

FEB.



2007

MOA # 6

www.4windsbmw.org

RA # 76



PRESIDENT'S EPISTLE

The Four Winds banquet at the Baltimore House was a wonderful evening of good food, adult beverages, good friends and big laughs. Don Poremski was a master as Master of Ceremonies, keeping the evening moving along at a nice pace, injecting healthy doses of humor and Led Zeppelin trivia and wrapping up the festivities just as the band playing in the lounge down the hall would have made it impossible to continue.

I capped off the evening by introducing the 2007 board in the format of a joke. I'd like to lay claim to a modicum of comic talent, but this joke practically told itself. Because we literally do have a lawyer, a doctor and a preacher on the 2007 board, which are the essential characters of the classic joke, "A lawyer, a doctor and a preacher go into a bar/are playing golf/standing in line to meet St. Peter, or whatever.

So let us return to the joke, already in progress, without the dramatic flourishes, character impressions, extra verses and salty language as it was originally performed at the banquet.

With some help from my friend, Samuel Adams, I wove a tall-tale about a disagreement that erupted when I proposed to my fellow board members that we should create a new policy that every member be required to have fun in '07. In essence we would make having fun mandatory.

In response to the proposed policy of mandatory fun, Vice President Gary Smith, the retired lawyer, suggested that the legal

DUES DUE!

Did you do your dues yet? If you didn't do your dues, you can do your dues easily: Tear, rip, cut, snip, or otherwise gnaw apart the do your dues form on page 6 of this newsletter, fill it in, add your check, and mail, fly, or hand both to Tom (his address is on the form).

SOOOO, Do YER DUES!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007

President – Mitch Kehan
j.kehn@verizon.net

Vice President – Gary Smith
412-922-7909
shack.smith@verizon.net

Treasurer – Tom Primke
412-828-3413
tomprimke@juno.com

Corres. Sec'y – Sean Barrett
724-941-1543
nancyandsean@comcast.net

Rec. Sec'y – Jürgen Brune
412-418-4626
jurgen@brune.ws

Director – Ralph Meyer
724-443-4937
meyer@zoominternet.net

Director – Jay Singh
412-967-9314
singhix@earthlink.net

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FEBRUARY MEETING INFO

The next meeting of the Four Winds BMW Riders will be held on Sat., Feb. 17, 2007 at Magoos Bar & Bistro Banquet Room, 9101 Perry Hwy Across from Cumberland Ave at the Rte 19 Stoplight in McCandless from 2-5PM. The board will meet there from 1-2PM.

PUBLICATION INFO

The Four Winds BMW Riders Newsletter is published for members' use. Articles' and pictures' copyrights are held by their authors. Author's permission should be obtained before any form of republication.

Editor: Ralph Meyer

Deadline: Articles submitted must be received by the editor no later than 6:00 PM on the Tuesday after the club meeting of the month preceding the month of publication (e.g., Feb. Meeting: Feb. 17; **March, issue deadline: Tues., Feb. 20th**). Articles/Info rec'd after deadline go in next month's newsletter.

Submission information:

E-mail submissions: Send as **attachments** with "4 Winds Newsletter Article" in the e-mail 'Subject' line to:
<meyer@zoominternet.net>

Articles on Disk Media mail to:

Ralph Meyer, Editor
4 Winds Newsletter
6056 Meadow Lane
Bakerstown, PA 15007-9720

Submission formats:

Articles: Send as plain text with headings and hdg depth defined, or in Word Processor (e.g., MS Word) format. Save trees: avoid paper if you can.

Pictures and graphics: Submit in JPEG or TIFF format with clearly marked locations in the article.

Long articles may be split between issues.

National Club Affiliations: Four Winds BMW Riders is chartered club #6 of the BMWMOA and chartered club #76 of the BMWRA

Newsletters in color PDF format are at the Four Winds Site, www.4windsbmw.org. Download a free Adobe PDF reader by clicking the 'Get Adobe Reader' button at www.adobe.com and following the directions thereafter provided.

MEETING SCHEDULE 2006

Mark the dates on your calendars, but remember...

All meeting sites are tentative. Please check the web site and newsletter for changes and updates.

February 17, 2007 — 2-5PM at Magoo's Bar & Bistro, Perry Hwy

March 17, 2007 — 2-5PM at Louis Tambellini's, Rte 51

April, 2007 — TBA

May, 2007 — TBA

June, 2007 — TBA

July, 2007 — TBA

August, 2007 — **Friday, August 17 to Sunday, August 19**
41st Annual Four Winds Rally!

September, 2007 — TBA

October, 2007 — TBA

November, 2007 — TBA

December, 2007 — No Monthly Meeting

2007 SHACK SCHEDULE

Feb 14, 7-10PM at Karl Hartz's Heated Garage, 69 Steen Hollow Road, Oakdale, PA 15071, Ph.: 724-693-0219.

Directions: From the Kirwin Heights exit of I-79 turn left onto Rt. 50 (Washington Pike). At next traffic signal, turn left onto Thoms Run Rd, (see Chartiers Valley High School on your left). Follow Thoms Run Rd to Steen Hollow Rd. Turn Left on Steen Hollow Rd to #69 on your left.

If you follow Thoms Run into Oakdale, U-turn, go up the hill and make the first right onto Steen Hollow.

process required to amend the bylaws and getting the changes ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership would tie us up for months.

Corresponding Secretary Sean Barrett, the doctor, expressed the concern that some club members might be suffering from an acute medical condition that would make it too painful to have a good time. The doctor

ONGOING EVENTS

Breakfast Rides, et al.:

These rides are free-form. *Those attending decide what they want to do and where, if anywhere, they want to ride.* If you just want to show up in the car and have breakfast with fellow motorcyclists, that's fine too.

COME! EAT! CHAT! RIDE!

Ride Schedule — Month:

Sun, Feb 4 — *North* at King's, I-79 & Rt 910/VIP Dr., 10:00 AM

Sat, Feb 10 — *West* at Eat n' Park, Rt 60 & 22/30, 9:00 AM

Sun, Feb 18 — *South* at the Roadside Restaurant, Rt 51, 10:00 AM

Sat, Feb 24 — *East* at Dick's, Rt 22 Westbound Side, Monroeville, 9:00 AM

If you're going to a breakfast ride, you might want to notify others: It's not necessary, but it'd be nice to let others know you're going to a particular Breakfast Ride by putting a notice on the 4-Winds Site Message Board's Breakfast Ride section saying so. That'll help save a rider from discovering too late that no one else is going that day. The Breakfast Ride's URL is: <http://www.4windsbmw.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=9>. Be sure to erase your post after the ride if you can so the board doesn't get cluttered.

cited the example of a recent patient of his who, with a large insect stuck in his lower intestine, found it impossible to have fun. For that reason, enacting the new policy should be shelved until medical examinations could be completed.

