

# MAY



# 2007

MOA # 6

[www.4windsbmw.org](http://www.4windsbmw.org)

RA # 76

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Boy, I hated to miss the April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. The weather was great, I'm told that Gary batted one out of the park with his A/V presentation and our club gained some new members to boot. I missed all this fun on my birthday no less, because I am enrolled in classes to become an MSF Basic RiderCoach™.

I hold Jurgen Brune responsible for this. Jurgen is an MSF Basic RiderCoach™ whose boundless enthusiasm for coaching newbie riders impressed me. I shared this with my wife Hilary and she had a sudden epiphany on how I might surrender my last few scraps of leisure time.

"I proclaim that henceforth, you shall devote yourself tirelessly to teaching newbies to ride motorcycles."

Okay, she didn't say it in Elizabethan English, but the dramatic effect was roughly the same.

I promised to look into it, but no matter how much I waffled, she insisted this was something I should seriously pursue. The MSF is a serious commitment of time and I keep my riding time sacred. But listening to your wife is even more important. This is one point on which my fourth and final bride Hilary, my three ex-wives and I would all agree. I agreed to give it my best shot.

The first night of class and the first day on the range (*for me*) was a living hell. Being an experienced rider and suffering though an entry level instruction on how to operate the clutch was almost more than I could bear. I absolutely hated it and, by the end of a very long day, I was determined to drop out.

But Hilary wouldn't let me. Our bargain was that I would get some rest and go back the next morning, I would take the test(s) and attain my Basic Rider Course™ certificate so at least I could bow out with some measure of accomplishment.

But by the second day, the riding exercises were sufficiently challenging to stave

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off boredom and I found myself enjoying the day. After a full morning of practice on the range myself and the other would-be Basic RiderCoaches™ lined up to take the skills test. When the skills test was over I was astonished to find out that 5 out of 14 BRC candidates did not make the cut.

Rather than gloat (*or find amusement in the knowledge that most of the failing group rode the same brand of motorcycle*), I was humbled in the knowledge that I had made some of their same mistakes on my practice runs, but was fortunate enough to nail the test.

So aside from patience, humility and the already self-evident fact that my wife is smarter than me, I learned two interesting nuggets about riding. Did you know that If

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007

**President – Mitch Kehan**  
[j.kehn@verizon.net](mailto:j.kehn@verizon.net)

**Vice President – Gary Smith**  
412-922-7909  
[shack.smith@verizon.net](mailto:shack.smith@verizon.net)

**Treasurer – Tom Primke**  
412-828-3413  
[tomprimke@juno.com](mailto:tomprimke@juno.com)

**Corres. Sec'y – Sean Barrett**  
724-941-1543  
[nancyandsean@comcast.net](mailto:nancyandsean@comcast.net)

**Rec. Sec'y – Jürgen Brune**  
412-418-4626  
[jurgen@brune.ws](mailto:jurgen@brune.ws)

**Director – Ralph Meyer**  
724-443-4937  
[meyer@zoominternet.net](mailto:meyer@zoominternet.net)

**Director – Jay Singh**  
412-967-9314  
[singhix@earthlink.net](mailto:singhix@earthlink.net)

## MAY MEETING INFO

The next regular club meeting of the Four Winds BMW Riders will be held Sat, May 19, 2007, at Pavilion #3 in Washington County's Mingo Creek Park off SR136 from 2–4:30PM. Board meeting is from 1–2PM. Bring your own sack lunch & drink. Map of where the park is is on p. 11.

## 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., Aug. Meeting: Aug. 21; **Sept. issue deadline: Tues., Aug. 24th**). 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](http://www.4windsbmw.org). Download a free Adobe PDF reader by clicking the 'Get Adobe Reader' button at [www.adobe.com](http://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.**

**May 19, 2007** — 2:00 PM at a pavilion in Mingo Creek County Park--which borders SR136.

**June, 2007** — Prez's Ride to Johnstown Brewing Co.

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

**September, 2007** — Leo and Holly Stanton's, Findleyville

**October, 2007** — The Bellaluna Trattoria, Rte 22Eastbound, Monroeville

**November, 2007** — The Rythm Room in Bridgeville - tentative

## SHACK MEETING MAY 16

**7:00PM at Carl Hartz's**, 69 Steen Hollow Road, Oakdale, PA 15071, Ph.: 724-693-0219. Carl has volunteered to host the end of season Shack picnic again. Usually hot dogs and hamburgers, soft & malt beverages. Bring supplemental rations if you care to; sides, desserts, kielbasa, Johnsonville brats.

**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.

## 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, May 6 — North at King's, I-79 & Rt 910/VIP Dr., 10:00 AM

Sat, May 12 — West at Eat n' Park, Rt 60 & 22/30, 9:00 AM

Sun, May 20 — South at King's, 3049 Washington Pike, off Exit 54, I-79, Bridgeville, 10:00 AM

Sat, May 26 — 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.

you raise the face shield on your full-faced helmet while at a stop light with no other glasses on underneath, it is a violation that you can be ticketed for? Did you know that almost 50% of motorcycle accidents involve alcohol? Something for our rally rats to think about.

Hey, see you at Mingo Park in May!

MITCH



## 4 WINDS BMW RIDERS CLUB MEETING MINUTES

**MARCH 17, 2007 AT TOLLERICO'S, MONROEVILLE**

Vice President Gary Smith presided in the absence of President Mitch Kehn.

