



July 2019



John Humphrey

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

We had a HOT time at Mingo Creek last Saturday. Many members rode despite the heat. Vince and I were going to ride, but it started spitting rain in Cranberry in addition to the heat. We wimped out and rode with Marge who was hauling food. Adrian also brought food and supplies and was also the chef. We had about 14 motorcycles and 18 members at the meeting along with some new faces we hadn't seen in a while. The weather was hot and humid.

The club provided the hamburgers, buns, and basic food at the shelter house. Club members brought appetizers, deserts, and sides. This is also the case at Leo's and Humphrey's house in September and October. These two annual meetings in September and October are hosted at their homes and the club will provide the basic food. The club's offer to provide food is another "give back" to the members. It is a good time to make these meetings. I hope to see more of you taking advantage of the club's offer for free food at these meetings.

It is difficult to find restaurants for the club meetings. Getting a restaurant to serve 25-35 people, order from the menu, pay with separate checks while tying up their banquet room at lunchtime on Saturday is difficult. Either we will have to adjust our restaurant requirements or find another time or place to hold meetings. I have received some ideas for local restaurants that might host a club meeting. One restaurant would host the club with a pre fixe menu. That doesn't mean we have to all eat the same food. There would be 4-6 selections from low priced to a more expensive lunch.

It is also difficult to get members to participate in the club. Adrian, John and Mary Hetzel will be finishing their terms this year. Vince has agreed to be Social Director and handle the Annual Banquet. The Vice President gets to choose meeting locations. Do you want club lunches where you like them? You'll have an opportunity to try your favorite places.

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

Joe Burns, Rally Chair, reports the rally is coming together. That's good, since it is NEXT MONTH! We have already received pre-registrations. If you have ideas for a speaker or other entertainment on

Friday or Saturday nights let Joe or me know. We will get Dennis Mickanin's excellent musical entertainer again this year.

If you have a problem with receiving club email, logging into the forum, purchasing a membership or anything else on our website, please let me know. I take a personal interest in the website, email and credit card purchasing. Remember, PayPal only processes your secure credit card purchase. You don't need to have a PayPal account. You can use any major credit card. Detailed directions are on the forum.

I look forward to seeing a good turnout of members at the 4 Winds Rally August 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. See you there!

John

## **Minutes**

### **Four Winds BMW Riders - General Membership Meeting**

### **July 20, 2019, Pavillion No. 9, Mingo Creek County Park, Finleyville PA**

John Humphrey, presiding

John called the meeting to order at 1:20 PM. In addition to John, 21 members and guests were present, arriving on 10 bikes. The meeting focused on plans for the 53rd Annual Four Winds Rally, scheduled for August 16-18 at Red Bank Municipal Park, New Bethlehem PA. John asked Joe, Rally Chair, to share some additional details about plans.

Joe advised basics are in place, the park has been reserved and catering arrangements with Rub N' Tug BBQ are underway. Joe is waiting to receive the caterer's menu in order to finalize plans for Saturday's dinner. John confirmed the club will separately purchase dessert as in the past. The tentative schedule for Saturday evening will be dinner, followed by a speaker and then music. Dennis confirmed his friend Ray, from Restless Ray and the Rockets, is scheduled to perform solo.

Joe needs two additional ride leaders to volunteer for Saturday afternoon as well as the Friday dinner ride. Joe volunteered to lead one of them. Discussion followed during which Vince stepped up to organize the rides. He will contact Ed (Syphan) and Jay (Singh) to see if either or both will be available once again to lead them. Ed has led Saturday's two-lane tour, and Jay has led the adventure / GS rides for the past several years. Discussion turned also to the Friday dinner ride and possible destinations. Joe mentioned a family restaurant above Sigel PA might be a good ride and be able to accommodate a group. A return to Plyer's Buffet at Brookville was also considered. The consensus was that a return to Plyer's would be the better option.

Sean volunteered to do organize the tire-plugging demo again for Saturday. Plans for field events are uncertain at this point as no one has as yet stepped up to organize the event. Joe will check with Don Poremski to see if would have an interest in leading Saturday afternoon field events again this year.

Marge mentioned that pre-registrations are well behind the pace in recent years, with only 9 confirmed so far. As the promotional flyers and postcards went out at the same time as customary, she is not clear as any reason for the slow pace. Discussion followed; the consensus was that there is no particular reason to be concerned. Pre-registrations should be arriving in the weeks ahead. All club members and guests are encouraged to pre-register on the club's website as soon as practical; deadline to receive the discount is August 5th. Marge volunteered to man the registration desk; additional volunteers will be appreciated and should contact Marge.

Door prizes are work-in-progress, and Joe advised he's got eight to ten in the works and is reaching out to a few more contributors. BMW of Pittsburgh will once again be contributing one of the prizes. Kissell Motorsports has also expressed in interest. Joe mentioned his recent chance encounter with two experienced riders may also be fruitful. One of them, a parts manager from Bob's BMW, may be donating a door-prize. Conversation with the other turned to his recent visit to the Isle of Man TT Races. He may have an interest in

being this year's speaker, but a scheduling problem would need to be resolved before any commitment could be made. John mentioned he has reached out to Eric Trow as a possible speaker and is waiting a callback. Sean volunteered to contact Eric to inquire further about his interest and availability. The club anticipates it will absorb any costs associated with bringing a speaker in for Saturday evening.

The skating rink facility will be the venue for Friday and Saturday nights' entertainment. John has secured "On Any Sunday - Next Chapter" for viewing and suggests that for Friday evening. Movie snacks will be provided.

The question of Saturday day-passes was raised. John encouraged further discussion on the subject rather than deferring the matter to a Board meeting because there may be some misunderstanding as to the question. Recent policy has been "No Day Passes" and is workable with an understanding as to the implications for the club and the rally's success. Discussion followed toward a common understanding that a change in policy is not really needed. Participants arriving on Saturday with an intention to camp are to pay the full tariff. Participants arriving on Saturday and intending to stay through dinner are to contribute \$20 or so per person to reimburse the club for the cost of dinner and dessert. Oldtimers and others who have contributed in helping with the club's activities are free to stop by for several hours to visit with friends and enjoy the afternoon without a charge. With these guidelines in mind, the "No Day Passes" is the preferred route once again this year.

Leo has volunteered to oversee the complimentary coffee station. In anticipation of its condition, he has ambitious plans to rehab the coffee-making equipment and assure the best coffee ever.

John asked for any Old Business. He noted that today's discussion was thorough, and accordingly, there would be no need for the Board to meet after today's general membership meeting. John thanked Adrian for making today's arrangements at the park as well as this afternoon's work over the hot grill, not the best weather to be laboring over hot coals.

Hearing no further Old Business, he called for New Business.

The September membership meeting is scheduled for Leo's home on September 21st. John noted that the September meeting is generally the time and place for nominations of next year's officers and Board members. Any members are encouraged to consider serving in the coming year; several current officers are resigning: John and Mary (Hetzl) and Adrian. Accordingly, a Corresponding Secretary, a Social Director and a Vice President are needed. Vince reported he would be interested in the Social Director's position.

Marge provided the Treasurer's report noting that two new members have recently joined and that the checking account balances have not changed significantly.

Returning member Ed (1150-R) from Venetia was introduced and welcomed back.

John called for the 50-50 drawing. Don's (Scelza) ticket was drawn.

Upon motion of Jeff and second by Sean, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David Donley, Recording Secretary