Director Ralph Meyer, the former preacher, empathized with the plight of the human condition. If we are going to make fun mandatory, the compassionate thing to do would be to heal the spiritual wounds of our suffering members with pastoral counseling and perhaps a weekend retreat, which of course, would take months to plan.

Out of frustration, I erupted, "Okay, forget I even brought it up. Having fun is too much hard work."

I think that many of you who have served on the board or served as Rally Chair at one time or another can relate to that story. It is true that doing anything worthwhile, including simply having fun will be hard work. It can be satisfying work, but it is hard work nonetheless.

I say this because behind the scenes the Four Winds board and I have been working together tirelessly (but with good humor) to make your 2007 riding season more enjoyable. Frank Beatrous and I have been experimenting with a new web application with online networking capabilities that will make it much easier for our members to plan group rides and collaborate with each other in real time. If everything works as planned, the result will be more of our members planning more rides together. And that would mean a lot more fun for everyone, right?

This is hard work but, if conducted properly, it is satisfying for the persons who engage in it because they see their friends having fun and know that, "if not for my labors, much of this would not have been."

I am grateful for rally organizers everywhere who made it possible for me to meet new people who became my friends for life. To these unsung heroes, I would like to say, your labors have indirectly enriched my life in ways you will never know.

I offer that those who elect to serve on the board, lead group rides, organize our rally, produce our newsletter, write lines of code for our website and even the one who balances the bank account and cut the checks all have a creative gift. They come together with the goal of creating fun. Albeit, the creative process can be agonizing at times, but in the end, making big smiles is very satisfying work.

I've waxed poetic long enough and there is no subtle way to make this transition. I am challenging someone to step up as Rally Chair. Your assignment, should you decide to accept it, will be to create fun and lifelong memories for 250-300 people at the 2007 Four Winds Rally. You'll have the support and cooperation of our most dedicated, talented and creative people. Experience is preferred, but not necessary. If you are willing to rise to the challenge of this worthy endeavor, send an email to board@4windsbmw.org or come meet with us at the February meeting at Magoo's.

And to the rest of the membership at large I apologize my early misstep in failing to enact mandatory fun as official club policy. For now, having a good time is still an elective, so I personally challenge you to help us reach the collective goal of having as much fun as possible all the time in 2007.

Oh yes, and bring your friends.

MITCH



Only a wee bit of the Full House at the '07 Banquet!

BANQUET PICS...

Thanks Scott and others!



Emcee-Don P! He looks serious, but don't you believe it!



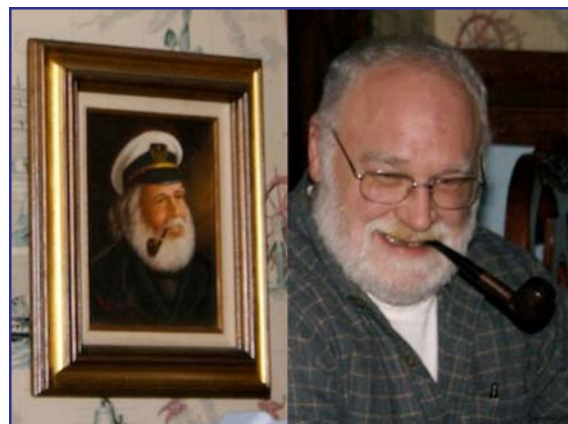
The '06 Board!



Tim Pears presents Ed Tatters with the Mileage Award! 15,000+ Miles in '07!!! Beemers go some!



Diane Pears presents the BMR Point award for Walt Halaja who couldn't be present. ...Walt got the most postoffices photographed!



Cap'n Fred! ...He goes "Way, hey, blow the men down..." (...at the Rally with water balloons!) The 'Match' caught by Scott B.!

More on p. 10...

Attention all members: Jump in on this! Submit your beginning mileage report NOW! This very day — you know you like to ride. Submit your beginning mileage on your bike(s) as it was on January 1st (or if you didn't write it down then, fudge it... but do so honestly, forthrightly, and squarely like a good BMW rider should!) GIT 'ER DONE!

**FOUR WINDS
2007 BEGINNING MILEAGE CONTEST FORM
January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007**

Beginning Mileage Form – for the Year 2007

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____

| | Make / Model / Year | Beginning Mileage |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bike 1 | _____ | _____ |
| Bike 2 | _____ | _____ |
| Bike 3 | _____ | _____ |
| Bike 4 | _____ | _____ |

Mileage submitted must be an honest record of the odometer readings for the Motorcycles you currently own, operate and submit for the beginning of the 2007 year. You can submit the mileage from one bike or for all of the bikes you own. The sum of miles you attain on all of your bikes combined will produce this year's winner.

The highest mileage submitted at the end of the year will win a \$25 gift certificate to refill your tank at:

Complete and mail this form to:

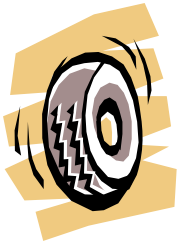
**Mileage Contest
c/o Tim Pears
555 Rose Stop Rd.
New Castle, PA 16101**

or E-mail to:

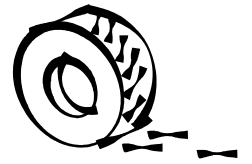
dtpears@earthlink.net



or Give it to me at the next meeting

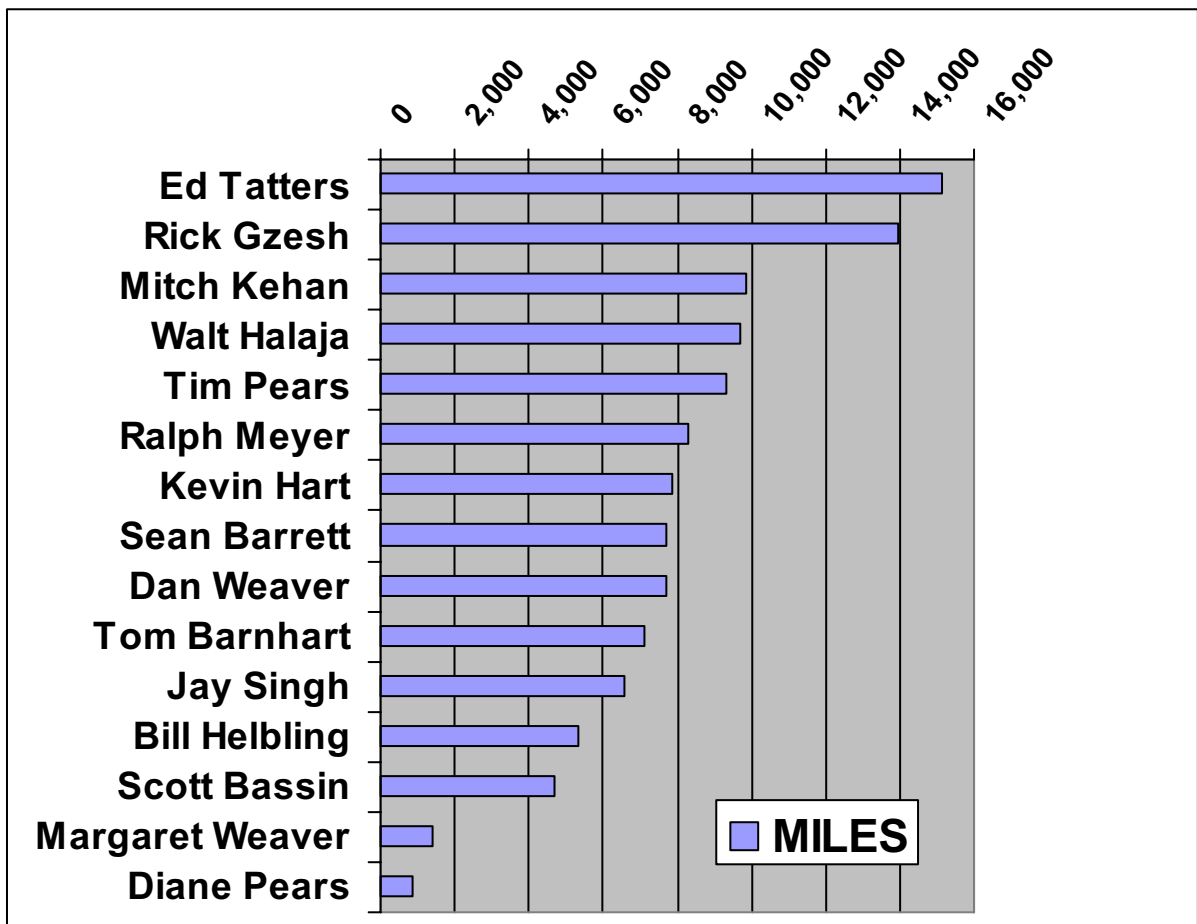


Four Winds BMW Riders 2006 Mileage Contest Results



Submitted by Tim Pears

Congratulations **Ed Tatters**, our high mileage winner this year. He turned in 15,115 miles, accumulated on four different bikes, to win the \$25 Sheetz gift card. Each year's riding is different for every person, and a big thanks to all who submitted their miles. Let's keep our club's year-at-a-glance going with even more on the list for next year!



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

The Four Winds fiscal year runs from February 1st to January 31st and February through April is membership renewal season. Memberships expire if they have not been renewed by the April meeting. So, if you haven't done so already, please fill out the form below (**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**) and mail it together with a check made payable to "**Four Winds BMW Riders**" to

Four Winds BMW Riders

c/o Tom Primke

512 White Birch Court

Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Membership cards will be handed out to all members who have renewed their memberships at one of the next meetings.

Four Winds BMW Rider Membership Renewal Form 2007

Member Name(s) _____

Associate Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

e-mail address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Primary Membership (\$15.-): Number of _____ X \$15.0 = _____

Associate Membership (\$7.50 each): Number of _____ X \$7.50 = _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____



2007 Four Winds BMW Riders Member Survey

*This information is for the planning and promoting of group rides and future special events to be announced. This information will be used to inform you, the 4-Winds BMW member of club rides and trips in which you have expressed an interest in participating. **Mail completed form to Mitch Kehn, 140 Owendale Ave, Pgh PA 15227***

| | |
|--------|--------|
| Name: | Email: |
| Phone: | Other: |

Popular BMW Rallies and Other Events for 2007

| Probability I Will Attend This Event | Likely | Maybe | Unlikely |
|--|--------|-------|----------|
| GA May 4-6, 2007 Georgia Mountain Rally. Hiawassee, Ga. | | | |
| NC May 18-20, 2007 ADVRIDER.com. Hot Springs, NC | | | |
| ON, CA. May 18-21, 2007ABC Rally, St Thomas, ON, Canada | | | |
| MD June 1 - June 3, 2007 Square Route Rally BMW of Metro DC | | | |
| June 7 – 10, 2007 RA Rally at Biltmore Estate, Asheville, NC. | | | |
| PA June 22-24, Laurel Highlands Rally. Somerset, PA | | | |
| WI July 12 - 15, 2007 BMW MOA Rally. West Bend, Wisconsin | | | |
| July 27-29, 2007 AMA Vintage Days, Lexington. OH | | | |
| August 17-19, 2007 Four Winds Rally. New Bethlehem, PA | | | |
| August 31-Sept 3, 2007 Finger Lakes Rally. Watkins Glen, NY | | | |
| Sept. 28-30, 2007. AMA Superbike Championship. Lexington, OH | | | |
| August 3-5 Mid-Ohio Super Cycle Weekend. Lexington, OH | | | |

Tech Sessions I Might Be Interested in Attending

| Topic/ Bike Type | Likely | Maybe | Unlikely |
|--|--------|-------|----------|
| 1994-2007 R-Bike twins, Oilhead | | | |
| Pre 1995 R-Bike twins, Airhead (1969-1995) | | | |
| F-Series (650 single) | | | |
| 1984-1997 K-Bikes (K100, K75, K1100) | | | |
| 1998-2005 K-Bikes (K1200 RS, GT, LT) | | | |

Other Events and Activities I Enthusiastically Support, But Not Mentioned Above:

| |
|--|
| |
| |
| |
| |

ANYTIME DAYTRIP DESTINATIONS

Gravity Hill, PA. Defy gravity safely. The tour is a hoot. <http://www.gravityhill.com>

Falling Water, Mill Run, PA. The Kaufmann's old summer place. Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. <http://www.paconserve.org>

Kentuck Knob - Chalk Hill, PA. The "Child of Fallingwater" by architect Frank Lloyd Wright. <http://www.kentuckknob.com>

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum. Toy trains, retired trolley cars and a real antique trolley ride. <http://www.pa-trolley.org>

Coolspring Power Museum. Historical Internal Combustion Engines. hit & miss, flame ignition, hot plug, etc. <http://www.coolspringpowermuseum.org/index.htm>

OHIO

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Cleveland, OH. <http://www.rockhall.com>
I know, it's only rock and roll, but I like it.

Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum. Pickerington, OH. info@motorcyclemuseum.org

MARYLAND

The Red Roost Restaurant, 2670 Clara Rd. Whitehaven, MD 410-546-5443. The most uniquely authentic Eastern Shore crab house you will ever experience. <http://www.blue-crab.org/crabhouses.htm>

WEST VIRGINIA

Hütte Restaurant, Helvetia, WV. Sunday brunch costs around \$20, but it is worth it. No credit cards. Helvetia is a Swiss Village with shops that sell locally made cheese, honey and artisan items. Call 304-924-6435. The town is friendly to riders. <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Valley/6192/>

The information on these pages 7-11 includes the ride and other event interest survey--please fill this out and mail it to Mitch, whose address is on the survey, or complete this survey which is on the 4-WindsWeb Site--there is much other good information and ride suggestions as possibilities to think about for Breakfast and other day or longer ride planning. Take a gander at these suggestions from Mitch and other members and be sure to add any thoughts you have to the event and interest survey if some idea isn't mentioned here (or if it is and you are heartily [or otherwise positively] in favor of it). There are lots of good motorcycling destinations around and about!



REAR VIEW MIRROR CURE

Here is the cure for those bikes whose rear view mirrors only provide a vision of the pilot's hands and arms. (R1200RT riders take note!) Picture sent in by Dave (2-Spark!) McLaughlin.

WHEN AND WHERE

MARCH

Pancake Festival, March 24-25, March 28 - April 1, 2007. Meyersdale, PA. Enjoy pancakes with locally made syrup at the Lions Club Lodge, then head to town for a antique tractor, farm implement and classic car show.

<http://www.pamaplefestival.com/events.htm> . *Special interest event.*

Pittsburgh Bike Expo. March 31-April 1, 2007. Monroeville, ExpoMart, 11am-6pm Saturday and 10am-5pm Sunday. \$15 for adults, kids under 15 free with paying adult.
Motorcycle Interest

MAY

3rd Annual Blessing of the Bikes. You have adorned your bike with every gadget under the sun, but does your beemer have a personal savior? May 20th, 2007. New Bethlehem, PA. 2pm at Gumtown Park on Water Street. ridewithmehd@yahoo.com *Motorcycle Interest*

JUNE

Coolspring Power Museum in Coolspring PA. Exposition and Flea Market, June 14- 16, 2007. <http://www.coolspringpowermuseum.org> . *Special interest event.*

Antique and Classic Boat Festival, St. Michaels, MD. Friday, June 16-18, 2007. \$11 admission. The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St.. Michaels is recommended in the book, *1,000 Places to See Before You Die*.

<http://www.chesapeakebayacbs.net/festival/boatfestival.htm> . *Special interest event*

Thunder in the Valley, Johnstown, PA June 21-24. Coincides with the Laurel Highlands Campout in Somerset, PA. <http://www.visitjohnstownpa.com/thunderinthevalley/> .
Motorcycle Interest

JULY

RailFest. Altoona Horse Shoe Curve and PRR Museum. Railroaders Memorial Museum, Altoona, PA. July 6- 8, 2007. <http://www.railroadcity.com> . *Special interest event.*

Allegheny Mountain Engine & Implement Assn. 27th Annual Show & Demonstration. July 20-22, Pa. 1 mile S of Port Allegany PA on Rt. 155. *Special interest event.*

http://www.smethportchamber.com/allegheny_mt_engine.html

AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days. Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington, Ohio. July 27-29. <http://www.amadirectlink.com/vmd/2007/home.asp> . *Motorcycle Interest*

AMA Flat Track Racing at Mineral Wells, Hagerstown & Scioto Downs.
July 28 Hagerstown Speedway, Hagerstown, MD Half-mile GNC Twins.
<http://www.amaflatrack.com> . *Motorcycle Interest*

AUGUST

Honda Super Cycle Weekend. August 3-5 Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington, OH. 1.800.MID.OHIO. <http://www.midohio.com> . *Motorcycle Interest*

SEPTEMBER

Delmarva Bike Week, Whaleysville, MD. September 13-16.

<http://www.delmarvabikeweek.com/> . *Motorcycle Interest*

Black Diamond Rally, September 28-30, 2007 in the Pocono Mountains.

<http://www.blackdiamondbeemers.com> *BMW Club Rally*

Friends of Jason Campout. Boyer Station, WV. September 28-30, 2007. Worthy of the Poverty Rider Seal of Approval. No rally fee, camping is \$4 a day and motel rooms are available for around \$30 a night. *BMW/Other Brand Rally*

OCTOBER

2007 North of the Border Rally (formerly known as the Colonial Virginia Rally), will be held 5-7 October 2007 in Virginia Beach, Virginia at the North Landing Beach campground. <http://www.bmwchr.org/rally.htm> . *BMW Rally*

New River Gorge Bridge Day™ 2007. Bridge Day is the largest extreme sports event in the world and is held on the third Saturday in October every year in Fayette County, West Virginia. <http://www.officialbridgeday.com> . *Special interest event.*



Presentation of the Phamous Syphoonic 99.9% Pure Gold Plated Buffalo Medallion Awards



George! --A favorite Marine--Wearing the new 'Undress Orange' cover.



'07 Prez Mitch Kehan 'Intro's the new board. Good thing the roof was on tight. The laughter would've lifted it otherwise!

Our Fine 'Newlyweds' attending!



PW gets his BMR Points Award while Cap'n Fred looks on. Diane is Stage Left.