Board attendance: Gary Smith, Jay Singh, Tom Primke, Sean Barrett and Jürgen Brune

*The following folks were introduced and were guests at the meeting:*

- \* Jeff & Georgeanne Burgess
- \* Chris McCray, Sutersville

*The following new members joined our club and introduced themselves at the meeting:*

- \* Howard & Alice Britzer, Verona
- \* Larry Morley, New Brighton
- \* Fred Ohsol, Upper St. Clair
- \* Chuck Weber, Pleasant Hills
- \* Peggy Spangler (Chris's wife), Penn Hills

In Addition, Walter Halaja submitted that Dave Manfredo was introduced to the club members by Walt and joined the club at the March meeting. Dave is a retired Deputy Chief from the Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire & rides a 2007 R1200RT BMW "RED",

*Gary listed several upcoming events:*

- \* April 29: Track Day at BeaveRun, organized by Lee. Few people have signed up so far so contact Lee asap by calling 724-934-4269. For more info visit Lee's web site at <http://www.bmwpg.com/>
- \* May 19: Club Meeting in Mingo Park, location TBA
- \* May 19: Classic & vintage show-n-shine at Bob's BMW
- \* May 20: Classic MC meet in Germantown MD, featuring the BMW marque
- \* June 7-10: RA Rally at the Biltmore Estate, Asheville North Carolina. This place is worth visiting - rally fee includes entry to the estate.
- \* June 16: President's Ride and Club Meeting in Moraine State Park, organized by Ed Syphan
- \* June 24: Tour de Cure for Diabetes bicycle ride and fundraiser. They need motorcycle patrols for the ride - contact Tom Primke if interested.
- \* June 30: Redbank project, we will build picnic tables and perhaps install electric hand dryers in the bathrooms.
- \* July 21: July Meeting at Moraine State Park, 2-5PM, Pavilion # 3.

Treasurer Tom Primke reminds those members who have not paid their 2007 membership dues to do so asap to ensure that we have enough cash flow to fund the rally.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

JÜRGEN BRUNE, RECORDING SECRETARY

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## FIRST SHENANDOAH RALLY AT SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK MAY 18 - 20, 2007

This one's different! It will put you smack dab into Mother Nature's springtime in the mountains. Get to know a beautiful national park: wildflowers at peak blossoming, deer sightings plentiful and bear sightings possible. No commercial venues, no rides to benefit chari-

ties (useful as those are), no sales pitches. Instead, excellent hospitality throughout the Park, eat when you like, complimentary coffee, hot cocoa, tea, and fresh popcorn made to order!, ride where you like, hike or bike, rest beside a waterfall, or simply snooze on a warm rock. Skyline Drive, with continuous sweepers along the ridge of the Blue Ridge Mountains, provides panoramic views at numerous pull-offs plus great 'cycling opportunities. FREE Online Registration. Participants who register by May 11 will receive FREE Chili Dinner on Friday evening and will be guaranteed receipt of a custom complimentary ceramic FREE Camping Mug to commemorate this first Shenandoah Rally.

Complete Rally Details and Registration Form at [www.ShenandoahRally.com](http://www.ShenandoahRally.com)

Contact Bob Gage <[info@mini-tent-trailer.com](mailto:info@mini-tent-trailer.com)> with any questions.

Bob Gage Sez: Several items have been upgraded for the Shenandoah Rally in May, including FREE Registration, FREE Friday Night Chili Dinner, FREE ceramic Camping Mug, etc. Please forward this information to your membership and/or newsletter editor for distribution.

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## '07 ADA TOUR DE CURE

*from Tom Primke*

As every year the American Diabetes Association (ADA) will hold their annual bicycle ride and fund raising event "Tour de Cure" in the second half of June. The 2007 Tour de Cure will get underway on Sunday June 24th. My employer is a major sponsor of the event and my coworker and friend Chuck is putting together a motorcycle support team. All bicycle routes start at Seneca Valley High school near Zelienople. Typically there are 4 or 5 different loops with the most challenging loop being approx. 100 miles long. Some of you have already volunteered in the past and know the drill: Usually we meet at Eppinger's Restaurant on Hwy. 19 just north of Portersville for breakfast at approx. 8:30. About an hour later we join Chuck's volunteer team at the McConnells Mill State Park a few miles northwest of Eppingers. After receiving instructions, we will ride the 100 mile loop in the reverse direction. If the routes are the same as in past years, the 100 mile loop will lead through Ellwood City, bypass New Castle to the West, turn east at the northernmost point near New Wilmington, continue east through Volant and eventually turn south towards Zelienople. When we encounter the first bicyclists while riding the loop in reverse direction motorcycle volunteers will be deployed in teams of two at critical intersections or turns to direct traffic and to ensure no one gets lost. Some of the 100 mile contestants may also need a little cheer and emotional push. "Its practically all down hill from here.." and "The finish is just (knock off 25% from actual distance) miles from here.." have worked great. Occasionally we find other opportunities to help people in distress and to promote the public image of motorcyclists: In 2005 Four Winds volunteer John Lutz rescued a young lady with an infant whose car had stalled in 90 degree weather at the intersection where he was directing traffic. After all bicyclists have passed through, which typically takes 1-2 hours, we return to Seneca Valley High school where we will be treated to some refreshments. I don't want to hide that we had a few problems last year with the refreshments part because we arrived a little late at the finish. This year I will work with Chuck to ensure this won't happen again.

Interested Four Winds members please mark June 24th on your calendars and watch the Four Winds web site and message board for updates!

TOM



**SAFETY PIC OF THE MONTH**

Thanks to Kevin Hart who sent this one in!



*Continued from page 7*

locks the front wheels keeping the scooter upright at stops so you don't have to put your feet down to hold it up. The danger, however, isn't there; it's when you get back on your own 2 wheeler and still go hunting at the first stop you make for the little button on your own handgrip that now isn't there and the bike begins toppling. One could obviously get used to not having to put one's feet down immediately as 'landing gear' at stops all too easily.

