

Oct.



2008

MOA # 6

www.4windsbmw.org

RA # 76



Now's the time to get out on the bike and enjoy that fall scenery!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I regrettably missed the September meeting at Leo and Holly's place, but I look forward to seeing many of you at the October 5th North Breakfast ride at King's in Wexford.

For me, October 5th will also mark 150 consecutive days and over 5,000 miles ridden exclusively on a 49cc Aprilia SR50 scooter. I figure I saved about \$800 over the cost of driving my wife's Jetta, not that she would let me drive her car every day anyway.

Now let's welcome the amazing folks who will serve on the 2009 board; ...drum roll please ... for President, Nancy "The Queen" Barrett and for Vice President, Ed "BBQ" Syphan. Tom Primke will be handing over his check signing pen to new Treasurer, Larry Shockling. Diane Pears will stay on as Recording Secretary and Joann Barr steps up to Corresponding Secretary. Rich Villa, who has been a Four Winds member for just over a year, is now a Director and Assistant to the Rally Chair. The only club member with a permanent 4-Winds tattoo, Patrick Barrett, is now a Director. (This will look great on your resume, "Trick").

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Director – Ralph Meyer
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OCTOBER MEETING INFO

The next meeting of the Four Winds BMW Riders will be held on Sat., Oct. 18th, 2008 at Shelter 'Constitution' in Crooked Creek Lake Park, 114 Park Main Road, Ford City, PA 16226-8815 from 2-5PM. Directions are on the last page. **Maps are on p. 11. Bring your own sack lunch and drink.**

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., Oct. Meeting: Oct. 18; **Nov. issue deadline: Tues., Oct. 21st**). 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>

Submission formats:

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

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

Long articles may be split between issues.

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

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

MEETING SCHEDULE 2008

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

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

October, 2008 — Crooked Creek State Park

November, 2008 — Vincent's in Greentree

December, 2008 — No Monthly Meeting

January 17, 2008 — Annual Club Banquet, 6:30-11 PM. At the Holiday Inn, Greentree--401 Holiday Dr.

2008 SHACK SCHEDULE

Keep an eye out on the web site all you lady and gentleman wrenchers and shack attendees out there, for the Shack locations and dates to help keep us smiling through the winter, and keep those Beemers rolling, rolling, rolling! We have no news as yet on a schedule, but it will no doubt come.

And can you believe that we already have a Rally Chair? Our 2009 Rally Chair is none other than the Amazing Maggie Weaver. Maggie has already secured a commitment from Hilary Klein to serve as our Graphic Artist; I will be staying on as webmaster, and Ralph Meyer will continue as Editor of this fine newsletter.

Mitch



Mitch's Ride

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, Oct. 5 — *North* at King's, I-79 & Rt 910/VIP Dr., 10:00 AM

Sat, Oct. 11 — *West* at Bob Evans, Rt 60 & Campbell's Run Rd, 9:00 AM

Sun, Oct. 19 — *South* at King's, 3049 Washington Pike, off Exit 54, I-79, Bridgeville, 10:00 AM

Sat, Oct. 25 — *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.



FOUR WINDS BMW RIDERS SEPT. 20TH MEETING MINUTES

Location: Leo and Holly Stanton's Home, Finleyville, PA

Board Attendance: Jay Singh, Ralph Meyer, Joann Barr, Diane Pears, Tom

Primke

Vice President Jay Singh called the meeting to order.

Rally Report: Tom Primke reported that the club made \$1,750 from this year's rally. T-shirts are still available for \$15 — contact Nancy Barrett for available sizes (plenty of XXL's). There was some discussion about how people liked the different caterer this year (322 BBQ from Brookville) vs. M&S Meats in the past. Opinions were mixed. Requests were made for more vegetarian choices. Margaret Weaver has agreed to be rally chairperson this year. Rich Villa lives near the Redbank rally site and will be assisting her. He will help scout for catering options.

BMW Coffee Table Book: A new, comprehensive book about BMW motorcycles will be published soon. It is expected to retail for approx. \$40. Ralph Meyer has a contact that will make them available for almost half of that price if we order 10 or more at one time. Please watch for more information in this newsletter and contact him if you are interested.

New Members: Welcome to John Bauerlein from Pittsburgh who joined the club at this meeting. Another new member is Eddie Doverspike from Mayport Armstrong County (just down the road from New Bethlehem) who joined at the rally in August.