BMWMOA Medallion Recipient, Kev Hart, and Shirley! Lookin' good!



On the Net...

Have you found a neat location on the Internet? Send the URL in with a brief description of what it's about to the editor and we'll post it here for the benefit of your fellow riders...

Note: copy or type the underlined link into your browser's URL textbox and hit 'Go' or 'Enter' to go there.

Our Four Winds Site, what else??? <http://www.4windsbmw.org> . And always remember never to forget, you can get this and past color copies of the Newsletter in PDF format there! Check it out if you haven't already done so.

How to kill deer with a Valkyrie: <http://lifeisaroad.com/deer-killing.html> .

The online version of this survey has been up for a few weeks and as of this writing, roughly 20% of the club has already responded online, (*online is the preferred method of responding, by the way.*) It is far too early to speculate what the final results will be, but roughly ninety percent our early respondents say they will attend the Four Winds Rally. No surprise there. The BMW Riders Association International Rally at the Biltmore Castle in Asheville, NC is shaping up to be the major long distance rally event of the year, with more of our members expressing a strong interest in attending than the MOA event.

I hope to put together a nice list of rallies, daytime trip destinations and annual events for future newsletters. Here are a few write in responses;

Tom Barnhart

Tom now lives in the Sunshine State and some of his favorite new destinations are in the Deep South. Tom recommends you stop for some sausage biscuits and fried okra on your way to the Rocket City Rally in Huntsville, AL on Memorial Day Weekend, or the RAMS Rally in Shilo, TN the first weekend in October. dtbarnhart@aol.com

Jim Linneman

Jim's annual tradition is to ride the length of the Blue Ridge Parkway to and from the Four Winds Rally. Other favorite destinations include the Square Route Rally, Bike Week at Daytona, Biketoberfest at Daytona, Sun Your Buns Rally at Venice FL. If time permits, Jim might be found kibitzing around the campfire at the Daniel Boone Rally, Easter on the Blue Ridge and the Great Chicken Rally at Huntsville AL. Then there are the monthly rides sponsored by the Space Coast Riders of Melbourne FL and monthly rides hosted by the Tri County BMW club of South Florida. jim.linneman@gmail.com

Jay Singh

Jay is always ready to take in a dual sport ride around the Pittsburgh area, the back roads of WV or the Allegheny National Forest. In fact, Jay will more likely than not, join any group ride within 400 miles of the Steel City, particularly on the wild and wonderful twisty back roads of WV and SE OH. singhjx@earthlink.net

Ralph Meyer

Ralph likes to visit museums, particularly ones having to do with railroad, trolley, old steam and internal combustion technology, art, and science. He enjoys watching observed trials riding, but unlike many sport bike enthusiasts in the club, he admits that watching people just go round and round over the same track bores the hell out of him. meyer@zoominternet.net

Don Poremski

Don plans to head north of the border for the Sport Bike Rally in Parry Sound, Ontario. He has chosen some other rallies rarely attended by our membership at large such as the BMW MOC Micro Rally at The Pit (*this year combined with Toledo club*) and the Fall Foliage Festival at Whispering Hills Campground, Shreve OH. strutguy@yahoo.com



4 Winds BMW Riders
 "BMR"
 Bmw Member Recognition Program



2006 Final Tally & Awards

Another successful year for 4 Winds is in the history books, the BMR points were tallied, and the trophies, money, and reflective decals were handed out at the banquet. This program was initiated to recognize involved members who help the club function and participate in various ways, including riding. Its accuracy was totally dependent on voluntary reporting of information to the Points Mistress, who tried her best to snoop around and find out what BMR-worthy things were happening. Some of your names kept popping up for points, but if you were not listed on the 2006 official dues-paying membership roster, that's why you won't find yourself on the BMR list. A big "Thank You" goes to everyone who helped out with the club in any way this year, regardless of where you ended up in the points! Below is the list of total points earned. The complete points spreadsheet will be at the next meeting.

End of Year Awards:

| | | | |
|----------------------|----|----------------------|----------------|
| Ralph Meyer | -- | Top BMR Point Earner | \$125 & Trophy |
| Walt Halaja | -- | Second Place | \$75 & Trophy |
| Kevin Hart | -- | Third Place | \$50 & Trophy |
| Ed Syphan | -- | Fourth Place | \$20 |
| Paul White | -- | Fifth Place | \$20 |
| Dan Weaver | -- | Sixth Place | \$20 |
| Tom Primke | -- | Seventh Place | \$20 |
| Scott Bassin | -- | Eighth Place | \$20 |
| Rick Gzesh | -- | Ninth Place | \$20 |
| Holly Stanton | -- | Tenth Place | \$20 |

If you weren't at the banquet, you missed out on Mitch's *great* parody of the new 2007 board members, each supposedly "responding" in their own unique way to his vision statement for our club this year, which is something along the lines of "Honor Tradition . . . Focus on the Future . . . but above all . . . Have FUN!" Now, when the subject of the BMR program came up, the Points Mistress was stymied. "How can we quantify Fun??" A mathematical formula will have to be created showing appropriate values for each aspect of Fun. Someone must design a graph to plot all of this Fun!" Thus it was unanimously decided to put the BMR program on hiatus for 2007 . . . and as Paul Harvey says, "Now you know the **rest** of the story."

So . . . you can all go out there this year, work your tails off, ride your butts off, and I don't need to know a thing about it -- the Points Mistress is on sabbatical !!!!! ☺



Be safe out there . . . and have FUN!

