



June 2019



John Humphrey

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This President's Corner is a little late. We took our grandkids to New York City last week. We stayed at the Marriott in Times Square and did all the usual crazy, tourist things. We all agreed NYC is a great place to visit and an even better place to leave. There is no place like home in Western PA.

The Moraine State Park shelter house meeting was great. Vince and I rode to Moraine on SR 528 out of Evans City. It is a wonderful, twisty, scenic road. We got in some extra saddle time, since we got lost and ran into Leo on the wrong side of the lake. It was a good place to get lost. We had about 24 motorcycle and 28 members at the meeting along with some new faces we hadn't seen in a while. The weather was absolutely beautiful on Saturday and we had almost all meeting members riding to the meeting. The turnout was probably due to the beautiful riding weather. I realize many members have lots of other things to do in the spring, but I hope you can make the Mingo shelter house meeting.

The club provided the hamburgers, buns, and basic food at the shelter house. Club members bring appetizers, deserts, and sides. This is also the case at Mingo State Park next month. As usual, Leo Stanton and Humphrey's meetings in September and October are hosted at their houses and the club will provide the basic food and members bring the sides, deserts, etc.

The club's offer to provide food is another "give back" to the members. It is a good opportunity to make these meetings. I hope to see more of you taking advantage of the club's offer for free food at these meetings.

As I said last month, it is getting increasingly difficult to find restaurants for the club meetings. The difficulty of 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 increasing. 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. Let Adrian and me know if you have a suggestion.

Joe Burns, Rally Chair, reports the rally is coming together. The design for the rally and the T-shirts is done. The postcards and posters have been sent out. The notices of the Rally have been sent to the MOA and RA magazines and websites. We have already received several pre-registrations. If you have ideas for a speaker or other entertainment on Friday or Saturday nights let Joe or me know. Dennis Mickanin will have his excellent musical entertainer again this year.

If you have a problem with receiving club email, logging into 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. 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 next meeting at Mingo State Park.

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Minutes

Four Winds BMW Riders - General Membership Meeting
June 22, 2019, Windy Knob Pavilion, Moraine State Park – Portersville PA

John Humphrey, presiding

John asked that the meeting come to order at 12:10 PM, welcoming 24 other members and guests arriving on 18 bikes. Weather-wise, he noted it was a great day to be lost exploring the shores of Lake Arthur with Vince and Leo. And, it was a great turn-out, including a few fresh faces: Beth Ann (2016 RT 1200,) Joe (2018 R1200 GS,) and Alan (a stunning 1974 R90S,) who introduced themselves with some brief comments about their motorcycling interests.

The principal business for discussion was plans for the 53rd Annual Four Winds BMW Riders rally scheduled for August 16th to the 18th. Rally chair, Joe Burns, noted his planning priorities have been securing the dates for Red Bank Municipal Park, food and sanitation. The park is confirmed and planning now turns to the details of the other items. Some pre-registrations have been received, but as he has been forewarned by his predecessors, it is likely to be another month or so until attendance might reasonably be projected. He appealed to all members to get their pre-registrations and payments completed to ease the uncertainty in planning. Proceeding with a few other details, he

reported he has been unsuccessful to date in finding a speaker for Saturday and welcomed suggestions from all as to an individual, a topic or both.

Saturday evening's schedule will include music; Dennis confirmed his friend will be able to perform again this year. After brief discussion, John confirmed the Board most likely would authorize a stipend, say \$100, for the musician.

Door prizes will be awarded. BMW of Pittsburgh has been contacted; dealer Mike Kuenning has always been generous in supporting our rally in the past. Megan at Kissell Motorsports has also expressed an interest in supporting the rally. Additional consideration is to be given to the impact of featuring more than one dealership among the list of contributors. Joe noted that he has another 10 or so door prizes in the works. Any member with additional contacts for possible door-prize donations is encouraged to let Joe or John know so that a follow-up can be made.

Prior planning discussions have included the possibility of a flea-market or swap meet on Saturday, but no one has as yet responded to the request to let Marge know of available items or specific interest. Discussion followed with both Diane and Marge predicting that a successful flea-market would materialize only with considerable advance preparation. Without it, the effort would most likely be a waste of time. Other rallies, for example the Finger Lakes, rely upon significant advance planning and organization and are in part successful because so many swap-meet participants arrive in a car or truck. Transportation of their wares to and from the event is convenient. Not so for our rally; substantially all participants arrive on two wheels. Since interest has not materialized for our August event, a flea-market will not be added this year.

Diane was asked to share details about this year's tee shirts. She noted the design will be the same as shown on the postcard announcements; copies were circulated. Four options for the fabric are: cotton, a cotton-polyester blend, a softer ring-spun cotton and a performance-style, wicking fabric. The costs to the club will vary based upon which fabric is chosen. In the past several years, the cotton-polyester fabric has been chosen; it is the least expensive. Following further discussion and a show of hands, the ring-spun fabric is preferred. An order for 80 to 100 shirts will be placed. Diane noted also that a long-sleeve alternative or one of the other fabrics should also be available for individual orders if she is notified within the next week or so. The lead-time for ordering is fast approaching.

Marge reported that postcard announcements have been sent to nonmember rally participants attending in the recent past and that promotional posters have been distributed to over 40 dealers and shops.

Moving along to new topics, John thanked Dennis for his recent write-up on the national MOA rally; it's posted in the forum on the website. Comments were that the canopy tent was money-well-spent, and along with the Four Winds banner, our space attracted a number of rally-goers. At least 10 Four Winds members attended the Lebanon TN event, and feedback has been that it was well-organized. The weather cooperated until Sunday's departure during which rain accompanied some but not all on their return to western PA.

Marge provided her Treasurer's report, showing the checking account balance a bit below her last report. Expenses involved rally promotion and preparation, including the printer's invoice and postage for rally announcements and posters, an annual insurance premium payment of \$350 for event coverage and some mailing supplies. Expenses also included rental fees for the monthly-meeting shelters at Moraine (June) and Mingo (July.)

John asked for any old business. Hearing none, he called for new business. Items reported were:

- an individual Morgantown asked that members' attention be directed to a for-sale posting of a 1985 K75T;
- Ed Tatters has compiled a listing of this summer's event which all members are encourage to check;
- appreciation to Hetz for his continuing efforts to make the website content fresh, informative and comprehensive;
- a big thank-you to Diane for her work, along with that of Ken Kucel and Bryce, in making the rally tee-shirts a reality; and
- the election of next year's officers and directors is on the horizon, and volunteers are needed.

Discussion of new business concluded with additional suggestions for possible speakers at this year's rally - food for thought.

John called for the 50-50 drawing. Chuck's ticket was drawn; he left with an additional \$41 in his pocket.

Upon motion of Dennis and second by Jeff, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Donley, Recording Secretary