Officer Nominations & Election: Sean Barrett took the floor for this portion of the meeting. No offices were contested. Nominations were made and approved. The 2009 Board will be:

President: Nancy Barrett

Vice President: Ed Syphan

Treasurer: Larry Shockling

Recording Secretary: Diane Pears

Corresponding Secretary: Joanne Barr

Rally-Chair: Margaret Weaver

Directors: Patrick Barrett, Rich Villa

Newsletter Editor: Ralph Meyer

Webmaster: Mitch Kehn

January Banquet: Will be held at the Greentree Holiday Inn.

Next Meeting: Will be held outdoors at a picnic pavilion at Crooked Creek park on Rt. 66 near Ford City on Sat. Oct. 18. It is BYOE = "Bring Your Own Everything" (food, snack, drinks)

If we were giving points or prizes this year, Tom Primke would have swept both the "Going the Extra Mile" and "Longest Distance Ridden to the Meeting" awards. He pedaled his two wheeled, zero-horsepower, machine all the way from Washington DC area to make it just in time for the board meeting on his way home from vacation! Now that's dedication! There was a good turnout, beautiful weather, and yummy potluck. A big thanks to Leo and Holly for their gracious hospitality once again!

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, DIANE PEARS, RECORDING SECRETARY



COFFEE TABLE BOOK

See BMW Lovers' Book article on p. 7 for more on this book.

The book *The Art of BMW: 85 years of Motorcycling Excellence* has been published and is on the general market for \$40.00. However, if 10 or more of our club members wish to buy this book (It'd make a great Winter Solstice/Christmas/Hannukah/Kwanzaa Present), we are being offered by its publishers the chance to purchase it pos-

sibly at the steep discount of 46% off the retail price so long as an order for 10 or more is placed at the same time from 1 person in the club. That would mean that club members might possibly be able to purchase it for \$21.60 + shipping (Prorated for 1 copy from the cost of S & H for the 10 or more ordered).

I will be checking on this offer and as soon as I have further information on it, I'll post it on our Web site as well as in the next newsletter. MEANTIME, if you would be interested in obtaining one of these books at the special price, please let me know ASAP. You can e-mail me at meyer@zoominternet.net or phone me at 724-443-4937. If you phone and do not get an answer, leave a message on the answerer and I'll get it. If it looks like we'll have 10 or more copies desired, we'll come up with how to go about paying for your copy so we can order them.

RALPH



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Beemer Brigadier, Sonny Robison, Marine par excellence (once a Marine, always a Marine!), Air Force pilot of P51s and F-80s, Pilot of the newest looking Montana (R1200C) in the 'Burgh & its environs, and Breakfast Ride Stalwart, celebrated his 80th planetary Earth orbit** around the Sun (Birthday) on September 19th! Several of us were privileged to join with Sonny's family in the festivities on the 20th hosted by Eric ("Stayin' Safe" Principal and Sr. Instructor) Trow and his wife at Tambellini's of Bridgeville for a delightful evening following the usual fine and well-attended Club meeting at Leo and Holly's. We all wish him many more 'orbits' and a continued safe roll into the future! Happy Birthday, Good Friend and Fellow Rider! ...Love that Tower of London Beefeater Hat with the candles for light on top!

**BTW: That's 46,747,008,000 miles traveled, by my calculations! That's rolling some!



THE 42ND RALLY

Report by Tom Prinke

Despite difficult circumstances we were able to have a great rally. After we got the rain out of the way on Thursday afternoon the weather remained dry and sunny (if we neglect the little shower that hit Ed Syphan and our dinner riders near Brookville) and certainly helped to achieve a decent turnout. Close to 250 guests attended the rally allowing us to make a solid net profit of approx. \$1,750. This will keep the Four Winds BMW Riders financially afloat for another year. Total rally income was \$10,269 while rally expenses added up to \$8,521.