Diane Pears, Points Mistress, Signing Off . . .

| 2006 | BMR |
|------------------------|---------------|
| | Points |
| Members: | Total: |
| Totals: | 2384 |
| Ralph Meyer | 334 |
| Walt Halaja | 299 |
| Kevin Hart | 94 |
| Ed Syphan | 90 |
| Paul White | 79 |
| Dan Weaver | 73 |
| Thomas Primke | 69 |
| Scott Bassin | 66 |
| Rick Gzesh | 54 |
| Holly Stanton | 51 |
| Shirley Hart | 50 |
| Sean Thomas | 49 |
| Jay Singh | 43 |
| Mitch Kehan | 41 |
| Herman (Sonny) Robison | 40 |
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| Tony Capriotti | 32 |
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| Diane Pears | 29 |
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| Kay Smith | 18 |
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| Bob Stuckert | 15 |
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| David McLaughlin | 14 |
| Richard McNeel | 14 |
| Michele Syphan | 14 |
| Paul Cronin | 12 |
| Fred Maskrey | 12 |
| Dennis Mickanin | 12 |
| John Allen | 11 |
| Carolyn Bassin | 11 |

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| James Duggan | 10 |
| Terri Reihing | 10 |
| Tom Weaver | 10 |
| William Gillie | 9 |
| Jim Linneman | 9 |
| Mark Tiedemann | 9 |
| Hilary Klein | 8 |
| Bramkamp Jack | 7 |
| Lance Hough | 7 |
| Rick Spangler | 7 |
| Patrick Barrett | 6 |
| Robert Duggan | 6 |
| Robert Kostreva | 6 |
| Nicolette Linneman | 6 |
| Larry Morley | 6 |
| Mary Barrett | 5 |
| Willa Cronin | 5 |
| Steve Dumek | 5 |
| Jeffrey Dunkle | 5 |
| Don Good | 5 |
| Beckey Linneman | 5 |
| Brian Maskrey | 5 |
| Conrad Rossetti | 5 |
| Ted Sohler | 5 |
| Vaughn Sterling | 5 |
| Albert (Al) Vangura | 5 |
| Tim VanVranken | 5 |
| Jerry Wilson | 5 |
| Paul Stanton | 3 |
| George Fontanesi | 2 |
| Chris Freed | 2 |
| Gary Hoffman | 2 |
| Tom Pastenbaugh | 2 |
| Bob Wyner | 2 |
| Mathilde Halaja | 1 |
| Margaret (Marge) Robison | 1 |
| Kathleen Roslonski | 1 |
| Brian Bailey | 0 |
| Lynda Bailey | 0 |
| Tom Barnhart | 0 |
| Joan Beatrous | 0 |
| Steven Handler | 0 |
| Denise Handler | 0 |
| Adrian Marini | 0 |
| Lois Marini | 0 |
| Lee Marks | 0 |
| Ken McMunn | 0 |
| Brian Mullins | 0 |
| Stephen Sely | 0 |
| Larry Shockling | 0 |
| Chris Smith | 0 |

BMW RA RALLY
NEWSLETTER, VOLUME 7.01
JUNE 23, 2006—35TH ANNUAL BMW RIDERS ASSOCIATION'S INTERNATIONAL RALLY
BILTMORE ESTATE, ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
JUNE 7-10, 2007

GPS COORDINATES: N35° 31.9'W82° 33.5'

Time to kick off this rally! I think by now you all have heard about the incredible site for the rally this year. For the first time they will let a group stay on the estate. Folks, this is a big deal! Biltmore often hosts car, cycle and other rallies, but they are considered day events and these rally goers leave the estate at 5pm go back to their hotels, only to do it again the next day. We will be the first group that will camp on the estate for three days. We will share the estate with the general public during the day, but when the gates close to the public at 5pm, we remain.

The rally site sits along an open span of field following the French Broad River and we will be bringing up Rally Central from the ground, much like traveling fairs did in the 1800's. Our rally will celebrate the essence of this place, the history of a time when life moved at a much slower pace. You can sense this when you drive through the stone entrance gate. Your rally fee will give you access to the estate for three days and includes tent camping. You can tour the house, winery or farm in addition to the rally fare you normally find: vendors, seminars, entertainment and food. Didn't see enough of the house on your first tour? Go again and again. If you've got the time, tour the house as many times as you can during the rally. You can also tour the winery and take part in sampling of the estate wines more than once. And we will be including estate wines for sale in the Beer Tent. You beer purists will have to share some space in the Beer Tent!

You will almost have too much to do during your time at this rally. The house, winery, seminars, and vendors: when will you find time to ride? Western North Carolina has some of the best roads, paved and dirt in the U.S. We will have self-guided tours available and don't worry GSers. We plan to have at least one guided GS ride, maybe more in addition to self-guided tours. The rally forum on the RA website has already had some interesting ride/route discussions. Join the rally forum and post your favorite rides.

Are your feet feeling tired just thinking about the distances over this 8,000-acre estate? We will have shuttles running Friday and Saturday to allow you to rest your feet between the house, winery and rally central.



BIKE NEED SERVICE?

Spring's coming! --It's got to, after all, it's snowing outside right now. But the roads are often clear (watch out for black ice however!). Anyway, now's a good time to get your bike in to one of our fine 'Burgh dealers for any service you might need before riding season (for those whose riding season starts when the weather warms up).. Avoid the mad spring rush when the techs are being tied in knots due to the amount of work that suddenly arrives when the weather warms up. Give the boys a break!

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| <p>Lee S. Marks Owner</p> <p>BMW MOTORCYCLES OF PITTSBURGH DUCATI PITTSBURGH TRIUMPH OF PITTSBURGH</p> <p>10269 Perry Highway Wexford, PA 15090 (724) 934-4269 Voice (724) 934-3269 Fax motoman@bmwpgh.com</p> | |    |
| <p>BMW Retailer</p> <p>President</p> <p>1661 5th Avenue McKeesport, PA 15132</p> <p>Telephone (412) 673-4410 Facsimile (412) 673-5360 E-Mail craig.immel@heritagebmw.com Website www.heritagebmw.com</p> | <p align="center">Heritage BMW Motorcycles</p> <p align="center">Craig W. Immel</p> <p align="center">  </p> | |



RETURN TO SHILOH RALLY

Jim Linneman

The first weekend in October is reserved on our calendars for our "second" BMW club – the Riders Association of the Mid South (RAMS) annual rally near Pickwick, TN. The rally's motto is "Best Rally by a Dam Site" since it is held at the base of TVA's Pickwick Dam on the Tennessee River (For more information, check out the rally's URL: <http://www.bmwrams.com/rts/index.html>). We arrived on Friday about 4 PM and noticed that the camping area was quite full. The beautiful mid-70 degree weather and brilliant sunshine attracted a record turnout of 455 people. This rally is similar to Four Winds' and has a usual attendance of 300 or so rally-goers. Needless to say, head Bar B Quer, Tim Henderson, was getting nervous as he now had to stretch the club's Friday night dinner to feed many more than expected. Nicky and I always volunteer to help in the serving line as we get to see everyone in attendance. Friday night's dinner includes smoked pulled pork Bar B Que, the best baked beans I have ever had, cole slaw, rolls, and cookies. Tim arrives Thursday and slow smokes the meal for a full 24 hours before serving. The meal was a great success and we even had a little food left over!

