



July 2017

## ***PRESIDENT'S CORNER***



John Humphrey

**We had a surprisingly good turnout of 22 club members at Yellow Creek State Park. It was a long ride, but a good day for a ride.** It was good to see Ralph and Walt, who have missed some meetings. It was slightly overcast and that kept the temperature reasonable all day. It's a good 1.5 hour group ride to Yellow Creek Park near Indiana, PA. Vince, Glenn, Hetzels, Marge and I rode from the north about 45 minutes to the Oakmont Sheetz. This time the food was a BYOL (lunch). Vince had never ordered a MTO from Sheetz, so we got him started. I'm glad we tried these State park meetings, because there are only a couple of months a year that we can do these outdoor events. Judging from the Moraine and Yellow Creek State Park turnout, it looks like it's a good idea to have a ride to the meetings.

The annual rally is just 1 month away. Vince Giannetti had an organizing meeting at the shelter house after the general meeting. Only a few things are still not locked in. The annual rally theme will be "Back to Basics". It will be more like our traditional rally. I'm pleased that Vince has taken responsibility for organizing the rally effort. Although we always have members show up at the rally to help at the last minute, volunteering in advance helps things go smoothly. Contact Vince or me to volunteer. We had a great response to the survey about the bike show at the rally. The overwhelming response was to have a bike exhibition of all model years.

The rally and T-Shirt sales provide over half our club's annual income. This income allows us to give back to the members with the Banquet, Park reservations and cookouts. Leo Stanton will have a new kitchen this year. Luckily, he won \$24 in the 50-50 drawing to help pay for it.

Jay Singh scheduled two State Park meetings and rides this year. Having the meeting at a State Park shelter house was very mellow and allowed us to stay and talk until we were ready to leave. Jay planned an interesting, brisk pace for the ride to Yellow Creek.

I took a slow speed motorcycle skills course offered by ProRider. This is mandatory for all “motor officers” in western PA. Police motor officer, BJ McMullan offered this class to our club members at a discounted rate. I took the course, because slow speed maneuvering on a tall bike can be very difficult, especially two-up. I found this out on the trip to the Oakmont Sheetz.

As usual, the website and forum provides all the latest information on the rally and meeting locations. Thanks to John and Mary Hetzel, Diane Pears and Joann Barr for all their “behind the scenes” work keeping our club informed on what’s happening. Suggestions that make the website work for you are always welcome.

I hope to see all of you at the 51st Rally next month at Red Bank Municipal Park.



### **Four Winds BMW Riders July 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** Yellow Creek State Park, Penn Run, PA  
**Board in Attendance:** John & Marge Humphrey, Jay Singh, Mary & John Hetzel, Glenn Kidd, Jeff Harlich, Vince Giannetti, Diane Pears

The meeting was called to order by President John Humphrey at 1:40 pm with 24 people in attendance. A large number arrived in a group led by VP, Jay Singh. The group enjoyed a 50+ mile ride from Oakmont’s Sheetz to the Park. “Great ride, Jay!”

**Meeting Site** John opened the meeting saying he initially feared a lower turnout for this “bring your own lunch to the Park” meeting and location, but was gratified by the large turnout.

**Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix** It was noted that the VGP was also going on this weekend and several members were probably attending. We were reminded that the VGP was continuing the following day and that the \$10 admission fee to display your motorcycle goes entirely to the Autism Society of Pittsburgh Charity.

**National BMW Rallies** It was also noted that the BMWMOA rally in Utah was also going on at the same time. No 4 Winds members were known to be attending. However, the BMWRA rally in Michigan the previous week was attended by our own Leo Stanton who report that there were, at least, 900 others in attendance.

**4 Winds 2017 Rally:** John then asked Rally Chairman, Vince Giannetti to brief the members on the status of the “Back to Basics” Rally planning.

- We are continuing to use the Redbank Valley Park, Fairmont City, PA
  - Facilities have been inspected
  - Some improvements to Restrooms
  - Old Merry-Go-Round building still standing and will be used
- Schedule: August 18 thru 20
- Mailings have been sent
  - 242 to non-member
  - 116 to members
- Pre-Registration is up and running on our Website
  - \$35 pre-registration
  - 24 registered so far
  - Pre-registration closes August 10
  - Processed by the Treasurer, Marge Humphrey
- Registration at the Rally
  - \$40 at the gate
  - No single day pass
  - Nancy Barrett supervising
- Food and Dinner
  - Rub & Tug will return for Saturday Night Dinner
  - Local 4H will return with Ice Cream Trailer
    - Friday and Saturday
  - Concession Stand
    - Friday -- breakfast, lunch and supper
    - Saturday – breakfast and lunch
- The preliminary Rally Tee Shirt was presented for review and comment.
  - Three colors will be sold at the Rally
  - Special requests will limited to members only
    - Ladies style
    - Pockets
    - Sweatshirts
    - etc.
  - Email Diane Pears with your request
- A Rally meeting will follow the close of this club meeting
  - All members are welcome to attend

Anyone interested in volunteering for any of the activities necessary to run the rally should contact Vince Giannetti, so they can coordinate scheduling. Help is always welcome.

**Police Motorcycle Skills Course** The club members-only class with ProRider Pittsburgh was held June 25<sup>th</sup>. All agreed the experience was worthwhile, if not “challenging.” The key take-away was slow speed maneuvering is done with the clutch, not the throttle or brake.

50/50 Winner: Leo Stanton

**Calendar:**

August 18, 19 & 20: 4 Winds Rally “Back to Basics”

September 16 Mtg.: Leo Stanton’s house

Submitted by Recording Secretary,  
Glenn Kidd