There are many members and nonmembers who must be thanked for contributing to a successful rally, particularly Jason Kaplitz, Richard Villa, Eric Trow and Tony Capriotti for teaching seminars; Rob Berner for running the field events - despite his spine injury; Ed Syphan and Jay Singh for planning and guiding rides; Diane Pears for taking care of the spiritual health of our guests and also for arranging for the on-site masseuse, Ron and Jeannette Latkovic for soliciting and raffling off door prizes. Thanks to the volunteers who helped with various rally functions: Nancy Barrett, Larry Berner, Greg Lievan, Joyce Elk, Mark Tiedemann, Richard Villa, Jeannette Latkovic and Nancy Barrett for often running multiple registration shifts. Michelle Syphan for handling T-shirt sales and fending off the whiners and complainers. Dan and Margaret Weaver for brew-



ing coffee and tea around the clock. Ed Syphan for keeping the bathrooms clean and tidy. Walt Halaja and Jack Bramkamp for guarding the rally grounds. First Lady Hillary for creating the 2008 Rally logo design. President Mitch for arranging for several display motorcycles from Mosites Motorsports. Fred Maskrey, Bob Stukert, Sean Barrett, Tim Pears and Dan Weaver for helping with the many small tasks that make the rally run smoothly.

We also picked up a new member: Eddie Doverspike. Eddie is from Mayport, Armstrong County, just a few miles south of New Bethlehem on Hwy 839, one of the Four Winds members favorite roads (if PennDOT hasn't messed it up with oil and chips).

Tom



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.

Lucinda Corn Maze (from Diane Pears): If you're in that neighborhood soon, and didn't get there during the rally, check this out: <http://www.amazinglucinda.com/directions.html>



**ALL
PICTURES OF THE RALLY**
by Nancy Barrett



FOR SALE

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

Yellow Uni-go trailer - Bought a 2006 R1200RT that had a Uni-go "Touring" trailer attached. Don't really need the trailer, maybe someone else does. Pretty cool actually. I do have the mount for R1200RT, wiring etc. included in the sale of the trailer. Mount still on the bike, can provide pics if needed of everything. Yellow in color, some scratches. Very solid. New these things run 2200.00 plus hitch, shipping and any upgrades. Do not have a title. Might be able to get it, but no promises. I am not familiar with DMV laws etc Please check with your local state for requirements. Thanks. Price: \$1600.00/reasonable offer. Location: Middletown, PA 17057. Contact Dave Curci at Telephone 717-554-1267

1986 Black K75 Standard: with 15K miles, Side bags, top case, and running lights. Bike is in excellent condition. Asking \$4,000. Jim Dotson. Location: Near Chambersburg. Phone: 717-352-9622, or e-mail mijdots@yahoo.com for further details.





**THE WAY WE WERE
BACK WHEN!
OCT. 1998**
by Walt Halaja

1) In Aug. of 1998 we received two newsletters, the 2nd one contained our "membership list". We had 119 members plus 5 that were omitted which were added in the Nov. newsletter, so that's 124 then vs. 90 members from our current 2007-2008 membership list.

2) The Road to travel (or Not) via Sean Barrett: This month I would like to do things slightly different. In the past I have tried to focus on local rides, but am finding it increasingly difficult to accomplish this. The reason finally dawned on me the other day, we don't do short local rides that much anymore. We used to, but over time our riding style has changed. Now most of my rides involve going to or from work, or covering some distance, but the majority of our rides are within 500 miles of Pittsburgh. We generally start with a destination (motorcycle races, a rally, or distant friends) and a time frame. Then I pull out my trusty maps and start thinking of all of the possible routes that we can take. I usually end up with a map full of pink lines, so that we can change our route at any time if we get tired, bored, or whatever. Consequently, I have a PA map full of pink lines and would like to start sharing some of these "lines" with you.

Lets start with Rt. 74 north, from Carlisle to Port Royal, this is 20 miles west of Harrisburg. For the most part this road travels through rolling farmlands, but it also crosses two mountain ranges: the Blue and the Tuscarora.

Also in this area is Rt. 641. This is a rural road running west from Carlisle to Roxbury. It is west of Roxbury that gets interesting, if you continue on, it crosses Kittatinny Mountain.

For those of you who enjoy more "distant" riding, I have a couple of suggestions. A) If you have a Pennsylvania Atlas and Gazetteer (topographic maps of PA), you can check out these roads and get a good impression of the altitude changes that occur. This is also a great book to use when looking for new roads to explore. B) Look for "scenic highways" on your maps and mark them, usually they are pretty good riding. C) Save your "marked up maps". You aren't going to be able to ride all of the routes that you have marked, so save them for the next time you are in the area. D) When reading Motorcycle magazines, keep a file of articles that describe various roads. You never know when you might find yourself riding in the area mentioned.