Despite lowering skies, the rain never did come, and I got home around 1:30PM. I don't know when Dave left... but he'd said he noticed on the radar in the morning that the rain was coming in from the south so he had to hie outta there before it hit at home as he had a good ride down that-a-way to do before he got there. I trust he and everyone else made it home and in the dry, as I didn't notice any piddling in our birdbath out back—quickest way to tell it's raining around here—until around 4 whence it seems the rain gods finally awakened. Glad they slept most of the day!

RALPH



**BEEMERS IN A BUCKET**

*by Don Poremski*

How often it is that an idea, no matter how bizarre, once told, gains momentum if accepted by at least a few others. An example of this occurred on and before April Fool's Day, 2007.

It was called "Beemers in a Bucket" and was the brainstorm of Russ "Road Captain for Life" Davis of the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland or MOC. Apparently Russ likes to visit "Big Muskie," the name given to the huge bucket that once stripped soil and coal from Ohio's countryside. He's been there several times I think because it, the bucket, resides off state route 78, a really decent road for motorcycling in Ohio. So it was that seventeen BMW-mounted riders headed into Bristol County on a Sunday morning.

The day began with rain and windy conditions, but you must recall that riders get a little goofy at the beginning of a new riding season and can quickly and easily rationalize away the rigors of inclement weather. Lori's restaurant at the intersection of Interstate 77 and SR 78 provided the rendezvous for riders coming from various starting points. Names you would recognize from Pennsylvania were Trent Denison and the author. There were other non-MOC guys there who were also tempted by what might have been a Guinness World Book of Records attempt (The most motorcycles ever to occupy Big Muskie's bucket...), but all would be thwarted this day.

The "teeth" that in the photos looked as if they might act as loading ramps had too sharp an angle at the top to allow the underside of a bike to pass. The main portion of the bucket was too high to physically lift any of the bikes into it. "Beeming Bettie" took a person-assisted run at doing so and got a ding in the oil pan for her effort. Rats! (Editor's note: I think the author's vexed exclamation is the consequence of the fact that "Beeming Bettie" was his personal and beloved R80—a young lady deserving better treatment at the hands [teeth?] of Big Muskie's bucket. However, as your 4-Winds NL ersatz editor received this article but shortly later, it is to be concluded that she got the author home safely and didn't hold this bold but deleterious attempt in contempt.)

We were all turned away by the ramp problem from an epic photo op, but things weren't completely that bad. The rain stopped, the sun shown in sporadic bursts at first, then more enthusiastically, and the balance of the day proved more than acceptable for the ride home. We came, we saw, but conquering will require more planning and a chase vehicle to bring a ramp. What a concept!

DON

Note the picture of the attempt! >



**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.

**Information on the "Motorbike Concerto":** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motorbike\\_Concerto](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motorbike_Concerto). Ted Sohier said that this is an interesting item concerning a concerto written by Swedish composer Jan Sandström in 1989. You might want to Google this one to find where you can get or hear the music.



### HEY MA, WE SHRUNK THE CLUB!

Or is that the Big Muskie dragline bucket sporting some of the intrepid BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland?



Hmmmm. Wonder if this thing'd be good to garage the R80 in? But howcum the ramp's so dang steep? No roof, either. Mebbe we'd better just leave this monster here.

Many thanks to Don Poremski for the pics! --taken on BMWOC's ride to the Big Muskie Bucket. Big Muskie, the name of the gigantic dragline to which the bucket once belonged, sad to say went up in flames some years ago due to what appears to have been a fire started by an electrical problem. Given the size of this bucket, can you imagine how gigundus the whole thing must've been? Look at the size of those chain links on the picture above. They sure aren't what you want to use to connect your pet beagle to his doghouse!



### 1 PFERDSTARKE HACK!

While waiting for the rest of his BMW-mimicing Ural to be returned from repair at the factory, Ivan Petranovich tests his sidecar to see if it still rides well. Note the temporary high tech organic 'engine' exhaust deflector.

Many thanks to Dave (2-Spark) McLaughlin for the neat picture!

### TRICYCLE, ANYONE?

Is this the experimental test model for the latest Hardley or Honda tricycle conversion? Take note of the size of the counterweight! Perhaps a sidecar would really have been in order! Rumor is that engineering has yet to determine whether to go into production. Depends on whether sufficient counterweights of the proper volume can be found for this particular configuration.

Many thanks to Jürgen Brune for sending in this fine engineering test pic!



### BMW MOA '07 MILEAGE CONTEST

The BMW MOA 2007 Mileage Contest is on. It runs from April 14th through October 14th. Forms are in your BMW ON--it's that yellow thingy between pages 106 and 107 of the April Issue. It tears right out easily. Deadline for getting in starting forms is May 15th. If they're postmarked by that date, they're acceptable. You don't have to use the form in ON either, if you don't want to. Just send your starting mileage(s) with name, bike(s) year and type [MUST be BMW(s)] to Karon Patzer, c/o BMW MOA, P.O. Box 3982, Ballwin, MO 63022. We only had a few of our 4-Winds members put in their mileages last year. Let's do better this year. According to reports, the Minnesota Club must have either had the highest average miles, or the most members reporting--I don't know how they determined the club winner, but surely we have more BMW MOA members than the few whose names showed up in the state-by-state list of finishers. You don't even have to have a magnificent amount of miles to be counted and get a pin... One RS rider in PA only recorded 197 miles! You do have to include your name, address and MOA number and have two MOA members sign your form or home-made entry slip including their MOA numbers and the date. Or you can get one of our fine 'Burgh BMW dealers' folks' signature to be 'official.' That shouldn't be hard. Just be sure to get your slip postmarked and off to Karol on or before May 15th! Git 'R Done!



