

Minutes - Four Winds General Meeting
Saturday, April 20, 2024
Rear End Gastropub & Garage, Etna PA

Ed Tatters, President, *presiding*

Ed called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM. 23 members and guests attended, arriving on 13 bikes. As another riding season has arrived, Ed welcomed today's showing of ample support for the club from both old-timers and those recently joining. Ed invited introductions from new faces; none volunteered.

The first item of business was a rally tee-shirt design proposed by Denny for this year's annual Four Winds rally. The theme he suggests is based upon the April 8th solar eclipse which captivated many of us. The phenomenon is projected not to return to our region for another 28 years. He circulated his preliminary sketch for further input from members. It illustrates the event at an early phase with the moon partially encroaching on the background of the sun. Several slogans were suggested for further consideration. All members are invited to offer their further ideas for tee-shirt design. Contact Denny or another Board member with suggestions.

Ed reported that interest in the ProRider Motorcycle Training one-day course for club members remains under active consideration. (www.proriderpittsburgh.com) The course is typically led by highly-qualified and experienced police motorcycle officers with a purpose to enhance low-speed, advanced-rider precision and control skills. Club members attended a prior training session in June of 1997 and reported very favorably on the instructors and results. For details, interested members should contact Bob Mihalics so that scheduling options can be pinned-down. An early August date was discussed, subject to further confirmation from ProRiders and the indication of interest from club members or guests. Cost is estimated to be in the vicinity of \$150 per person for the day should a sufficient number of Four Winds attendees materialize. Spots for a session will most likely be limited to a dozen or so. The session would be held at a training facility not on the highway.

In addition to the tee-shirt design work, very preliminary planning for the annual Four Winds rally is underway. The dates will be August 17-19, 2024, at Redbank Municipal Park outside of New Bethlehem PA, and the events will track the format of recent years. New ideas are welcome; contact Ed or another Board member with suggestions. Volunteers are always needed.

Denny passed around a stash of "used" batteries for the BMW Navigator VI GPS system and invited all in attendance to help themselves to one. These batteries were take-offs that Denny received from a dealership that could not use them; he understands them to be serviceable but did not test them.

Mark reported he purchased a new R1250 RS and is selling his red 2019 R1250 RT which has roughly 15,000 miles on it. Anyone with interest may contact him; at least one member in attendance took him up on the offer to inspect.

Ed reported the club's treasury remains substantially unchanged.

Upcoming events were highlighted, including

- Today, April 20 - Pitt Cycles (www.pittcycles.com / Warrendale PA) close-out sale of all BMW Motorad parts and accessories;
- Tomorrow, April 21 Blessing of the Bikes at Murrysville Alliance Church (<https://murrysvillealliancechurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/BoB-Flyer-Original.pdf>);

- April 27 - Kissell Motorsports – Spring Open House, including demo rides
(www.kissellmotorsports.com / Tyrone PA)

The next monthly meeting of the membership will be held on May 18, 2024. The location and further details will be posted on the club's website.

On a somber note, Ed reported that long-time member Kevin Hart passed away unexpectedly earlier this week. Further details were not known. Sympathy cards for Shirley and family were circulated for members to express condolences.

Ed asked if there was any new business to be considered. Hearing none, and upon motion of Denny and second by Mark, Ed called the meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Donley, Recording Secretary