

# FEB.



# 2011

MOA # 6

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

RA # 76



### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A good time was had at the banquet this year. It was great to see everyone and catch up on what's going on.

As I mentioned last month, I am interested in starting a biography section in the newsletter. We have a lot of fascinating people in the club: racers, ex-racers, firemen, members that have ridden to Alaska, and some who have ridden in South America, (watch for a talk by Tony Capriotti on his South America ride at an upcoming meeting). Everyone has a story, so lets start with mine.

I got my first motorcycle at 15 years old without my dad's knowledge and no skills. I had a friend that raced "scrambles" and for \$25 we put together a Honda from parts that he had in his yard. It was great. The kick-starter was stripped, so it was a push start bike. Luckily it was light and sometimes even started! Out of necessity, I learned a lot about fixing bikes on the side of the road.

When I went to college, I picked up a Honda 160 Scrambler and then after college, I moved up to a Honda 300. In those days that was a good sized bike.

Finally I reached a point in my life where I could afford a car, but not a car and a bike; and since I wasn't living down south anymore, the car won out.

I didn't ride again until approximately 26 years ago, when one day, while walking with a gorgeous girl (known to most of you as Nancy Barrett), I noticed a motorcycle going by. I said to her, I would love to ride one of those again. Her response was that I

## DUES ARE DUE, SO DO YER DUES! THE MAIL-IN FORM IS ON PAGE 13.

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011

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### FEBRUARY MEETING INFO

The next meeting of the Four Winds BMW Riders will be held on Sat., Feb. 19, 2011 at the Perkins Family Restaurant, 20013 Rte 19, Cranberry Township, PA, 16066, from 12 to 3PM. The meal will be from the menu.



## 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. 19; **March issue deadline: Tues., March 22nd**). 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 2011

**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 19, 2011, 12PM—** Perkins Family Restaurant, 20013, Perry Hwy, Rte 19, Cranberry Twnshp, PA 16066

**March 19, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**April 16, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**May 21, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**June 18, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**July 16, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**August, 2011 — Friday, August 19 to Sunday, August 21**  
**45th Annual Four Winds Rally!**

**September 17, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**October 15, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**November 19, 2011, 12PM —** TBA

**December, 2011 —** No Monthly Meeting

## 2011 SHACKS

Keep an eye out on the web site all you lady and gentleman wrenchers and attendees out there, for any Shack locations and dates to help keep us smiling through the winter, and keep 'em rolling!

should buy one! So I did: a Honda 650. Nancy gradually became more comfortable on the back, so we started traveling further--short trips out of town with soft bags. Then, up to a Kawasaki 750 LTD, with large "sissy bar" on back, soft bags, tank bag, and a National Cycle Fairing bolted on the fork. Ask me someday about the sissy bar and French bread. Now we were able to do weekend trips out of town.

We moved to Pittsburgh in 1986 and started traveling with several friends that had an old Harley pan head dresser and a MotoGuzzi. We went all thru Pennsylvania, to the races at Mid Ohio, and down the Blue Ridge Parkway. We found ourselves traveling further and for longer periods. That is

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

Sat, Feb 12 — West at Bob Evans, Rt 60 & Campbell's Run Rd, 9:00 AM

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

Sat, Feb 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.

when we decided that we needed to move up to a better touring bike. We picked up a R80RT in Zanesville, Ohio and joined the club in 1990. Our first rally was 1991 and we have been involved since then. Other BMWs found their way home to us including an R1100RS, then an R1150RS and my current ride, an R1150RS dual plug.

My garage has 3 bikes: my R1150RS, Trick's R1100R (in storage for the winter) and the R65LS that Trick learned on.

I ride to work most of the year; like at

least one long ride a year, weekend trips, track days, rallies, and motorcycle races. We have traveled north to Quebec City (RA rally), south to Key West (after Daytona) and west to San Antonio (to say hi to a friend).

So that is me in a nutshell.

Everyone has a story, what is yours?

SEAN



### BANQUET BANQUET BANQUET

*Pictures by Joann Barr, Ron "Reddy-K" Latkovic, and Trick Barrett! Thanks folks for sharing them with us!*



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BANQUET BANQUET BANQUET



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**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.

**From Al Vangura:** **This guy is absolutely insane!** Turn on the sound and hold onto your seat as you watch this video clip from Russia , during a morning rush-hour commute... It's a motorcycle ride like you have never seen before... The rider is NUTS, and it can only be hoped that he carries an organ donor card, because his time is coming, and soon! <http://www.autoblog.com/2010/09/27/video-moscow-motorcyclists-crazy-high-speed-commute/#continued>

**On the danger of ethanol fuel from Kevin Hart:** [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25936782/ns/business-consumer\\_news/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25936782/ns/business-consumer_news/)

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## THE COASTAL EXPERIENCE REDUX

By Don Poremski

Well, it's happened again. The accelerated San Francisco experience has brought self doubts about metro sexual status. San Fran is one BIG city. One would suppose that anything available in New

York, save certain tourist attractions, is available there. But maybe the two-coast comparison is not best made by the only occasional visitor.

