



August 2019



John Humphrey

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The 53rd Annual 4 Winds Rally was a big success. We had 198 guests at the rally. 200 is always our target and this rally qualifies as successful. I don't know all the financial numbers at this time, Marge is still working through the cash/ credit card transactions and payments to the various vendors. There will be a full rally report during the next meeting at Leo Stanton's house.

The weather was very good for most of the rally. Although we had one hour of rain during the Saturday dinner it really cooled things off.

The Saturday night presentation by Eric Trow of Stayin' Safe gave an excellent presentation on motorcycle safety. The #1 Myth? There are 2 types of Motorcycle riders: Those who have crashed and those who will crash. That set the tone for the presentation. Eric talked about how to watch out for trouble. I particularly enjoyed the motorcycle riding videos showing examples of what works, and what doesn't. I'm planning on taking Eric's course and it would be a good opportunity for other club members, too.

We had a lot going on at the rally; Movies on both nights, an excellent Saturday night presentation, multiple road and adventure group rides, a campfire both nights, live music on Saturday, field games, tire repair and much more.

The Rally T-shirt design was excellent and they were snapped up mostly on Friday. We had other T-shirts from BMW of Pittsburgh and they sold well, too.

It takes months of pre-planning and a lot of effort and people to pull off our Rally each year. Our Rally Chair, Joe Burns did a good job pulling it together. A special thanks to Treasurer, Marge Humphrey who did the MOA and RA Rally notices, email and postcards. She also did the Rally program and managed registration. Many members helped with the Rally (in no particular order) Leo Stanton, Joe Marnell, Vince Giannetti, Joann Barr, Don Poremski, Diane and Tim Pears, Jacob and Jeff Harlich, Sean and Nancy Barrett, Dennis Mickanin, Ken Kucel,

Ed Syphan, Jay Singh, John Hetzel and others. Of course, the Park Manager, Tyler Weaver, is always ready to help with the campground facilities.

We plan on sending out a survey that will go to everyone who attended the Rally. Everyone that I talked to enjoyed the rally, but we can always do better.

RALLY PHOTOS HERE: <https://fourwindsbmw.smugmug.com/FourWindsAnnualRallies/4-Winds/2019-Four-Winds-Rally/>

Next month at Leo's house, the meeting will nominate members to help run the club. Unfortunately, it's difficult to get members to participate in running the club. Adrian, John and Mary Hetzel will be finishing their terms this year. Vince has agreed to be nominated for Social Director and handle the Annual Banquet. Mary Hetzel has done a great job of organizing the banquet for the last couple of years. The Vice President gets to choose meeting locations. Do you want club lunches where you like them? As VP, you'll have an opportunity to try your favorite places.

The most important position up for replacement is Corresponding Secretary. This is our only means of communication in the club. John Hetzel has done a truly excellent job since we started the timelier notices of meetings event information. The mass mailing notices are done through a web app called Mail Chimp. It is template-based. We will need someone to step up and take on this important position. I have talked to some members, but need a member to take on this important position.

If you have a problem with receiving club email, logging in, purchasing from the on-line store, let me know. We may be changing our transaction processing to something less expensive than PayPal. We started with Pay Pal as a test, but the overwhelming use of credit cards for the rally, banquet and membership requires us to get a better deal. As a non-profit club, lower fees are available.

See you next month "down south" at Leo Stanton's house and motorcycle museum.

John Humphrey