

Minutes - Four Winds General Meeting  
Saturday, October 21, 2023  
Rear End Gastropub & Garage, Etna PA

Joe Marnell, *presiding*

Joe M. called the meeting to order at 12:20PM and welcomed 18 members and guests. There were 6 riders today. The first item of business was election of officers and directors for the club's coming year. The undersigned reported the Board previously confirmed a slate of candidates as follows:

President: Ed Tatters

Vice President: Beth Ann Brady

Treasurer: Holly Marcheck

Corresponding Secretary: Joe Marnell, with assistance also from Don Scelza

Recording Secretary: David Donley

Webmaster: Diane Pears

Director at Large: Dennis Mickanin

Brief discussion followed clarifying that all of the candidates are generally familiar with club operations and have volunteered to serve. Several persons noted that Diane's title, "Webmaster," seems to discount rather seriously all of the many other roles she plays in promoting club membership and planning the details behind our events. The Recording Secretary asked for any additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he called for the vote, and the slate was elected unanimously.

Before proceeding with other business, the group expressed its sympathies to the family of Scott Nogrady as well as to Keith Glabb. Keith recently lost his mom. The club's website currently displays a photo tribute to Scott.

Four items regarding local dealerships were reported, namely,

- Pitt Cycles (Warrendale PA, [www.pittcycles.com](http://www.pittcycles.com)) has discontinued selling the BMW marque. No specific reason was specified, but the dealership will continue its other brands, Indian, KTM, Triumph, and Royal Enfield.
- Kissell Motorsports (Tyrone PA, [www.kissellmotorsports.com](http://www.kissellmotorsports.com)) will host its Octoberfest event next Saturday, October 28, 2023, which will include a display of the new R 1300 GS and a presentation about its feature by BMW's brand ambassador, Sean Thomas. In addition to a complimentary lunch, the event will also feature a display of the new Ural line-up and e-bike demo rides (Zero, Stark and LAND).
- Kissell will again be offering its winter time service special of free pick-up and delivery (with a few stipulations) in our club's area; this year's program began on October 1, 2023. Contact the service department for details or to be included on the pick-up list.
- Mosites Motorsports (North Versailles PA, [www.mositesmotorsports.com](http://www.mositesmotorsports.com)) will host its reveal of the R 1300GS on November 7, 2023, which will also include Shawn Thomas' presentation. Additional details will be posted on the dealership's website as the event approaches.

The **November monthly meeting** is scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2023, at the North Park Lounge Cranberry (Cranberry Township PA, [www.northparkloungecranberry.com](http://www.northparkloungecranberry.com)).

Diane asked if there were any new faces present. No brand new faces, but newer faces included Richard Dunning (R1250RS & a /5 project bike) and Doug and Dorothy Himes (Can-Am Spyder and other bikes). Doug noted their most recent adventures included the Barber Vintage festival which they highly recommend as a must-see for all BMW Motorad enthusiasts.

Discussion turned to the subject of motorcycle insurance coverage and the critical importance for riders to review their policies to be certain the uninsured and underinsured aspects of coverage are maximized. Diane reported that she has been investigating this important subject and encouraged all members to learn more about options available for most Pennsylvania policies. She has discovered two resources that may merit further consideration by the club in terms of education. They are:

- Freeburn Hamilton ([www.FightForRiders.com](http://www.FightForRiders.com)), a law firm based in Harrisburg PA (with several satellite offices), which in addition to volunteering a possible presentation to our club, followed up by forwarding copies of their introductory pamphlet, "Before You Ride, Understanding Motorcycle Insurance & What To Do after An Accident." Copies were distributed to those interested.
- Roadguardians.org's on-site educational course addressing Accident Scene Management (<https://roadguardians.org/100-series-instructor-led-basic/>). Roadguardians.org is a member-based, nationwide organization committed to motorcycle safety and "First Response Education," the essential steps to minimize rider injuries at an accident scene. Training sessions are fee-based. Membership details and the full agenda of courses and certifications available are available on the group's website.

Diane reported that both resources expressed to her an interest in a presentation to our club. She asked for a show of hands as to members' interest in hearing from these groups, and if so, when and where. A number of attendees expressed interest, but additional details would have to be provided. As to timing, a presentation at the club's annual banquet in February was suggested as was a presentation at the Four Winds Annual Rally. Indeed, some suggested the subject matter was sufficiently complex and important that perhaps both the banquet and the rally would be in order. There was also mention that a motorcycle attorney or law firm might be interested in sponsoring one of the presentations to the club. The Board will continue to solicit additional details about this important subject.

The Board is reviewing plans for the **Annual Four Winds banquet** which is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 17, 2024. Antonelli's Event Center (Irwin PA, [www.antonellieventcenter.com](http://www.antonellieventcenter.com)) has submitted pricing and menu options which are being considered. Members with other suggestions are encouraged to contact a Board member.

Tom Fury reported on a sad note the passing of Jack Riepe, his friend, an author and well-known raconteur of BMW motorcycling lore. He had participated in several Four Winds Annual rallies in recent years.

With no further business on the table, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM

There was no 50/50 drawing.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Donley  
Recording Secretary