Some background: got to stay in the city by the bay for almost ten days by virtue of being house sitters. Russian Hill is cheek by jowl with Telegraph Hill for this particular house, just one block east of Lombard, "the crookedest street in the world". Who would have thought that tourists could be found at its base in December, no matter what the weather.

For those ten days we had a three-sided view of the city and its bay. Look up from your cereal and there was a container ship slowly making its way to a pier. Look up again and you'd find you were being visited by the red-headed Parrots of Telegraph Hill. In the next instant you'd see nothing due to a low-hanging cloud.

Venture outside for a stroll and it had better be in well-fitting, comfortable shoes. Two steps, breathe in, two steps, breathe out, and make those hill climbing efforts with slow determination. It's no wonder the locals have well developed legs and buttocks, not that I noticed.

Go to see "Tron", the new version, at the IMAX theater, but make sure you've got plenty of cash or a high credit limit. Admittance per person, \$16.00- combo of large popcorn, two drinks, Dots & Butterfingers, \$25.65, parking, \$10.75. Take *that* New York-Yan-

## FOR SALE

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

**2005 R1200RT:** 28k miles. \$11,500. All dealer serviced. New front tire and front brakes. Heated seats & grips. BMW Cruise Control. BMW Alarm. BMW Tankbag. Extra BWM Accessory outlet wired to battery. Contact Trent Dennison: [trentden@juno.com](mailto:trentden@juno.com)

**'06 K1200S,** 10.2k, silver/gray, all factory options. Newly installed Akrapovic Ti/Ti/CF full exh, Evoluzione race intake, dual compound rear tire with Dynojet runs on each change totaling +12rwhp. Dealer installed clear strobe turn/brake lights, CF trim, panniers w/ liners and tank bag, center stand, June 2012 extended unlimited mi warranty. Dealer maintained w/records. Adult owned, never down, immaculate condition. \$13,900/obo, Peter: 724-516-1260(PA)

**The Sidecar Rig Al Vangura Engineered:** For sale at Bob's BMW, Jessup, MD. A GREAT rig! For pictures, see p. 10 of the June newsletter. Contact Bob's BMW 866-861-5750 if interested.

**2008 Royal Enfield Classic Iron-Barrel 500 Single,** with many Upgrades, Goodies, and Extras. 4K miles (just about broken in). Old time easy to work on technology. Asking \$3500 OBO. [meyer@zoominternet.net](mailto:meyer@zoominternet.net).

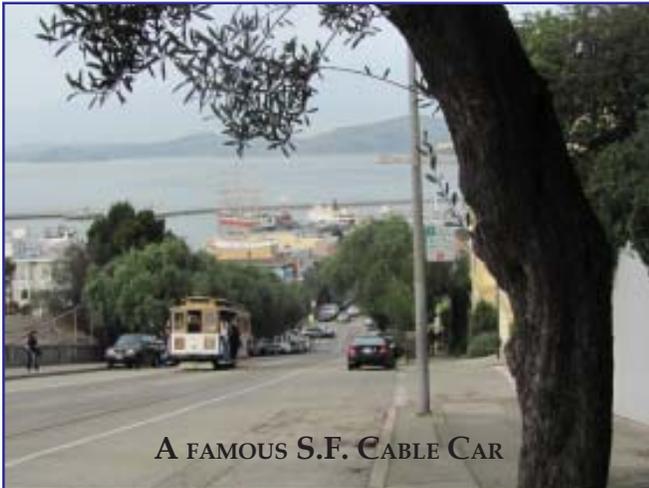
kees-admission-monkey! The Science and Technology Center was in the same cost area, but parking was free. Drop in to the crowded



**LOMBARD STREET**  
**THE CROKEDST STREET IN THE USA**

Buena Vista for the must-have Irish coffee after walking around Fisherman’s Wharf and be prepared to shell out nearly \$50 for five of those, two coffees and two teas.

Then there was the Brondell Swash 800 ([www.brondell.com/products/Swash-Intro.php](http://www.brondell.com/products/Swash-Intro.php)) used for the second time. Is old age weakening resistance to owning one of these in my own home? You betcha. Who wouldn’t enjoy the availability of a warm toilet seat, shpritzes front, rear or both, followed by wafting warm air? Look to your laur-els European bidets.



**A FAMOUS S.F. CABLE CAR**

Yes, air travel was used, but no, no new TSA friends were made. Akron-Canton has no scanner in use and if you don’t look like some-one subject to profiling, no pat-down. San Francisco had a scanner in use but was used sparingly. No new friends there either.