4) Rally Recap via Gary Smith: The 1998 Four Winds Rally is history. The organizational efforts were split between Kay and me,

and Adrian and Lois Marini. Lois and Adrian were terrific. However, holding a rally takes a team effort. Gary goes on to thank 37 club members plus another non-club member for helping at the gate. Trent Denison's Post Office was something new and a nice touch. In addition, thanks go to non-members, Bob Henig of Bob's BMW, and Joe Katz, a retired owner of Daytona BMW, who conducted very successful and appreciated focus groups. We were fortunate to have five vendors present including Heritage BMW. Steve Goldring took a "licking and kept on ticking" when after a riding mishap he hung around the rally long enough with his ankle wrapped in ice so he could carry out his duties as our Master of Ceremonies. He kept the crowd in stitches as a fast-paced and up-beat awards ceremony leader. Just what was that man taking for pain?

Perhaps never was a rally wrapped-up more efficiently. Within an hour after the awards ceremony the breakdown chores were completed.

WALT



DYNABEADS
by Walt Halaja

On my trip to the RA rally I first heard about Dynabeads as a good means of balancing a tire from Larry Morley. At the time, I had been in need of new tires and had already replaced the rear with the help of one of our club members. I thought these Dynabeads would be great to try on my front tire, so I checked the dynabead web site at <http://www.innovativebalancing.com/motorcycle.htm> out. I located a dealer via my zip code, then clicked onto the tire charts to find out what my tire size called for; it was only two oz., and the site stated "they come in one oz. packs at \$3.00 each". Having bought the required amount of beads, when my club friend changed the front tire, he also installed the 2 oz. of beads, and the installation has worked out well. This was especially the case on my ride home from the steam show in August while trying to keep up with PW on I-79 northbound. I found that those Dynabeads worked great at high speed. So if you plan to do your own tire replacements I would like to suggest that you take a look at these beads to balance your tires! They worked for me. Maybe European might start using them! At the shop where I purchased my beads, the parts fellow said that more BMW riders were buying them than riders of any other brand of motorcycle. That's got to indicate they're an intelligent solution to the tire balancing problem.

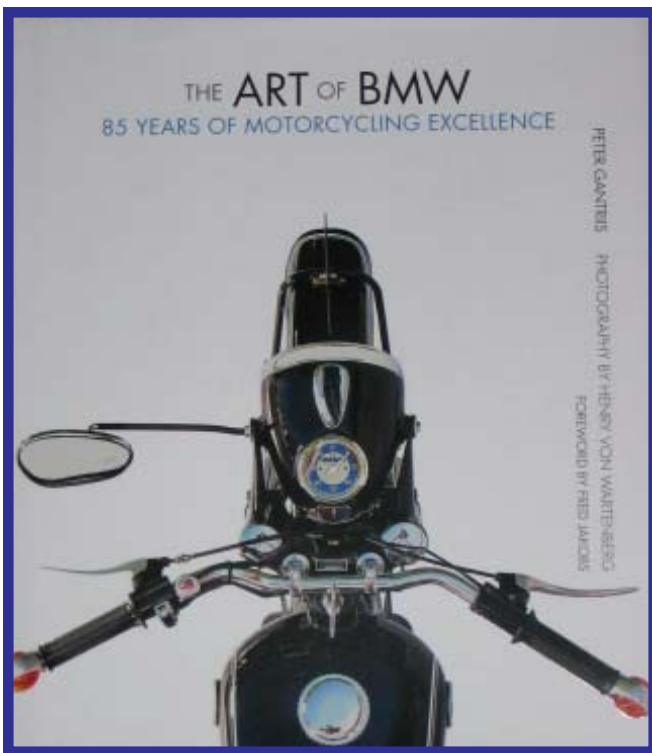
Walt



IT'S TO LAUGH!

Sent in by Kevin Hart...

GPS units can do much... but... uhhh... maybe a Bassett Hound with a good nose would be better in this instance... Whaddaya think?