**WEST BREAKFAST RIDE**  
**SATURDAY, APR 14, 2007**

*Ralph Meyer*

The weather gods in April have been paying those of us who live in and around the 'Burgh back for the relatively decent weather we got in January when they forgot to throw at us the ice, snow, sleet, and the rest of the wintry crap that causes bikers to blatherate about a thing they call a 'riding season.' Seems, according to the general opinion of such, that this animal ends somewhere around October, and begins again somewhere around April or May. Such folks are also the same as often trailer Hardley-Ablesons to within a few miles of their destination before starting to ride them and who are equally often found huddling under overpasses during drizzles. Beemer riders, on the other hand, mostly rejecting the title 'biker' in favor of the more accurate term 'motorcyclist,' let neither temperature nor time of year deter them from their favorite rounds, but only will be noticed cursing the weather while riding when it makes things a bit difficult. In any event, on the morning of April the 14th, however, the weather gods were asleep at the switch, the sun was actually out early on, and the meteorological mavens who track the meandering results of these undesirably precocious deities said there would be no rain or snow until later in the afternoon... around 3:00PM... or so.

That prediction being made the day previous to the April West Breakfast Ride, Walt Halaja posted on the web site that he'd therefore be at the West Breakfast Ride; I checked the Meteor Mavens Logic the next morning early so see if the prognostication remained as the night before, and it did, so I said I'd be there too. The weather gods remained somnolent, and five motorcyclists showed up at the Eat 'n Park at the juncture of Rte 22 & 60 in Robinson: Rick Spangler on his beautiful new '06 K1200S, Frank Beatrous purred in on the ever faithful K100, Dave "Two Spark" McLaughlin on his ever popular (show me some long roads—dirt or otherwise!) GS1200, and Walt and I on Traveler and Magic respectively: our back-road loving, Interstate 18-wheeler blasting R1200RTs.

Having done the Park bit, we adjourned to the Eat segment of Eat 'n Park, absorbing some fine local chickens' ovoid offerings that had been scrambled, omeletted, or done nicely over light. These were accompanied by a tasty assortment of porky products, toast, and 'tater goodies all washed down with coffee and everything delightfully seasoned with fine conversation. After the manner of the Blue Collar Comedians' "Here's your sign" remembrances, we got another to add to their unending store, as a fellow just leaving stopped our table and pointing at our leathers, boots, and such asked, "Are

you fellows motorcycling?" "Nah," one of our smarter-assed number answered with a smile, "These are our walkin' togs!" ...Theerrre's your sign! ...After a hearty laugh, he wished us a safe and dry trip, which was nice.

Having paid our breakfast bills, we headed out. We decided that, since our friend Lee Marks and his cohorts were holding their annual spring Open House at European Motorcycles of Pittsburgh, the 'birthplace' of most if not all of our bikes, we should attend and drogle (drool over and ogle) the new and other stuff. Having nominated Walt as our fearless leader because he knows really neat back roads by which to meander us more or less in Lee's general direction so that we'd arrive in time for our drogleing project and still beat the rain home, we were off and rolling. Walt led us a merry chase up, down, and all around eventually winding (and I do mean winding) up at the Sewickley bridge, and thence, more or less, back and forth on the orange and red belts... somewhat... after a fashion. There was, I vaguely recall, one short straight stretch, but Walt got us through that before anyone had a chance to complain of boredom. At several points the terminology "carrying the mail" applied nicely to Walt's method of handling these twisties. The man is good!

We arrived at Lee's after our meander in plenty of time to examine the goodies, enjoy some munchies, and chat with several other 4 Winds folks who were present while we were there—Ed Tatters, Carl Hartz, Ron Latkovic, Bob Wyner, and Tim Pears. I think I also saw Mark Zang but didn't have a chance to say Hi.

Frank and I both drooled over the Ducati Sport-touring ST3... though its system cases are a bit smaller in the touring realm than the RT's. Frank commented that the Duc's emphasis was no doubt on the 'sport side' of the equation. I had to agree—what's not to like about a bike decked out with that inimitable Italian styling in Ducati Red? We noted as well a new BMW 'G' bike as well as one of the new vertical twins. M'sieu le Cycleholic (Ron) said he'd test ridden the twin and admitted he hadn't stopped drooling over that one. Said it was really light and nimble in the twisties. The Moto G looked like it could well hold its own at an ISDT—it looked that capable. And, of course, there were the new K-bikes. I salivate yet over both the 'S' and the 'GT'. Gotta stop that. It'll make my RT jealous.

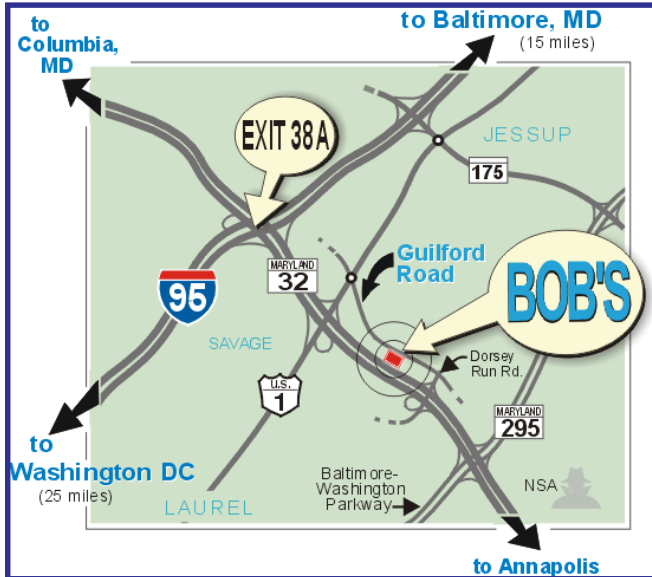
The parking lot was filled with all sorts of other good things new and newer, including the Piaggio 3 wheel scooter. Ron told me he'd given that one a test spin too and that it was a bit dangerous—one could get much too used to hitting the button on the handgrip that