My heart is still ensconced in my chest, but the memory of that warm seat...well, I saw one on Amazon for a mere \$349. That’s only six and a half movies at IMAX!

*DON*



## ARIZONA REPRESENTATIVE GABBY GIFFORD IS A BMW RIDER

You may not know that Representative Gifford of Arizona is a BMW rider. She has been a BMW rider for 20 years. She owns a nice Black /5 boxer. She has been involved in legislation for riders. Here is a picture of her with her Slash 5:



Although the nut who shot her was obviously mentally disturbed, the fact that he could simply walk into an Arizon gun shop, given his previously documented personally violent propensities and buy an automatic assault weapon without any checks on his background, criminal or otherwise, is unconscionable and a situation that desperately needs to be corrected. Add to that the kind of screeds produced by those who verbally or visually advocate violence against those who disagree with them politically, religiously, or otherwise and it’s no wonder we face such horrors as the shooting of Representative Gifford and those who were shot by that mentally deranged gunman including that little girl only 9 years old who was killed.

What can ordinary folks like us do about curbing this kind of thing? We could write our legislators and insist that they create and pass constitutionally acceptable gun control laws that would prevent the sale of weapons to the criminally insane and prevent all sales of assault weapons whose only purpose is to kill people. We could support foundations whose purpose is to get decent constitutional gun laws passed. And we can tell anyone on TV or elsewhere who suggests using violent action against people who disagree with them politically that such talk is unacceptable and to cut it out.



## BANQUET THANK YOUS!

A great big Thank you to our treasurer, Larry Shockling, and his wife, Barbara, who saw to registering and handing out name tags for everyone at the Banquet, taking care of the proceeds of the 50-50 etc., and for almost having to rent a U-Haul to bring the door prize books in, not to mention seeing to their distribution at the end of the evenings’ activities. Also a big thank you to Larry for continuing to shoulder the treasurer’s job until Tom can take over later in the spring!

And a good gigantic thank you to Tom Furey (the Hi-Viz fellow) and his wife, Bethany, for hauling and setting up their sound equipment and lights ahead of time for use during the evening’s program, and for donating some great Hi-viz door prizes. His motto is “Be Seen! Be Safe!” And Hi-viz outfits do indeed insure that (unless



cagers are totally fast asleep). So, if you need any riding outfits to enable the cagers to realize you and your bike are out there on the road with them, you can see Tom or order whatever you need via the internet at <http://www.hivizstore.com/>. Incidentally, after Tom is back from his spring road trips to various rallies he'll be our club's new treasurer. Thanks Tom & Bethany!



Here's Santa wearing his Hi-viz vest so as to be seen by jet pilots

while on his journey North Pole to chimneys all over the world on Christmas Eve. These things are effective! (Here he's shown on the Beemer he uses to tool around his North Pole Elfin toy factories.)



## NORTH BREAKFAST AND RIDE SUN. JAN. 2, 2011

by Walt Halaja

Pretty good for January: we had 10 members! Would have been 11 if President "Doctor" Sean would have made it! So maybe he was called to work, or maybe the New Year's day ride with the Harley



Brothers and Sisters along with the our own Tom "Hi-viz" Furey, and Dan Weaver was a bit too much. Well, we were hoping President Sean could/would have made it because that's "Big Time." Weather was lousy for

them on Jan. 1. I got my last ride on Dec. 31st., weather was great, and I got 65.2 miles.

OK, those present: Ralph "The Princeton Tiger" Meyer, Frank "The Professor" Beatrous, Dave "2 Spark" McLaughlin, Dave "The Chief" Manfredo, Ron "The Camper" Kranz, Jack "The Director"

Bramkamp, Tom "Hi-Viz" Furey, John "long distance" Allen, Ron "Reddy K." Latkovic, and of course me, Walt "the Capt." Halaja.



We missed another regular: our own Paul "PW" White. So hope to see a few more members next month! REALLY IN FEBRUARY! (YES!!!) Well, if our editor Ralph puts it in the

newsletter, read the breakfast report from Paul Cronin 10 years ago. Remember you don't have to ride your bike to attend a breakfast. By

the way, we did have 9 bikes at the breakfast out of ten, so look at the picture and guess who brought the cage! Remember it was below freezing and there were



some ice issues for some. Temps were 28 to 32 degrees all day.

OK: there was a short ride for 3 of us, The Chief, Reddy K. and me. At first, I was going to head up Franklin Road and do Evans city as a turn around, but I then checked with the Chief and he said he was willing to go as far as the Moraine State Park "boat launch area" off Rt. 528, so that was our turn around, while Reddy K. did use Evans City as his turn around. I took one photo at the launch area and, if Ralph adds it, notice the "Ice fisherman" in the background, I thought WOW! Didn't look safe to me, but Dave thought it was OK, but not for me. I would rather be riding my bike. Don't know which photos Ralph will put in print, he has 7 to pick from, Reddy K. shot 4 and I did 3.