The camping area is located in an Army Core of Engineers campground. It is in a beautiful pine forest located near the Tennessee River. The tall pines form a canopy overhead and the pine needles cover the ground. I have never seen finer rally camping. Each year the club has firewood delivered both Friday and Saturday nights for individual campfires. We pitched our Timberline tent and Kelty dome near some friends and enjoyed the crisp cool night. To top it off, we had a beautiful full moon each night.

On Saturday, Nicky and I visited Shiloh National Military Park, which is close by. We saw a demonstration of the firing of 12 lb light Napoleon cannons that were used extensively by both sides during the civil war. When the crew shot canister shot it would spread to cover an area 40 yards wide and had a devastating effect on advancing troops. That night's dinner was at a local famous restaurant – the Catfish Hotel. I discovered that a northern boy just doesn't really like catfish, no matter how well it is prepared!

October is one of the peak rally months in the south. The summer heat has disappeared and the riding is fine!

Our rally is near the Natchez Trace, which runs from south of Nashville to Natchez, MS. While it doesn't match the Blue Ridge Parkway for beauty or riding, it is quite historic. As with all National Parkways, there is no commercial traffic and access is limited. While you're in the area, you can also visit the Barber Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham, AL.

We hope that some Four Winds members can join us in Tennessee's beautiful countryside for the RAMS rally in 2007. Nicky and I will be there dishing up the Bar-B-Que!

JIM



FOR SALE

Please note: If you sell your item, please notify the newsletter editor so it can be removed from this list.

Widder Electric Vest System 2 with Arm Chaps. Excellent Condition. Used several times. Vest outer shell made from urethane coated 600 denier polyester with a 70 denier taffeta lining, ultra suede lining and Thinsulate Thermal Insulation. Arm Chaps snap into place and made from the same materials as the vest. Includes coiled BMW switch cord. Vest size XXL. Arm Chaps 34 inches long. Review online at <http://www.widder.com/html/Product/System2/index.html> . Price \$200.00. Shipping included for lower 48. Contact kevin.hart@MSAnet.com .



NORTH BREAKFAST RIDE 1/7/2007

Ralph Meyer

The North Breakfast ride this morning had a fine group of 4-Winds attendees that included John Allen, Frank Beatrous, Jürgen Brune, Mitch Kehn, Ron Kranz, Dave McLaughlin, Ralph Meyer, and Paul White.

After a fine breakfast at King's on VIP drive off Rte 910 and I-79, some usual kicking of tires, we split up to head off in our several desired directions. That's what's great about these breakfast rides: after enjoyment of some fine camaraderie and conversation about various items, motorcycling and otherwise, everyone is free to head off in whatever direction the day seems to provide and that appeals to them. John and Dave were interested in a more lengthy ride heading South on some neat and eminently rideable roads. I had planned to go along with John but several of the fellows had picked up on my web-site B-Ride suggestion of going to see the early motorcycle display at the Frick Museum, so I shifted gears back to this original idea, while Frank had things to do at home, and Ron, having just undergone rather serious surgery but a short time ago also returned home. After downing some additional coffee to keep the innerds warm on our rides we headed off in our several directions, with the four of us, Jürgen, Mitch, Paul, and I peeling off south on Is-79 and 279 and thence to I-376 East to the Forward Avenue Exit-#5 and thence to weave our way up Murray to Forbes, S. Dallas, Edgerton, and Reynolds to the Frick. There we were delightfully entertained by the curators at the Carriage House who gave us informative commentaries on each of the magnificently kept or restored early bits of horse-drawn and automotive ingenuity that are permanently housed on display there. After the cars, we had plenty of time to peruse a magnificent set of early American and British 2-wheeled iron that included, among a number of others, several Indians and Harleys, an Ace, and a beautiful 1950 Vincent Black Shadow, all of which were in pristine condition looking as if but a tickle of their carbs and a punch or two on the kick-starter would bring them alive with a joyous rumble. As topping on the cake, the museum presented several repeating movies on the early Pittsburgh motoring scene, including one on the intricacies—need I say fun?—of prepping, starting, and driving a Stanley Steamer runabout—the same one that was gracing the museum floor and that is owned—and driven occasionally!—by a local aficionado. After watching the rigamatinkering necessary to get a Stanley under way, one is forced to admit to the immense convenience of that technology known as the gasoline engine's ignition key and self-starter. A drive to the grocery in a Stanley is fine... providing you have a half to three-quarters of an hour to prep the thing and get up a nice head of steam sufficient to allow the throttle

to do its thing properly. Then it'd be a breeze, both figuratively and literally, as the runabout, at least, only sported a flat windshield as protection from the elements. Come to think of it, that's not much different a way of going than our favorite method of rolling along provides us!

In any event, with memories of movies on early Pittsburgh motoring as our final taste of the Frick, we headed out in our various directions for home. Another fine B- Ride's enjoyment.

RALPH



PARKER'S FIRST

Sonny Robison

The East breakfast Ride at Christmas time occurred with good riding weather to boot - What better excuse do you need for a ride? Well, in my case, there were a couple more.

Stepson, Eric Trow, called to inform me that he was planning to take his son, Parker, on his first group ride. Eric has been teaching Parker to ride since he was a little guy, first on a dirt bike—just as his Grandfather had done with he and his brother Rob—now, since he is 17, on the road bikes, progressing from all the parking lot maneuvers to early street rides around Monroeville / Murrysville areas. So now he wanted a road ride of some distance and more people along. Would I be interested? OH YEAH!!

It so happened that Eric's brother, Rob, who now lives in L.A., was visiting us for the Holidays. He would also LOVE to go along. Eric agreed to supply a bike and riding gear for him, so it was a done deal.

The ride was set for Saturday. Now, I informed them that it was also the day set for the East B-ride and suggested that it would be a good starting spot, and also expose Parker to some BMW riders, etc. All agreed, arriving at Dick's just as four more riders showed up to enjoy the gathering. Every one enjoyed the meal, the conversation, and getting acquainted with a new rider from the Murrysville area and Parker and Rob. These good times are also a BIG PART of the breakfast rides idea.

