



January 2019

John Humphrey

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I'm baaaack! This is my first President's Corner ...again. Thanks to Sean for the 1 year "vacation". Of course, you never really stop, it just changes from the background to the foreground. I'm very pleased to have the returning Officers and Board; Adrian Marini, Vice-President, Bruce Conaway, Treasurer and Dave Donley, Recording Secretary. I want to offer a special thanks to my technical people; John Hetzel, Corresponding Secretary, Diane Pears, Webmaster and Joann Barr. Today, we rely heavily on modern email communications and the website more than ever.

I feel very good about the progress we have made as a club. Of course, I didn't do all this myself. These major modernization and other changes are due to the many hard-working members who took responsibility and put forth their ideas and effort to improve the club for all of us. We are always grateful to volunteers to help.

The updated Bylaws will be presented at the Banquet for a quorum vote to ratify them. Look for the "Cliff Notes" version of all changes in email, soon. The Webmaster is now an Officer. New, official Committee positions have been established. Marge Humphrey was voted as Chair of the Media Committee that handles all printed and advertising materials. Mary Hetzel has agreed to continue as Social Director and she is heading up the annual banquet again this year. I hope all club members appreciate the commitment of the Officers, Board and Committee members. I will be pleased to present all Officers, Board and Committee Chairs at the banquet.

Speaking of the banquet... We have too few reservations for the banquet that's only a month away. We moved the banquet to February to provide extra time after the Holidays were over. We received several dues payments and banquet reservations at the meeting on Saturday. Please go on-line and pay your dues and then reserve for the banquet. We also will have a presentation by Bruce Conaway on his Morocco Trip. The Yankee Swap Grab Bag has been fun in past years, so it's back. If you would like to participate, bring about a \$15 wrapped gift marked for male, female, or either. Finally, you can send any photos from last year by email or contact Diane Pears to upload to Smug Mug for the annual slide show, as soon as possible.

We had a surprisingly good turnout on Saturday at the Bella Luna meeting despite the forecast of "snowmageddon". Thanks to Holly Marchek for her presentation about her experience learning to be an instructor in the Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety program (PAMSP). Marge Humphrey won \$37 in the 50/50. Meeting minutes will have all the details.

If you have a problem with receiving club email, access to the forum, purchasing membership or anything else on our website areas, please let me know. I take a personal interest in the website, email and credit card

purchasing. Joann Barr and Diane are here to help. Joann Barr takes care of the "Member's Only" part of the website and login access for posting to the forum. The "Mail Chimp" email provides communications for meetings and events along with the website and forum. It is in your interest to use what we have provided for your convenience. I know there are a few members who struggle with computer technology. Don't tell me you are too old to learn new tricks. We will help you, just ask. I am as old as anyone in the club. If I can do it, so can you.

On behalf of myself and the club officers and board, I want to thank you for the opportunity to be your President again this year. See you at the Banquet February 16th.



<http://www.pamsp.com/courses-LEARN.php>

Minutes

January 19, 2019

Four Winds BMW Riders - General Membership Meeting
Bella Luna Trattoria, Monroeville PA

Sean Barrett, President, presiding

Sean called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM. 23 members attended but no one rode. Sean asked John Humphrey to conduct the business portion of the meeting.

John Humphrey, President-elect, presiding

The first item of business was a reminder for members to register and make plans to attend the club's Annual Banquet on February 16 at the Chadwick. The cut-off date for reservations is February 9th. A registration form and additional details are available on the club's website. Registration also provides a convenient time for all members to renew membership by paying their annual dues.

John next confirmed for those attending today's meeting who may have missed the November general meeting that he will be the club President for the coming year. A round of cheers followed.

One item of old business to be updated is the subject to neck tubes. John reported that at its meeting earlier in the day, the Board voted not to pursue purchasing of neck tubes. The decision followed a diligent research effort by Diane and her written summary provided previously to the Board. The Board concluded that the cost was something the club should not take on. Factors considered included minimum order quantities, pricing, and past experience in promoting sales at the club's online store. John expressed his appreciation for the substantial work Diane performed in her investigation.

John next reported that the Board has made significant progress in the effort to update the club's Bylaws. The proposed changes are being finalized and will be distributed to interested members in advance of the Annual Banquet. The proposed revised version will also be posted on the club's website. Adoption of the updated Bylaws will then be considered at the banquet where a quorum of the membership is anticipated. The updates are not intended to make significant changes in the club's organization or governance but rather are intended to bring the description of responsibilities and ground rules more into line with current practices. For example, committees and offices with responsibilities which have become obsolete will be discontinued in favor of a new approach and assignments reflecting current club operations.

John turned to planning for the upcoming riding season. The MOA is continuing to promote its Getaway events throughout the country, and they may appeal to club members whose camping days are behind them. In lieu of camp-outs, these Getaway events take place at lodges where sleeping rooms and meals are available. Sean commented that he and Nancy enjoyed very much the Tennessee event last year and encouraged members to consider upcoming events because the atmosphere is relaxing, the lodge comfortable and riding opportunities plentiful. MOA has organized an event at Fontana Village Resort (North Carolina's Smoky Mountains) for the week-end beginning Friday, April 26, 2019. Interested members should make reservations through the MOA website.

Bruce provided Treasurer's Report, summarizing the club's financial position as substantially unchanged over the past 12 months. Receipts exceeded expenditures by a total of roughly \$200. Several officers characterized this development as very favorable given the adverse weather conditions which depressed attendance at the Annual Four Winds Rally in August 2018. The rally customarily will underwrite the club's overall financial position for the year, but that benefit just did not materialize this year due to weather.

Returning to plans for upcoming events, Ed Tatters inquired if it might not be possible to get a separate area designated for our club at the annual MOA National Rally scheduled to begin on June 13 in Lebanon, Tennessee. He recalled the dedicated space for Four-Winds to camp, set up a canopy tent and the club banner was enjoyed by many members attending the 2017 rally in Hamburg NY. Discussion followed with the consensus that this was a great idea. Some thought that Diane made the arrangements in 2017. John confirmed this subject will be an action-item for the Board to pursue. Further details will be reported.

John asked for any other new business to consider before turning the meeting over to Holly Marcheck for her presentation on motorcycle safety training. Hearing none, John called for the 50/50 drawing. Marge's ticket was drawn.

Upon motion of Dennis and second by Sean, the meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Respectfully submitted

David Donley, Recording Secretary

Secretary's Note:

Following adjournment of the business portion of the meeting, Holly Marcheck presented a program about the Total Control Introduction to Riding and recounted her recent experience in obtaining certification as a motor cycle safety instructor. Total Control has been awarded a contract with PennDOT to provide safety training. The company is looking for experienced riders interested in becoming instructors. Club members wishing to learn more should contact Holly.