Finally, I have been saying lately that I would rather ride my bike than watch the Steelers! I did want to watch them play the



Browns, but we were at Moraine around high noon, so I figured I would miss the 1st quarter. As it turned out, I made it to my son Wayne's home and he held the game till I arrived, so I got the best of two, riding and seeing the whole Steeler game

... Nice! ...I arrived home after dark with approx. 130 miles to start my 2011 miles.

WALT

# 2010 MILEAGE LOG TOTALS

Submitted by  
Tim Pears -- Mileage Tracker



	<u>2010</u> <u>Mileage</u>	<u>2009</u> <u>Mileage</u>	<u>2008</u> <u>Mileage</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>Mileage</u>
John Allen	11,712	17,420	15,953	10,977
Tim Pears	11,504	9,759	11,716	10,062
Scott Bassin	7,822	8,263	6,130	5,486
Ed Tatters	7,262	10,012	12,235	12,741
Walt Halaja	6,304	8,670	9,916	8,530
Dave McLaughlin	5,434			
Ralph Meyer	4,071	6,552	4,367	7,044
Sean Barrett	3,904	7,541	8,223	9,025
Patrick Barrett	2,821	4,983	220	0
Tom Barnhart	2,659	9,454	6,496	8,350
Diane Pears	274	2,956	782	2,730

**Congratulations to John Allen as the highest mileage rider for the third consecutive year! Tom Barnhart's drop from last year's 4<sup>th</sup> place to 9<sup>th</sup> place wasn't because he got bored riding Florida roads, but due to back surgery. It's always interesting to see the fluctuations in this annual "snapshot" of our club's riding habits.**

**John won a \$25 Sheetz gift card for 1<sup>st</sup> place and Tim Pears won one year's free 4 Winds membership for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. All the others who participated were put in a drawing at the banquet where two more people also won one year's free 4 Winds membership - Sean Barrett and Ed Tatters! It was announced at the beginning of the year that everyone had a chance for prizes. See . . . "It Pays to Play!!"**

## Update: BMW Motorcycles Of Pittsburgh

by Lee Marks

Hello fellow Four Winds Members. The time is getting near. Things are falling into place. And even better yet...Spring is coming soon. Imagine that cool breeze, winding around hairpin turns, relaxing while riding on a lonely country road, and doing it all on a new BMW from the new BMW Motorcycles of Pittsburgh. What could be better than that??? Nothing that I can imagine. How many of you have been by and seen the new dealership??? Or the tv commercial??? The carpet is in, its painted, and almost ready for BMW to wave their magic wand and say "You are now a BMW Motorcycle Dealer." Mark and I are there almost every day now, so don't be afraid to stop in and at least say hello. I'll try to have some coffee brewing for you. Now for some bragging!!! Of course, being a new dealer, we will have all new state of the art tools and equipment. The newest motorcycle only tire changer (German made) available...the only one in the country. All brand new Snap-On Lifts with a special ride-on wheel lock for safety and security...the same lifts that BMW uses at the certified technician training...which is where Mark used them (in other words, he is fully certified). Fully computerized service, parts and sales that can spit out complete and detailed estimates before the job is started. We will be offering (my idea) pagers for service customers that need their bikes done quickly. We can page you and let you know it is done so you have very little down time. There will also be a convenient customer lounge with coffee and snacks along with a tv/vcr...a cool place to hang out. There will be...wait a minute...you'll just have to come in and see for yourself. And believe me...everyone is welcome. As a matter of fact, bring in this newsletter and I will give you 15% off on your first purchase up to \$300.00!!! Our hours will be 9-6 on M,W,F; 9-8 on T,TH; and 9-2 on Saturday. We will also offer pickup of your bike for service and day loaners when available. I will accept just about anything on trade (unlike all the other motorcycle dealers); Cars, Boats, Trucks, you name it. Also...very important...I want to buy used bikes...Find me used bikes (or BMW cars)...I will pay a finders fee of \$50.00 if I buy the bike. You find it and I will do the legwork from there. This is not just a one time offer, but forever!!! keep your eyes open for a good deal and make a few bucks. Ok, one last thing. I will also be setting up a Four Winds Credit Card for my store only. It will be a NO INTEREST card that will give you a discount on retail merchandise, a discount on service, and specials that will only be available to cardholders. Final details are being worked on as I write this. Well, that's all for now, but believe me, there is much much more...hope to see all of you very soon...Lee

WAY WE WERE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



### KNOW WHAT THIS IS?

You'll be able to see one at Lee's European MCs of Pittsburgh when they arrive, probably later this year. It's an....Awwwww---check pp. 14-15 to find out.

