



May 2018



Sean Barrett

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Summer is finally here! I don't have to bundle up with multiple layers, electric shirt and heavy gloves every time I want to go for a ride.

Last week, I rode down to Del Rio, Tenn. for the ROK rally. Three days down, all back roads, it was great. I was able to wear my mesh pants, mesh jacket and a light shirt although a couple of times I did need to put on my rain gear. Still much better than having to wear my winter gear.

Enough about me, we are going to try to have rides to all of the meetings, if we can. There were 7 bikes (I think) that rode to the last meeting, which worked out great. Thanks to Bruce and John Humphrey for setting up that ride. The next meeting is at Moraine State Park and we may see about several rides leading from different locations.

We have also discontinued the board meeting before the meeting so that board members can come on the rides and visit before the meetings. We will see how that works out.

Don't forget the RA rally in July, the riding around Wellsboro is great and there also is the Penn. Grand Canyon, well worth seeing.

Ride hard, ride safe,
Sean

Four Winds BMW Riders Minutes Saturday May 19, 2018

Location: Driscoll & Sons Café, Sutersville PA near the Youghiogheny River

Sean called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM and welcomed all. In addition to Sean, 14 other members attended. Sean thanked Bruce and John (Humphrey) for setting up and leading the pre-meeting ride from the Wexford dealership to Driscoll & Sons Café.

As the first order of business, Sean confirmed details for this year's contest. The objective will be for contestants to accumulate as many points as possible through participation in club activities. One point will be earned for each of various tasks in connection with monthly meetings. For example, a point will be awarded for attending a meeting, another for riding to the meeting and a third for capturing a photo of a landmark close to the meeting location. There will be 7 or 8 different tasks incident to each meeting, and a record of progress made during each meeting. The contest will conclude with the November meeting, and each participant's total points tallied prior to the annual banquet. Each point will translate into one raffle ticket to be entered in a prize raffle(s) to be awarded at the banquet. The specific raffle prize or prizes will be determined at a later time.

A contest tally sheet was circulated, allowing those in attendance to record the points earned for this meeting.

Sean next reported that, prior to the meeting, Vince distributed by email his report of progress to date in planning for the Four Winds Rally in August. Plans are largely in place for an event similar to the club's traditions; a continuing appeal for volunteers to assist at the rally was highlighted. Current details are:

- a return to Redbank Valley Municipal Park on Aug. 17, 18 & 19,
- Rub & Tug for Saturday night's dinner
- Tee-shirts will be available (Diane / Ken)
- Events: Friday Dinner Ride (Ed), Saturday Scenic Ride (Ed), Saturday Dual-Sport Ride (Jay), Field Events (Don)
- Complimentary coffee and tea (Leo and maybe Jeff)

Additional planning will address:

Registration and check-in

A cookie table

The tidy and clean crew

Security arrangements, including the availability of the Boy Scouts.

Sean invited ideas for organizing a ride to the next monthly meeting which will be held at Moraine State Park on June 16 (Pavillion # 3 on the Windy Knob Loop.) Riders on the seven bikes participating on today's ride from Wexford all reported the pre-meeting rides were a good idea. During the discussion, the suggestion was aired to plan more than one starting point, so that the rides will be more convenient for members living to the South, and East and the West.

Discussion turned to ideas for presentations at future monthly meetings. As a general premise, focus on the question of "Why We Ride." The question likely generates a variety of experiences: rallying, wrenching, racing, camping, adventure. Tentative plans include: How to prepare for a success rally (Dennis), and for the banquet, Bruce's recent tour of Morocco.

Sean suggested some members may want to look into a new MOA program to organize mini-rallies at lodges in various regions of the country. The mini-rallies provide an alternative to camping for those who may prefer the lodge experience in lieu of camping.

Attendance of club members at the April 28th Open House at BMW Motorcycles of Pittsburgh was strong, although it is too early to determine if any new enthusiasts were attracted to our membership roll. Information packets were distributed. Comments were that the open house was enjoyable. Members are encouraged to support the local dealership.

Bruce provided the Treasurer's report, noting that the transition process is still underway with some kinks to be worked out in getting email messaging pertinent to his duties to him. The club's insurance premium will soon be due, and he will tend to it. For the future, the club might benefit in exploring new software applications styled as "membership management software." This software might better automate and coordinate the current processes which require individual tasks to addressed under separate processes. Should it make sense to move forward, Bruce noted the timing of any change would be delayed until after the Four Winds Rally in August so that rally planning is not caught up in a period of transition.

Mary reported that she has reserved the Chadwick facility for February's banquet should we wish to return. She invited feedback on any concern in returning to this facility as well as on any comments on things that might be improved for the banquet. No negatives were reported. The consensus is that the Chadwick is an enjoyable venue and meets our needs; we should return for 2019. A deposit will be due shortly, and Mary will confirm details to Bruce. Additional planning for the banquet will ramp up after the Four Winds Rally is over.

Sean advised the Board will not meet today as all matters have been addressed appropriately during the General Meeting. He next asked if any other business should be raised. In response to a question, Jeff reported that membership information has been distributed to all employees at the Wexford dealership, consistent with the complimentary Four Winds membership available to them.

As an apparent sign of his good fellowship and clean living, John Humphrey's ticket was drawn in the 50-50.

Upon motion of John Heltzel and second by Adrian Marini, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Donley, Acting Recording Secretary