With the meal over and pictures taken, riders separated, heading in their own directions, leaving the Parker group to proceed on the route discussed inside - towards the Ohio pyle area. Eric led off on his '98 Moto Guzzi Centaro Sport, Parker next on Eric's '02 BMW 1150R, Rob was riding a supplied '98 Triumph Thunderbird 900,

and I brought up the rear on my 1200 C - Montana (or Monty for short). All tanks were filled, and the open road was ahead. Good start!

The idea was for Parker to experience his first exploration of some area back roads with a group accompanying, so Eric headed south on School Road out of Murrysville, then the Harrison City/manor Road and on through Adamsburg to Rte 136: a good road



for the first ride. 136 led toward West Newton, then Rte 31 took us to Mount Pleasant, where Parker and Rob pulled off for a pit stop, leaving Eric to go on till he discovered no one behind, and returned.

While at the stop, Parker and Rob switched bikes. Eric decided to follow Parker and suggested that I lead the way to Ohiopyle for the next stop. We went off again on Rte 31 through Donegal, turned right onto Rte 711 toward Normalville. After passing through Champion area we came up behind a trailer truck loaded with lumber. Most of the highway there is double-lined and the speed limit is in the 45 mph range. The truck was able to manage that speed plus maybe 5 mph more or less. When a passing lane did appear, opposing traffic was too close to allow the attempt, so I was content to just follow: no hurry.

I did notice a car that had closed in behind Rob some time back, but thought little of it since no one could “legally” pass the truck in front. Then, upon reaching Normalville the truck turned right and we went left. The car also followed left, still behind Rob. This road, as most know, has little traffic and you can up the pace a bit. With this group and my traffic citation history, I chose to stay close to the



posted limits and was riding at about the plus 5 or so mph (supposed allowance) over. Short of the Mill R Reservoir location I heard a bunch of horn blasts coming from behind and, checking my mirrors, I saw Eric and Rob riding side by side and Parker pulling to the side of the road. The car was forcing its way past in a no passing zone by crowding into the bikes. I slowed and pulled over as it passed—just

before a one-way bridge came into view. ...Found out later he had crowded up to Rob and forced him aside to keep from being hit, and then with fingers waving and shouting (whatever) went on to Eric, who then got Parker’s attention and mine. All over and no damage, but——!

Next came the Ohiopyle Park: Break time. There was almost no one there. A bit chilly to be sure, but... No one? Well, parking lot’s empty, shops closed, rafting not functioning, so we pulled into the area just behind the rest rooms. Found the rooms open and a good surprise: they were warm. Parker was not so well prepared to go for the chilly mountain air, and was showing it. Rob, being from the L.A. area was sure not accustomed to the chill either, so this stop was well received. We enjoyed walking about the park for a while, once the chill was off. With so few people around and access to move about, the scenes provided views that were outstanding. Lots of water spelled rushing currents and beautiful water falls. But I forgot to take out my camera. Dang!!

Next direction was to return, via Connellsville to Rte 51, etc. So, still leading, I headed up the Kentucky Knob road then went right to go to Dunbar via the Furnace Hill road. Next, Rte 119 to Rte 201 and thus on to 51 and Perryopolis. Here we stopped for a late lunch at Randall’s Restaurant. GOOD FOOD ALL THE TIME. Also a good opportunity to acquaint Parker with the old adage, “Eat to ride and ride to eat.” It’s biking isn’t it?



So after the good food and full stomachs, I headed the group up 51 to a turnoff just short of I-70 to Smithton, then followed the pathways to Turkey Town where we again merged with Rte 31 and onto Rte 136 toward home. Eric, feeling satisfied with Parker’s progress here decided to enjoy some of his style of riding, came to the front, and increased the pace a bit. He sure likes those nice ‘sweeper’ turns on that road. So, he followed the outbound course, altering it as we closed on his home, near Irwin. Good ride! —Covered 130 miles.

At Eric’s place we all stopped, while some photos were taken and congratulations were given for Parker’s First. Not too bad for a “starter.” Hope he has a lifetime of enjoyment, if that be his choice. My ride on home was another 7 miles. En route, covering some rough surfaced pavement, I discover a loud banging on the bike’s fuel tank. At first, I thought it was something in the Tank bag; nope... it was windshield support. It was broken and banging the bottom of the instrument cluster. OH BLAST! - There goes more bucks!! But hey, it was a good ride on a nice day, so who can really complain? Not me!! Hope yours was as nice.

SONNY



Four Winds BMW Riders
c/o Ralph Meyer, Editor
6056 Meadow Lane
Bakerstown, PA 15007-9720

**HOW DO I JOIN
FOUR WINDS BMW
RIDERS?**

To join, come to a meeting and introduce yourself. Meetings are listed here in the Newsletter and in the schedule of events on the Web Site, www.4windsbmw.org.

Membership dues are \$15 per year for primary membership, and \$7.50 per year for associate members residing in the same household as a primary member.

DIRECTIONS TO THE FEB. MEETING

The February 17, 2007 regular meeting of the Four Winds BMW Riders' Club will be held at 2:00 PM at Magoo's Bar & Bistro, 9101 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, Ph.: 412-635-2300. Magoo's is across from Cumberland Rd at the stoplight.

Menu:

Magoo's Steak Salad - Grilled steak, fries, Cheddar and Gouda cheeses, tomatoes, cucumbers, red onion, bacon, Romaine lettuce, and served with ranch dressing.

Magoo's Grilled Burger - An incredible 8oz of USDA choice beef served with your choice of toppings.**

Pittsburgh Fish Sandwich Delicate beer-battered cod fried to golden brown. This is one huge sandwich**

Magoo's Steak Sandwich - Grilled flat iron steak, fresh mozzarella, with sautéed peppers & onions on a hoagie bun**

**sandwiches include your choice of house cut fries, creamy cole slaw, green salad, or apple jicama slaw.

From the South: Take Rte 19, Perry Hwy, North. Magoo's will be on your left at the Cumberland Rd traffic light (about .5 miles North of CCAC North Campus and about 1.9 miles North of the intersection of the Green Belt and Perry Hwy.).

From the North: Take Rte 19, Perry Hwy, South to the traffic light at Cumberland Rd. Turn right at the light into Magoo's parking lot. Magoo's is approximately 3 miles South of European Motorcycles of Pittsburgh and about 4.1 miles South of the Orange Belt (Rte 910).

Magoo's GPS coordinates: N40.57195 W80.03699.