*Continued on page 4*

**BMW CLASSIC MC SHOW  
& BOB'S BMW CLASSIC "SHOW AND SHINE"  
MAY 19TH & 20TH.**

Gary Smith and Al Vangura will be present and providing tech demos at Bob's BMW at Jessup, MD, and the Classic Motorcycle Show in Germantown, MD on those dates. Check out these events:

**Saturday, May 19:**



Bob's BMW (<http://www.bobsbmw.com/index.html> - see the event calendar for May) in Jessup Maryland will be holding a Classic BMW "Show and Shine" that Bob's has described as follows:

*Show 'n' Shine for Classic and Vintage BMWs 5/19/2007*

It's our Show and Shine for the Classic Beemers of the '70s and '80s and the Vintage Beemers that made their mark prior to 1970! Whether you STILL have that precious bike that was your best friend during those wild and oh-so-bad fashion days or those who own and ride the beautiful Vintage two wheelers that built the foundation of BMW today, join us at our Show and Shine as we take a step back in BMW history.

That's on Saturday, the 19th, and if the times are the same as Bob's GS Day April 21st, the Show and Shine'll be from 9AM to 4PM.

The address of Bob's BMW is 10720 Guilford Road, Jessup, MD 20794, Ph.: 301-497-8949. GPS coordinates (approx.) are: N39.13330 W76.79988.

**Sunday, May 20:**

A Classic British & European Motorcycle Day (<http://www.classicmotorcycleday.org/index.htm>) will be held from 10 am to 5 pm - Rain or Shine - at Butler's Orchard, Germantown Maryland, about 35 miles WNW from Bob's BMW. Beemers are featured classic Marque this year, though other marques will also be present.

Admission is \$10 but Children under 12 get in free

*The show will feature:*

- Concourse show with over 60 awards
- Swap Meet vendor area
- Door Prizes
- Tech Sessions
- Noon Rev-O-Lee (Battle of the Bike Sounds)
- Vintage Trials Demonstration

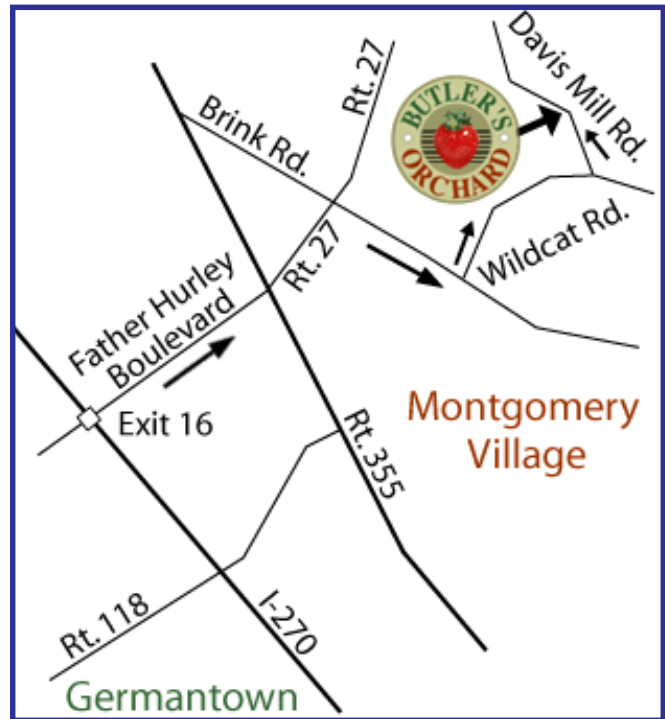
- Food & Beverages will be available
- Featured Marque for 2007: BMW

Judging begins at 12:30, awards ceremony at 3 pm. No extra charge to enter the Concours. Food concessions and commemorative rights reserved.

**Door Prize Info:**

Upon admission at the gate, you will receive a two-part door prize ticket. Take the tickets to the door prize booth near the stage and drop 1 part of the ticket in the bucket. Keep the part that says "Keep this coupon". Every hour beginning at 11:00 am, door prizes' winning numbers will be drawn. The winning numbers will be posted on a board at the door prize booth. Check back to see if you've won. The prizes will be displayed, and you will get your choice of prizes.

**The location of Butler's Orchard is:**



22200 Davis Mill Road, Germantown, MD 20876, Ph.: 301-972-3299, GPS Coordinates (approximate): N39.21933 W77.22160

**Accommodations near Butler's Orchard**

The following is a list of hotels and motels in the vicinity of Classic Motorcycle Day's venue, Butler's Orchard. Classic Motorcycle Day, Inc. does not endorse any particular hotel or motel and provides this list as a courtesy to our patrons. No camping at Butler's Orchard.