## The Northern Directorate

*Peter L. Bombar - Director - Four Winds BMW Riders 2001*

So many of us feel a flame that embraces a kindred towards our motorcycles. Why? There are so many things we love about the experience we encounter when we ride. But, it's not just the ride..is it! It's the spirit of riding, the experiences and adventure we encounter through our journey, the people we meet, new friends we feel drawn towards, common goals that we discover through candid conversation, or perhaps just the ride itself that encompasses oneself in a meditative sense of satisfaction with self and bike. Trent, a member and good friend has expressed this feeling to me..."I just wanted to ride"...not stop"...just ride till the next ....."

As a director of the Four Winds BMW Riders, I would like to be able to communicate with all members and to answer any questions or concerns any of you may have with the club, it's direction, things we should or should not be doing, and so on. These communications will be known to the other board members and most importantly the president. We as a collective board, are your representatives of this fine club. So please...communicate with us.

To clarify my involvement with the club and my motivation is simply this. I was born in Pittsburgh, and after a 23 year period abroad, during my childhood and adolescent years, I returned and lived in the North Hills. I moved to the state of New York while attending college in Elmira, and now reside just across the boarder from New York in Pennsylvania. I bought my first BMW (Bob Kostreva) from a member in 1994. I had found myself in full circle. Plus, I love the club and all it represents.

So...OK...what am I to do for the clubs betterment. To serve is an easy statement. To do is reality. How about this: I will provide a sense of good direction and input regarding the specifics that are brought forth by the board and members. I can't please all people, but will provide vision and support for democratic decision based on equal vote. ... provide help and input towards the rally. ...support all efforts towards a continuous training initiative for motorcycling safety and MSF. I feel very strong about this. Don't just ride...get educated. ...increase membership and facilitate involvement with all members. ...support those in any way I can with technical support...I know my bikes...I have restored five BMW's and tech both R100 and R1100 machines! I don't have all the answers but know others that have answers to most questions. ...support the communication with the BMWMOA ...Drink fine larger with Trent and jam with guitars whenever the occasion merits this behavior! Peace and ride safe.

Peter, Director at Large from the North Country



## 2011 4-Winds Dues Submission form:

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Members' Names (if any):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Associate Members' Names (if any):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Number of Members' Dues submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Associates' Dues submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$7.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make out your dues check for yourself, and other members and associates in your family to "4 Winds BMW Riders" and mail it with this completed form to:

Larry Shockling, Treasurer  
4 Winds BMW Riders of Pittsburgh  
116 Teton Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15239



**MAIL IN THE PREVIOUS PAGE TO LARRY SHOCKLING, OUR FINE TREASURER PRO TEM, PROPERLY FILLED OUT AND ACCOMPANIED BY YOUR APPROPRIATE CHECK (IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO ALREADY), ALONG WITH THIS PRETTY PICTURE OF THE NEW BIKE COMING DOWN BMW'S PIKE, AND AS A PRIZE YOU'LL GET YOUR BRAND SPANKING NEW 2011 4 WINDS MEMBERSHIP CARD--A GREAT BARGAIN IN ANYBODY'S LANGUAGE! DON'T WAIT. TIME'S A WASTIN'. GIT 'R DONE!**

## BMW F800R Spec Sheet



**Engine:** Parallel Twin, 4 valves, DOHC

**Displacement:** 798cc

**Bore and Stroke:** 82 x 75mm

**Cooling:** Liquid

**Horsepower:** 87 horsepower @ 8000rpm

**Torque:** 63 lb-ft torque @ 6000rpm

**Wheelbase:** 59.8 in

**Seat Height:** 31.5 in (30.5 and 32.5 optional)

**Front Suspension:** 43mm fork

**Rear Suspension:** Single shock, adjustable adjustable for preload and rebound

**Front Brake:** Dual 320mm disc, 4-piston Brembo calipers

**Rear Brake:** Single 265mm disc with single-piston caliper

**Claimed Weight:** 449.7 lbs (with fuel) 401 lbs dry

From Motorcycle USA: Check out:

<http://www.motorcycle-usa.com/354/1579/Motorcycle-Article/2009-BMW-F800R-First-Look.aspx>

<http://www.motorcycle-usa.com/67/8746/Motorcycle-Article/2011-BMW-F800R-First-Ride.aspx?WT.i e dcsvid=1173127552>

**WHAT IZZIT YOU ASK?**

**IT'S THE NEW**

**BMW F800R NAKED BIKE**

This beauty will no doubt appear in due course at our favorite Marque's dealer, our friend Lee Mark's (see his letter to the club if you haven't already in the 2001 'Way We Were') European Motorcycles of Pittsburgh. It looks to be a winner. Check out the report on it at the MotorcycleUSA web site -- URL indicated below.

Now with the new 6 cylinder K1600GTL and K1600GT, you can go Looooooooooooooooooooo in great comfort and style! And if you prefer light, nimble, and being "in the wind," not to mention great gas mileage, the new F800R may be your baby!