BMW LOVERS' BOOK

Review by Ralph Meyer

Among the several BMW books out about our favorite Marque, a new one has appeared, and it's a doozy! It's one of the best ones I've seen yet, and I have several (results of being a life-long book fanatic—I learned that getting lost in a book was a great way to shut out parental directives to take out garbage, pick up one's room, and other such stuff when I was a kid). All that aside, the title of this stellar new addition to Beemer Literature is *The Art of BMW: 85 years of Motorcycling Excellence*. It's a 3/4ths inch thick 9 by 11 inch beauty that would lend grace to anyone's living room coffee table (providing you haven't your beautifully refurbished R60S in that honored position). Written by Peter Gantriis, sporting astound-

ing photography by Henry Von Wartenberg and with a foreword by Fred Jacobs, who is responsible for BMW's motorcycle heritage collection and BMW Mobile Tradition's archives, this book contains a delightfully written lucid and cover-the-waterfront treatment of the history of BMW's technical and artful advancements and achievements from the time the Bayerische Motoren Werke was but a gleam in the eyes of the Rapp and the Otto Motorenwerke.



Just about every major advancement and development on the BMW motorcycle over the years is covered in the text from the R32 of 1923 on. The writing keeps your interest (I have read through the book upon rolling into bed after a session of "Touch of Frost" DVD watching 'till 1AM, and though sleepy when opening the pages, I found myself having to force me at 2 to put it down and turn out the



light!) hands down for those of us who are more or less texturally oriented. However, if you're like me, and the first thing you hit in the Sunday Papers are the comics 'cause they're done in pictures, then

you'll go wild over this tome. The writing is lucid and clear, and the photography.... the photography... Wow! I suspect I could cut pages out of this book, put 'em in frames, hang 'em on the walls, and the wife, who is very persnickety about having the place look nice, wouldn't complain a-tall! Every bike and advancement discussed is accompanied by a photograph.... did I say photograph? I mean photographS - plural, beautiful photographs - of the bike, the items

discussed, and of views of things any Beemerphile would want to poke his or her nose into had they the bike under consideration sitting in front of them to examine. And these are full page color photos on excellent glossy paper. The details in the pictures are to die for. The best I've ever seen in a so-called 'bike book'. And they are not skimmed on. There are tons of 'em. Full page. Invariably. And a number of the bikes photographed are from Peter Nettesheim's famous (and fabulous) collection. If you've ever seen any of these bikes, say, at an BMW MOA Rally where Peter



had brought some, you know what they look like: as though they were just rolled off the dealer's floor the year they were made. Incidentally, his entire collection is profiled in full for the first time in this book. In a way, you can have Peter's Museum right in your own living room, along with much more.

Enough said. You get the picture... and if you buy the book, you'll get the pictures! Not to mention the great text and history... and of a number of things you may not have known before.

This new book, produced by the Quayside Publishing Group's Motorbooks is, or will be, available over-the-counter at your favorite bookstore for the wee price of \$40 a copy. However, I've been informed by Nicole Schiele, their Senior Marketing Manager, that if people from our club would like to go together on a single order of 10 or more copies we can get them for an appreciable discount, providing a single order for the 10 or more is submitted. If my CRS (Can't Remember Stuff) syndrome doesn't kick in, I'll try to check with the board at our meeting at Leo and Holly's (it's still in the future as I write this) to see if we can cadge someone to be an official order-taker. If so, that information will be forthcoming. In any event, this book indeed does the Art of the BMW motorcycle proud! Get one. You won't be disappointed.

RALPH

For those who like surfing (the 'Net, that is), check out these URLs: http://www.motorbooks.com/Store/ProductDetails_40591.ncm and for general motor books: <http://www.motorbooks.com/>

Incidentally, also please note that the tiny pictures in the newsletter here do NOT do the pictures in the book justice. They are large enough and so detailed that you get the feeling you could touch the actual bike. I've never seen better!



GNADENHUTTEN
("TENTS OF GRACE")
THE WEST BREAKFAST RIDE
SAT. SEPT. 13, 2008

by Walt Halaja

Sonny Robison told me about these two small towns "Gnadenhutten, OH" and "Newcomerstown, OH" last year, so since then I have been anxious to ride there.



This would be my 2nd time there, and Paul White "PW" rode along with me when at first I thought there would be no breakfast ride at all this day. I had posted and no one replied except Ralph who said the rain was moving east so he would stay home. So I then posted I would also stay home. As soon as I did that, PW e-mailed me that he wanted to at least meet for breakfast, so I said OK. Well I reposted that I was going. "Crazy!!" As I arrived at Bob Evans thru a very light drizzle, Dave Manfredo was already there; then along came PW. So we had three for breakfast. NICE! After breakfast, PW wanted to ride and didn't care about the rain around about us. PW brought me some tomatoes—"the nice guy that he is", so we had to ride back to my house to drop them off. I thought of going South to get below the rain, but upon a recheck, west looked the better choice to ride. So off we went with our rain gear on.