The nearest motel is the Hampton Inn, 20260 Goldenrod Lane, Germantown, MD 20876, (301-428-1300)

*Other nearby Hotels/Motels:*

**Gaithersburg (about 5 miles)**

- Comfort Inn, 16216 Frederick Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, (301-330-0023)
- Courtyard By Marriott, 805 Russell Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20879, (301-670-0008)
- Econo Lodge, 18715 N Frederick Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20879, (301-963-3840)
- Hilton, 620 Perry Pkwy, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, (301-977-8900)
- Holiday Inn, 2 Montgomery Village Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20879, (301-948-8900)



Holiday Motel, 807 S Frederick Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, (301-948-1111)

Marriott Hotels & Resorts, 9751 Washingtonian Blvd, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, (301-590-0044)

Motel 6, 497 Quince Orchard Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, (301-977-3311)

#### *Rockville (about 8 miles)*

Best Western Inn, 1251 W Montgomery Ave, Rockville, MD 20850, (301-424-4940)

Colonial Manor Inn, 11410 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, (301-881-5200)

Courtyard By Marriott, 2500 Research Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850, (301-670-6700)

Days Inn, 16001 Shady Grove Rd, Rockville, MD 20850, (301-948-4300)

Doubletree Hotel, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, (301-468-1100)

Quality Inn, 3 Research Ct, Rockville, MD 20850, (301-840-0200)

Ramada Inn, 1775 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, (301-881-2300)

Red Roof Inn, 16001 Shady Grove Rd., Rockville, MD 20850, (301-987-0965)

Sleep Inn, 3 Research Ct, Rockville, MD 20850, (301-948-8000)

#### *Frederick (about 25 miles away)*

Comfort Inn, 420 Prospect Blvd, Frederick, MD 21701, (301-695-6200)

Days Inn, 5646 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick, MD 21704, (301-694-6600)

Fairfield Inn, 5220 Westview Dr, Frederick, MD 21703, (301-631-2000)

Hampton Inn, 5311 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick, MD 21704, (301-698-2500)

Holiday Inn Express, 5579 Spectrum Dr, Frederick, MD 21703, (301-695-2881)

Holiday Inn, 5400 Holiday Dr, Frederick, MD 21703, (301-694-7500)

Holiday Inn, 999 W Patrick St, Frederick, MD 21702, (301-662-5141)

I-70 Motor Inn, 200 Walser Dr, Frederick, MD 21704, (301-663-0500)

Knights Inn, 6005 Urbana Pike, Frederick, MD 21704, (301-698-0555)

Super 8 Motel, 5579 Spectrum Dr, Frederick, MD 21703, (301-695-2881)

#### *Camping*

LITTLE BENNETT REGIONAL PARK CAMPGROUND, 23701 Frederick Road (Rt. 355), Clarksburg, MD 20871, is just a few miles north of Butler's Orchard. General information: "Each of Little Bennett's 91 campsites offer a tranquil setting with ample opportunities to enjoy the scenic splendor of the park. Campsite amenities include a parking pad, a picnic table and a campfire ring. Many sites have a tent pad and a lantern post. Comfort stations with sinks, showers, toilet facilities and drinking fountains are located within walking distance. Water spigots are randomly located throughout each camping loop. Twenty five campsites are available with electrical hookups. The central dump station is situated adjacent to the registration office. The laundry room, with coin operated washers and dryers, is located behind the activity center." Registration/Reservation

Office: 301/972-9222. Registration office is open Sunday-Thursday from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. Friday and Saturday from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm.

CHERRY HILL CAMP CITY, 9800 Cherry Hill Road, College Park, MD (301) 937-7116 (about 25 miles away)

FREDERICK COUNTY 4-H CAMP CTR, 3702 Basford Rd, Frederick, MD 21703 (301) 695-1509 (about 25 miles away)

RAMBLIN PINES INC., 801 Hoods Mill Rd., Woodbine, MD (410) 795-5161 (about 25 miles away)



### HOW WE WERE

*by Walt Halaja*

I have no record of a May 1997 newsletter, so lets take another look at items in that April, 1997 issue!

- 1) "Spring to Al's for fix-up fun" It's a rite of spring as old as the hills. The spring fix up meeting at Al Vangura's in Clairton, Pa. April 19th from noon to 4 PM. The actual club meeting was at 4 PM with pizza afterwards. There were accoutrements for cleaning the bikes after their long winter nap. There was equipment for throttle body and carb syncs. The actual meeting site was Vangura Tool!

SPECIAL MENTION - things available:

- A) From Heritage BMW- Special bike cleaner
  - B) Dick Holland- BMW computerized Synchro-Tester
  - C) Gary, now "Ambassador," Smith- Vacuum brake bleeder
- 2) Al Vangura led a group ride to an upcoming Bob's BMW Flea Market (In Jessup, MD!), on Fri. April 25th. They spent the night in an area hotel. Attended the flea market Sat. AM, then rode home Sat. afternoon!
  - 3) "Four Winds Phone" The club had a call-in phone number to get club information or to leave messages for the officers! 344-3456, \*2- meeting info, or \*3 for ride info! (Don't try it now!) (And my, have we come a long way since then!) So Hats off to Frank Beatrous our 1st web-site Guru, and now President Mitch for our newest up-to-date current Guru!
  - 4) More from the February 22nd minutes that was held at the blue flame restaurant on Rt. 51 South of the 'Burgh:
    - A) the meeting came to order at 7:40 PM and adjourned at 8:55 PM. (Long Meeting, Huh?) Well the reason was probably because we had a guest speaker: Jim Shaw from Hinckley, Ohio, who was a friend of several club members. Jim was a candidate for Vice-President of our MOA! Did he get it, I wouldn't know!
    - B) Don Poremski was busy reviewing the club's By-Laws. Only a few revisions were to be made! We were asked to also remember that 4 winds BMW Riders Club was up for AMA renewal so we were told that our signatures were needed. If you are a member, it said, Please see Don! (I HAVE A QUESTION TO ANY CLUB OFFICER, DO WE STILL DO THIS NOW?)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