The picture on the opposite page is a right side view. Yummy, huh?

**Lee S. Marks**  
Owner

BMW MOTORCYCLES OF PITTSBURGH  
DUCATI PITTSBURGH  
TRIUMPH OF PITTSBURGH

10269 Perry Highway  
Wexford, PA 15090  
(724) 934-4269 Voice  
(724) 934-3269 Fax  
motoman@bmwpgh.com



## A HI VIZ AIRHEADS MECCA OF SORTS

By Tom Furey  
[www.hivizstore.com](http://www.hivizstore.com)

For years I've been hearing the stories about traveling to Daytona for Bike Week. Last year I decided to make the Holy Trip from the cold and bleak terrain of New Kensington to the hot, sunny, and beautiful land that is Daytona in the early Spring. The reason for my trip was twofold. The first being: everyone else had done it and now was my turn. The second: I had just started a new business (the Hi Viz Store) and I wanted to meet some contacts and spread the name of my business around a bit.

Let me start by saying that had I made it out on Wednesday I would've been fine. Unfortunately I had to work that day so I wasn't able to make it out until the next day. The weather forecast was for Light Snow Flurries, but hey, I had heated grips, a fairing, as well as a brand new Hi Viz Scorpion Commander Touring Jacket, and matching Hi Viz EXO 900 Helmet. I saddled up my '91 R100 GS and headed South out of Pittsburgh riding straight into a torrent of slush and snow for about 9 hours until finally settling in the Southern West Virginia town of Beckley. The new gear worked flawlessly: Shield never fogged and the Jacket kept me comfy all day--even without a heated liner, I might add. As darkness approached, the snow stepped it up a notch. In the 10 minutes it took to check into the motel room, 6 inches of snow landed in the parking lot. I asked for and received a ground floor room as I knew both me and my bike would need a warm place to spend the night and thaw out.



I awoke to find a foot of unplowed snow in the parking lot. I skidded through the parking lot and onto the main unplowed roads. If I could make it to the highway, I knew I would be all right. The ¼ mile trip to the gas station was hazardous and unnerving at best. I filled up my tank and was preparing to head out of the parking lot when a State Trooper stopped me. He informed me that a full on blizzard was raging at the top of the mountain, which I still had yet to cross. The crest of the mountain happened to be only 10 miles down the road. 10 miles or 100 miles I wasn't going to cross that mountain on my R100 GS. The forecast called for HEAVY Snow for the next three days. As much as I liked Beckley I really wanted to make it to Athens, GA that night for a party at Boxerworks with Nate. I found a few locals with a pickup truck who had just finished plowing for the day. 52 miles, 2 hours, and \$100 dollars later I found myself in Sunny, yet Windy Virginia. I was on my way!!!

My snow delay and fighting the heavy winds took its toll and I settled down that night at the South Carolina / Georgia border. I awoke the next morning with perfect weather, drove the 2 hours to



Athens, GA where Nate was throwing a Pre-Daytona swap meet and party at Boxerworks. I took advantage of the swap meet and sold some Hi Viz Vests and T-Shirts that I was carrying with me. It was a great chance to Kick Some Tires and meet some new and interesting people. Apparently Nate wants to turn this into an annual event--a stopping off place of sorts for all of the Snow Birds migrating South



to Daytona. For those of you coming from Snowy Parts up North, it's a great place to trailer your bike to then ride the rest of the way to Daytona.

I awoke early the next morning and saddled up my Airhead for what would be one of the best rides of my life. It was a perfect combination of Sunday Morning in the Bible Belt and Route 441. Not a soul on the road for hours of uninterrupted, gently flowing, two lane roads. The Weather Forecast: Perfect !!! I followed this route all the way into north Florida. From there it was just a small bop down the I-95 to the BMW Encampment just North of Daytona, where I was greeted by Gator and the rest of the Florida Airheads.

The week in Florida consisted of Vintage Racing where I had the pleasure of watching Ed Tatters rip it up around the Big Track. All you could Eat Shrimp on the Beach, A trip up the Coast to St Augustine, and Lots of Leather Clad Harley Riders Moving Slowly. The folks at the B-Cubed campsite sorted us out every morning and evening with Coffee and Conversation. Two 4-Winds Florida Transplants, Gary Smith and Tom Barnhart even stopped by for a look and spent a few nights. They even provided me a table where I could vend my Hi Viz wares.

I kept an eye on the weather channel and found 2 good days of



weather with which to return back north. After 5 days of fun in the sun and seeing my opportunity I said goodbye to all of my new found friends and pointed my machine north. On the trip home, I found myself getting revenge on all of the Bikes in Trailers, passing each and every one of them with a Grin and a Wave as I sped north for two days of high speed / no drama slab-tastic riding. I can now say "I did it! I rode to Daytona and back." My only regrets were not making it to the Cole Slaw Wrestling Pit and taking my R100 GS to a Bikini Bike wash, but hey, there's always next year. See you there, that is, unless you see me first in my Hi Viz Gear!

