight and entertain you. RetroTours will field a herd of 6 or 7 Italian Stallions plus a BMW or 2 if needed. There will be a brief rest stop every 50 miles, with a gas fill and bike swap at every other stop. We'll take a longer break at Berkeley Springs on the way in to grab a nice sit down dinner and to shop for provisions. Once we reach the cabin and unload we can relax with a cool adult beverage, sit in the hot tub, watch the fire burn and practice some naked eye astronomy. On Sunday we'll sleep in a little then cook up a delicious breakfast before taking a ride through the neverending beauty of the West Virginia mountains and roadways or just chill at the cabin: Almost Heaven!

On Monday we make our way back to Kennett where a home cooked meal awaits. If you have ever loved Italian bikes indulge yourself and enjoy the memories of this weekend for a lifetime



Local Loops II: Sunday, October 4

Local Loops I sold out this year within a month of being posted and an unscheduled Local Loops event was run for a private group of 12 members of a local riding club. This is your last chance to reserve a spot for a one day event in 2015. Your \$50 deposit is non-refundable but may be applied to any future ride that is not sold out. We'll meet at my house in Kennett Square for breakfast then ferry over to our commercial garage site where as many as 25 twin cylinder bikes from the 1970's will be waiting. If you have ever had a hankering to try one of these torquey brutes, this is your opportunity. In fact, as we ride the more obscure roads of the sublime Brandywine Valley at a mellow pace we'll stop every 25 miles to chat, enjoy refreshments and switch bikes: you'll get to try them all!

Lunch is at a local taceria where Spanish is spoken and the food is as authentic as the atmosphere. (They *do* have English menus as well.) . At the end of the day we'll congregate in a large parking lot where you can lay back and rest or try any of the bikes on a 7 mile self guided loop. Finally we return to the garage for park up then head home for a farewell meal served up by my wife Lynn. The pace all day is very relaxed. We are here to enjoy not to race. Remember, the controls are all different; shifters on the right and sometimes on the left. Up could be an upshift but then again up could also be a downshift. It's all very entertaining actually. You will enjoy the day I promise and I back that promise with a money back guarantee: if you feel you did not get good value I will cheerfully refund your money.

Chincoteague Island and the Wallops Launch Facility

Saturday & Sunday October 17th & 18th

500 miles on 5 five hundreds in 2 days

A long, long time ago motorcycles were human sized. Unlike many bikes of the 21st century if your bike fell over it was actually possible to pick it up by yourself. Back then a 350cc motorcycle was midsize and a 750 was more than any sane rider needed. A 450 pound bike was considered portly. Five hundreds were considered to be the perfect compromise, allowing for good economy, ease of operation and enough performance to keep things interesting. Travel was done on surface roads as opposed to today's superhighways which allowed for taking in the surroundings and interacting with other travelers and local folks.

You are invited to sample 2 days of relaxed touring on 1/2 liter machines of the 70's:

1970 Triumph T100C Trophy

1975 Suzuki T500

1974 Yankee 500Z

1976 Yamaha RD400C

1976 Honda CB500T

1978 Honda CX500

1979 Ducati 500 Desmo Sport

1979 Moto Morini 500 Strada

1979 Moto Guzzi V50

It's best if you can arrive Friday afternoon or evening so we can get orientation done and load up your chosen bike. Most of the bikes are equipped with electrical outlets for heated gear so bring it if you've got it, just in case. Bring your bathing suit too; one never knows exactly what the weather may bring. Remember that there are no windshields and no chase vehicle, so pack light. Each bike will have a large tank bag fitted and most have luggage racks as well.

We'll head south on Delaware Route 9 which is remarkable for its Delaware River scenery and utter lack of traffic. Downstate we'll stop for a tour of the Dover Air Base Air Transport Museum. It's free and there are some very cool displays including WWII combat gliders. After a lunch stop where typical Chesapeake Bay Cuisine may be sampled (the crabs are the best!) we'll cross the scenic DelMarVa Peninsula and meet up with a local guide who will help us navigate

Ye Olde Route to Virginia on tiny back roads with several short ferry hops. Finally we'll cross a long bridge connecting the mainland to rustic Chincoteague Island where our motel rooms are ready, including an indoor pool and hot tub: just the thing after a 250 mile day. A top notch restaurant is a short walk away and yes, they also serve adult beverages.

On Sunday morning we'll leave late enough to catch the nearby Wallops Launch Facility Visitor Center just as it opens, then head north on the shore route. This will allow a stop at Assateague Island where wild horses roam empty white beaches that stretch to the horizon. Next we pass through 'Babylon' AKA Ocean City, MD where gambling casinos and high rise hotels seem to flaunt Mother Nature. Finally a twisty route through Delaware and Maryland farm country brings us again to Pennsylvania where a hot meal is waiting. Join this ride and see why LESS IS MORE.