WALT



## PANCAKE AND SYRUP RUN TO MEYERSDALE, PA MARCH 29, 2007

by Walt Halaja

This run was supposed to happen on March 24, the scheduled East breakfast ride day, but didn't because of bad weather! Ralph and I tried this same run in '06 and got turned back because of the cold and the snow heading east bound right toward us! Well, the next scheduled breakfast was Sunday, April 1st, "Palm Sun. weekend" which wasn't good for me, so I e-mailed Ralph that I could go on Thursday, March 29th., really thinking he wouldn't go! Guess what! Ralph did say he could go that day, so it looked it would just be the two of us; meanwhile, Ralph did put up a post the day before on our web-site that he and I were going so we made our plan to meet at Dick's, have a "Jürgen breakfast"—just toast and coffee—so we could indulge in the maple syrup and pancakes despite both of us being diabetics! Well, we had more than just toast! Meanwhile, the morning of the ride, "Two Spark" Dave McLaughlin got in contact with Ralph and me to say he could meet us about half way down! NICE, and we thought there would be no GEM points for this ride! As it turned out, Ralph and I spent too much time at Dick's and had to use the Turnpike to hook up with Two Spark on time. We met Dave at 10:07 hrs. at a restaurant at the turn to 7 Springs off Rt. 711, where he was eating an apple dumpling—made us wish we hadn't eaten full breakfasts at Dick's! Leaving there with Two Spark, we arrived at the Meyersdale train station around 11:15 hrs. Ralph wanted to check this out as they were supposed to have a nice railroad model layout, but it turned out that the station was closed to the public because of a complete interior make over. We must have looked disappointed, as some kind workers inside saw us looking through the windows and invited us in to check the place out and show us what they were doing! We then went back downtown, had our pancakes, Maple syrup, and sausage in an old school building. On the way out, a young fellow asked me if I needed help to put all my gear back on, and with a quick glance I said "No thanks!" Oops! On second glance, I saw it was another Pittsburgh Fireman I know well: Fire Capt. Jerry Hirschfeld from Engine #4! Capt. Jerry had seen our post and just took a ride down solo. NICE! Capt. Jerry said he would ride back with us, so that was great! On the ride back, we parted with Two Spark at Rte's 381 and 711 as he had to swing south of the 'Burgh to get home while we went North. Two Spark knows his way around pretty well in that neck of the woods and helped us along the way to the good roads from the school where we had the pancakes and back to our point of parting. BTW, Two Spark told Ralph that he had created a writing Monster in me! Can you believe that? [Editor's note: Writing monsters're great! Luv all of 'em we can get!]

Since Ralph posted on the web-site and got the 3rd. rider—which kicked us into the GEM program, and given the fact that Ralph wanted me to lead, I said that I wanted to share the miles with him, but he refused. Not fair I thought!

My miles for the day were 193.3; I started at 07:26 AM and arrived home at 05:26 PM, nice day and ride even though we had some Turnpike miles! I wonder why motorcyclists have to pay the same fee as cages, as I think it should be at least 1/2 the cost of an auto for several reasons: much lighter wear and tear on the roadway, the fact that we are much less harmful to Global warming, and we use far less fuel than many other types of vehicles except maybe for Capt. Scooter's ride—I think he gets around 70 mpg on his 150 cc. Aprilia. OK... some might think, "Here goes Walt again with the money thing." I say, "Not so, because I have thought about this long before I was a club member!" Ha! But I do try to get the biggest bang out of the Buck that I can, you all know that, right? Ha!

\*\*\*"Jürgen Breakfast!" Jürgen is one of our members who rode any time he could find time to ride, be it on a breakfast ride or a rally! Every time Jürgen would come to a Breakfast, he would just have toast and juice: very light! So that's where the term "Jürgen breakfast" comes from! As Jürgen explained to me recently, it turns out that he awakes very early, around 5-ish, and has a good breakfast then; and here I thought toast and juice were all he was eating and was wondering how he could make it on such a light breakfast. So there you have it! While speaking of Jürgen, we just found out at our April meeting that he will be leaving us soon for a new position up in the Northwest to head up a Silver mine. So if you see Jürgen in the next few months bid him farewell and best wishes on his new journey in life! I know I will miss Jürgen because he is a great Motorcyclist and we have had a number of great rides together! [Editor's note: So will I! That summer Jürgen was between jobs, we had a great time getting lost hunting for covered bridges in Washington and Greene counties. Treasured on-the-road memories, indeed! He was also one of the "Four Angels" that saw me and the RT finally safe and sound the January Day I played "dive the RT into the miserable ditch." Fare ye well always, kind sir! We will indeed miss you!]

One more thing! The Post-Gazette printed an article about another Maple syrup festival the same day we did the Meyersdale run: the "Brady's Run Park Maple Syrup Festival," which celebrated its 30th one this year! I like it up that way too, so next year, I would like to try that one, how about you?

WALT



## PITTSBURGHIANs & TEMPS

Given the recent meteorological meanderations and such stuff in April around the 'Burgh, this information on Pittsburghian's response to such temperature related happenings appears interesting:

@ 70° above zero:

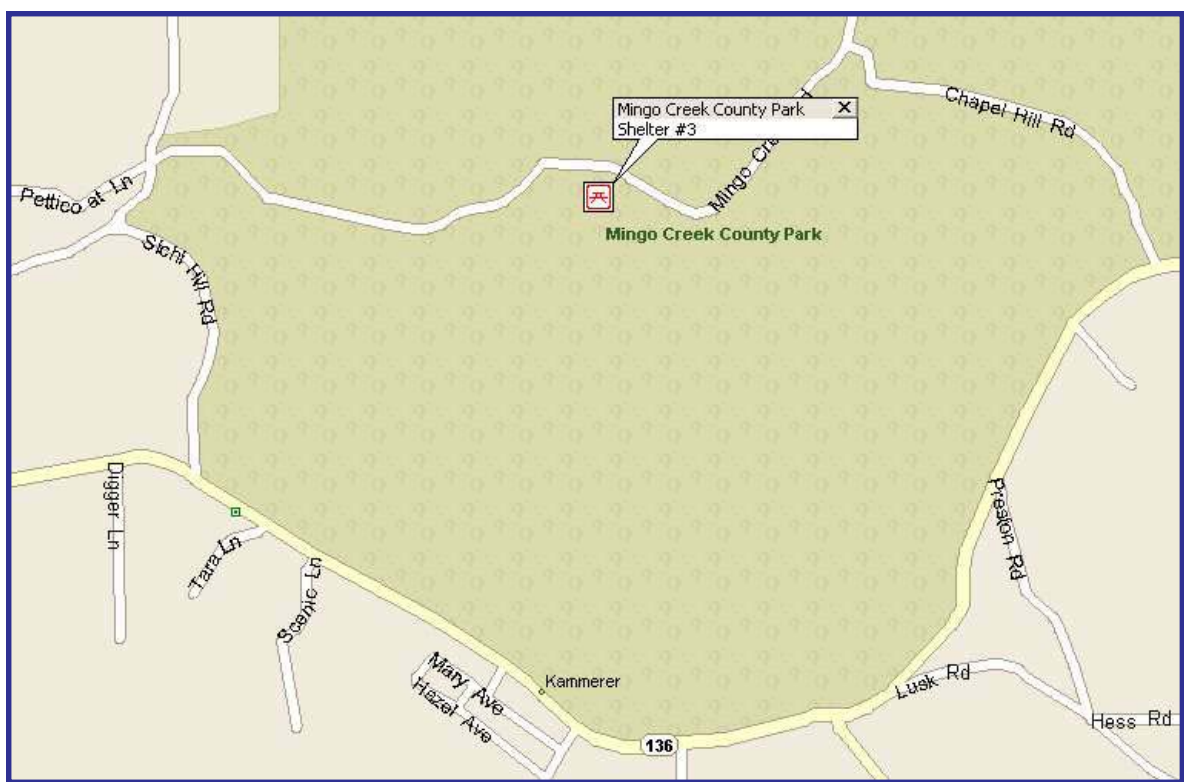
Georgians think it might warm up

Folks in Murrysville turn their air conditioning to 'Extra High'.

- @ 60° above zero:  
Floridians turn on the heat.  
People in Cranberry figure it's time to start their tomatoes.
- @ 50° above zero:  
Californians shiver uncontrollably.  
People in Pittsburgh prepare to sunbathe at Point State Park.
- @ 40° above zero:  
French & Italian cars won't start.  
People in Penn Hills drive with their windows down.
- @ 32° above zero:  
Distilled water freezes.  
The water in the Mon just gets a bit thicker.
- @ 20° above zero:  
Floridians don coats, thermal underwear, gloves, wool hats.  
People in Beaver throw on a flannel shirt
- @ 15° above zero:  
New York landlords finally turn up the heat.  
People in Dormont have the last cookout before it gets cold.
- @ Zero:  
People in Miami all die.

- Pittsburghers close their windows.
- @ 10° below zero:  
Californians rush south to Mexico  
People in Pittsburgh get out their winter coats.
- @ 25° below zero:  
Hollywood slides on ice into the Pacific.  
Girl Scouts in Eighty-Four sell cookies door to door.
- @ 40° below zero:  
Washington DC runs out of hot air.  
People in Butler let the dogs sleep indoors.
- @ 100° below zero:  
Santa Claus abandons the North Pole.  
Crafton folks get upset because they can't start their RTs.
- @ 460° below zero:  
ALL atomic motion stops (absolute zero on the Kelvin scale.)  
People in Allegheny County start saying..."Gettin' a bit cool, huh?"
- @ 500° below zero:  
Hell freezes over.  
Western Pennsylvania public schools will have a snow day (but only if it snows).

Note: All temperatures are Fahrenheit.



### MINGO CREEK PARK MAP

This shows the approximate location of Shelter #3 in Mingo Creek County Park in relation to local roads.



**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](http://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 MEETING:**

The May 19, 2007 meeting will be held from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM at Mingo Creek County Park's Pavilion # 3. Bring your own sack lunch and drink.

*GPS Coordinates:* N40 12.043 W80 01.203

*From East:* New Stanton- Take I-70 West; Merge onto PA -43 Turnpike North (portions toll); Take the Rt.-136 exit - Exit#44-toward Eighty Four/Monongahela; Turn left onto Dry Run Rd/Rt.-136. Continue to follow Rt. 136; Turn right onto Mansion Hill; Arrive Mingo Creek County Park .

*From West:* Take I-70 East; Same as *From South* (below) start at #2.

*From South:* Take I-79 North to I-70 East; Take I-70 East to the Dunningville Exit #27 ; Turn left onto Brownlee Road ; Take Brownlee Road for about 3 miles ; Turn right onto Rt. 136. Follow Rt. 136 for about 4 miles ; Start looking for a sign "Mingo Creek County Park" on the left ; Turn left onto Sichi Hill Road (across from Mingo Inn) ; At the bottom of hill bear right and take the next right into the park. Arrive Mingo Creek County Park .

*From North:* I-79 South ; Take Exit -9; Houston/Eighty Four ; Turn right onto Rt. 519 South ; You will go through two(2) stop signs, bearing right, stay on Rt. 519. Stay on Rt. 519 to the Rt. 519 and Rt. 136 intersection Eighty Four - note Cross Roads and Kwikfill Mini Marts; Turn Left onto Rt. 136 East; Go approximately six (6) miles and start to look for *Mingo Creek County Park* sign. Turn left onto Sichi Hill Road (across from Mingo Inn) ; At the bottom of hill bear right and take the next right into the park.