TOM



**4 WINDS  
BMW MOA 2011 MEDALLION  
AWARD RECIPIENT--RALPH MEYER**

*by Walt Halaja*

I have been a member of this fine club for over 10 years and I have seen this handsome, solid bronze, "coveted Medallion" award go to the deserving members in several different ways. I think traditionally it would always go to the standing President of the previous year, and I would think justly so! But herein lies a problem, because not all members are "Presidential material" so to speak! Right? So, unless you would step up to the plate and be president in the past, you could never receive a Medallion. But just a minute! We have had a few Presidents who have served multiple President-ships. Let me give you a couple of examples: Mitch Kehn served 2 yrs. and our own "Queen Mum," Nancy Barrett, has kindly served as President 4 times since I have been a member. NICE!!! Now what would Nancy want all those Medallions laying around the house for when some other deserving member could get one?

Well, I remember one year it went to Dana Asherman when he started the cache program! Then in another year the board along with then President, Lance Hough, laid it out to the membership to nominate several members, and then the membership could vote on who they thought the Medallion should go too! That year, I nominated Leo Stanton because of all the September meetings that he had hosted at his home--over 20 years worth, if my memory is correct, and he won. "How about that?" Then, in another year I remember our long time member, Ed Syphan, gave a Medallion he had received some years before to a member whom I thought long ago should have received one, and that was Tom Primke. What "class" Ed showed to another "class member" of our club!

OK. So this year it went to our own Newsletter Editor, Ralph Meyer, another fine deserving member, IMHO! Some folks say



Ralph and I are joined at the hip. Ha! Well, we *have* ridden many many miles together over the years. Awhile back, Nancy Barrett had somehow found out about Ralph's education and the type of work he did at Princeton and kind of bugged him till he took over the newsletter from her. Finally, after that arm twisting by Nancy, Ralph said OK and put out his first. newsletter in January of 2005! Members, so far that's 73 issues of a 1st class newsletter! Just that alone is worth a Medallion for all those hours Ralph has given back to the club! The 1st. 5 months of the newsletter were in black and white, then in June, 2005, Ralph put out his 1st. color newsletter and they have been so since! Ralph has seen to it that members who want a printed copy get them thru the mail and also supplies European Motorcycles in Wexford with free copies for their customers' taking so as to advertise the club. Ralph has also been a regular breakfast attendee at the North, East, and West Breakfast Ride sites and has led many a ride from those locations. Ralph has not only produced the newsletter, but spent many hours typing reports for our members' instruction on using GPSs, Etc.. Ralph wrote for Lee Marks and also came to the rescue for Ed Syphon when Ed needed help with a ride and Ralph just stepped up to the plate and led the ride. So I am glad Ralph gets a well deserved Medallion. Congratulations!

Finally, when we got Ralph as our Editor we also got his wife, Rosemary, as our newsletter "proof reader"! Thanks Rosemary!

