



July, 2016

John Humphrey

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

July President's Corner – The MOA National & our 50th Rally

The MOA National rally was held last weekend. I have never attended a National rally, so it was interesting. It was held at the Hamburg Fair Grounds, near Buffalo, NY. The club had a large tent, tables and chairs in the chartered club area at the MOA National. This provided a central gathering place for the members and others. Most of the club's "happy campers" were setup around this big tent. There were major wind gusts and storms on Wednesday night and some tents took a beating, but the big tent stood the test of nature's fury. This photo was early on Friday morning before things got busy late Friday and Saturday. The official attendance was over 6,000.



While at the rally, we had the good fortune to visit the Dunlop motorcycle tire factory in Buffalo. They don't give factory tours, except every couple of years. But because of the MOA vendor booth, they offered a rare tour of the factory. Dunlop motorcycle tires are made in America ...the only ones that are! I must admit, I have always wondered why motorcycle tires cost more than car tires. Well, now I know. The level of detail, inspection and consistency on motorcycle tires is amazing. There must be 25 different human checks all along the way.

The number of MOA personnel and volunteers was incredible. There must have been over 50 people doing registration, selling 50/50, managing door prizes and handing out swag bags at any one time.

Diane and I worked the sponsors for participation and door prizes. Marge and I put up our posters on the two main doors to the buildings. A number of people saw the poster and our ad in the MOA rally program and said they would be coming.

Photos from the MOA National are in our Smug Mug albums here. <https://fourwindsbmw.smugmug.com/FourWindsAnnualRallies/BMW-MOA/2016-Hamburg-NY/i-FFvNjMV>

Check back as more members continue uploading their pictures.

Speaking of volunteers, the 50th anniversary rally will be a big one and we will need all the help we can get. If you don't volunteer, expect me to find you at the rally and ask you to work. We expect an increase from about 225 to as much as 400 for the 2016 rally. We've advertised in the MOA magazine, in the MOA rally program and on-line. Our Press Release from Glenn Kidd has been published in ON magazine. William Crookston is handling field events that are back this year, hopefully in front of the grandstands. We also have 3 big-name speakers. Ride leaders and followers are especially important. I rode with Ed and Vince finding an all-new group ride on Saturday. Thanks to Linda Loesch, we are getting help from local Boy Scouts Troop 403. Rub N Tug BBQ is the vendor for the Saturday Banquet. Red Bank has installed new showers and the bathrooms are being upgraded.

The Rally fee is planned to be just \$40 for pre-registration. It will be \$50 at the gate. We have about 60 pre-registration now. We're giving away a free 15 oz. commemorative ceramic coffee mug for the first 250 registrations.

It appears everyone is receiving Mail Chimp emails. There are links to various stories and events. We have added "Club News" on the Home Page of the website. Mary & John Hetzel have done a great job of handling club news, as part of the Corresponding Secretary duties.

We have put a lot of work into the web site over the years and it shows. Diane has done a super job on the website and especially the on-line store. Of course there are many different T-Shirt options. At the MOA National I was told several times our website looks and works better than other motorcycle clubs.

See you at the rally!