WALT

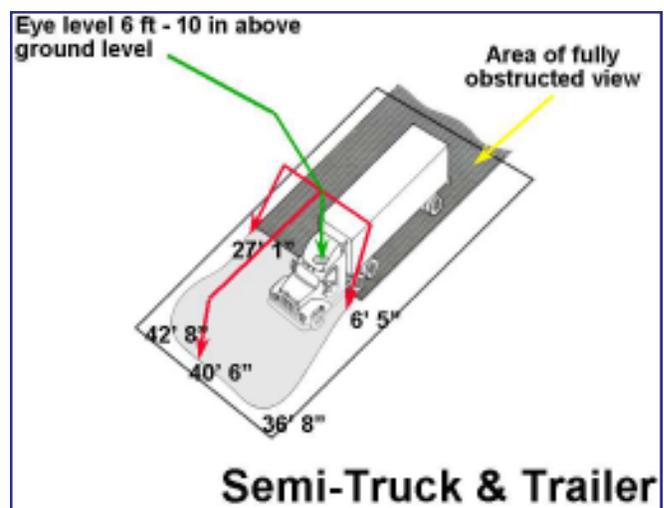
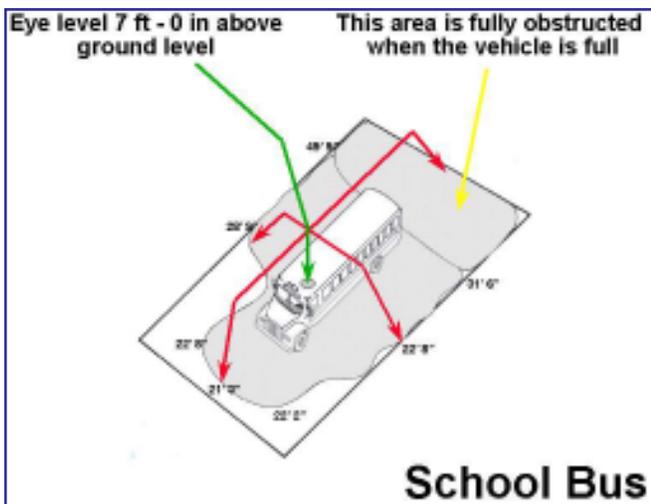
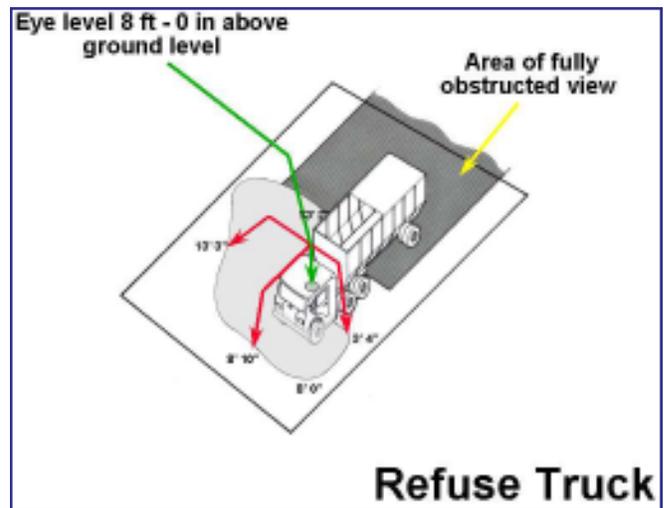
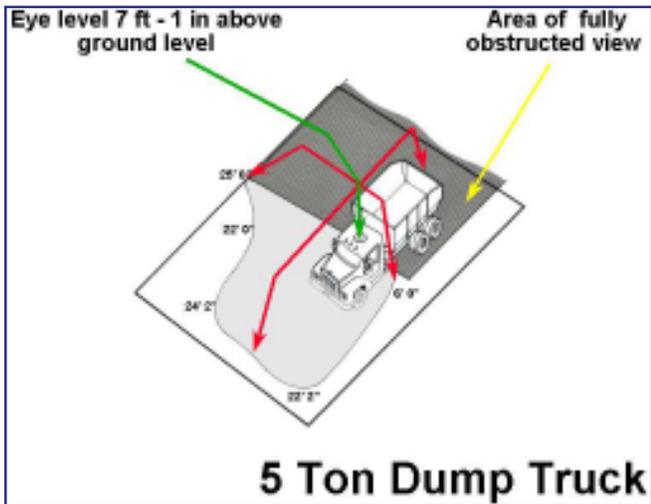


# Learn To Know...

## The NO-ZONE



THE SHADED AREA SURROUNDING EACH VEHICLE REPRESENTS THE DANGER ZONE or "NO-ZONE" IN WHICH THE VEHICLE OPERATOR'S VIEW OF PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC IS GREATLY REDUCED OR OBSCURED ALTOGETHER. THE DARK GREY AREAS INDICATE THAT YOU CANNOT BE SEEN AT ALL!



Attention ALL members who have NOT submitted beginning mileage reports for 2011, Please submit your beginning mileage report for this year -- you know who you are. Please submit your Beginning mileages.

## Four Winds Mileage Contest

Beginning mileage as of Jan 1, 2011



### Beginning Mileage Form – Year 2011

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Form to:  
 Mileage Contest  
 c/o Tim Pears  
 555 Rose Stop Rd.  
 New Castle, PA 16101  
 or E-mail to:  
 timndiane@comcast.net

	Make / Model / Year	Beginning Mileage
<b>Bike 1</b>		
<b>Bike 2</b>		
<b>Bike 3</b>		

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 year 2011. You can submit the mileage from one bike or 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:



And that's not all, everyone entering will have a chance to win other prizes. So get your beginning mileage in to Tim!

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

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**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 Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011 meeting\*\* will be held from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Perkins Family Restaurant, 20013 Rte 19 (Perry Hwy), Cranberry Township, PA 16066, ph. 724-772-3710.

*From the North:* Get on Perry Hwy and travel South. Perkins will be on your right about .6 mile South of the Rte 228/US 19 (Perry Hwy) intersection.

*From the South:* Get on I-79 North. Take exit 78 to the right onto Pa-228 towards Cranberry/Mars. Take the Pa-228 E ramp to the left towards Cranberry. Turn left onto Hwy 228 W. Stay in the Left Hand Lane of 228, and turn left onto US 19 South. Perkins will be on your right about .6 mile south of Rte 228/US 19 (Perry Hwy) intersection.

GPS Coordinates: N40.67581 W80.09909

\*\*The Board will meet AFTER the meeting this time.