We passed thru Newcomerstown which has some good history of its own, and arrived at the Gnadenhutten cemetery at 13:41 hrs. with 127.9 miles on my trip meter. The Museum was open this time. This is where the Gnadenhutten Indians are buried in a mass grave. One side of the Historic marker reads in part:



The Gnadenhutten Massacre, "A Day of Shame", Early in 1782 the Gnadenhutten Indians were mistaken for Indian raiders who had struck in Western Pennsylvania. They were captured without incident by a group of Western Pa. militia... and killed on March 8, 1782. 90 men, woman, and children were brutally killed. Only two young boys were

known to escape. These were Christian Indians, men in one cabin, and woman and children in another. They prayed and sang all night before their executions.



I arrived home at 17:20 hrs., with 213.8 miles, the temp range was from the low 70's to 83 degrees with very high humidity which made for very pleasant riding. A good ride it was!

My first ride there was on August 12th with Capt. Scooter; unfortunately, we had an accident, which some of you already know. Capt. Scooter lost his bike "Thornburg", but the good news is that neither he nor I was seriously injured, "Thank God"!

WALT



PREP YOUR BIKE FOR WINTER

From: "Hornig GmbH"

1. Clean your bike properly.
2. Do the necessary repairs or give the bike to a professional repair shop (the waiting time is usually not so long before the winter).
3. Is it necessary to change the oil in the engine or in the fully suspended drive?
4. Grease bowden cables, arms or chains and other movable parts.
5. Check the clutch and the brakes.
6. Remove the battery, check the acid. Charge it all 6 to 8 weeks.
7. Fill iron tanks with petrol. Empty plastic tanks.
8. Clean the fuel-, air filter and the carburetor, if you have one.
9. Preserve chrome and plastic parts with wax or or similar sprays.
10. Rise the pressure in the tyres 0,3 to 0,5 bar.
11. Change the pre-load of the suspensions to the lowest level.
12. Park the bike at a dry place.
13. Lift the bike when possible so that there's no more pressure on the tyres, that's also good for the suspension and the headset journal.
14. Cover the bike with some material which allows for airflow in order to avoid condensation water.
15. Don't start the engine during the winter.
16. And don't forget to check the driver ;)

All BMW bikes can be found here:
<http://www.mhornig.de/en/produkte.html>

Kind regards,
 Motorcycle Accessory Hornig GmbH
 Hochwiesenweg 2
 D93458 Eschlkam
<http://www.motorradzubehoer-hornig.de/en/home.html>

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WATCH YOUR SIX!

E-mails received from George Blackham IV, U.S.M.C. Ret'd:
 All,

At 7 a.m. today I was hit from behind on my way to work. I was stopped for a school bus that had its flashing lights on. It was along route 30 (2 lane road) near Boswell, headed westbound. I was on my 1992 BMW R100GS/PD. The lady that slammed into me was driving a P/T cruiser and slammed into me as I was sitting still and smashed my bike pretty good: Destroyed the right bag and mounts, smashed the rear fender, smashed the rear wheel, smashed the right valve cover, crash bar, and carburetor, and had the right side pulled off; there may be frame and driveshaft damage, etc. as well. The impact sent me flying in the air and landing onto 30. The bike was driven (pushed) under the left side of the bus. I got up immediately and am fine, but sore. The lady's skidmarks were a good 40 feet long and she was not paying attention at all. By the time I heard the skid and went to look in my mirror, I was already airborne. The sun was on her and my back and it was clear out.

The bike is decommissioned for now and not rideable. It will sit in

my garage awaiting an insurance decision. This lady would have killed or seriously injured a child if they were crossing the street... The kid getting on the bus luckily came from the same side as the bus door. That lady is in big trouble with the State Poilce, etc.

Here I am at work, sipping coffee, and typing to you! Have a great Monday and "WATCH FOR BIKES OUT THERE"!!!!!!!!!!

PEACE,

GJBIV

Tim and Diane Pears (and several others from the club) e-mailed their commiserations to George...

PART 2:
George's response to Tim and Diane Pears' e-mail...

Tim & Diane,

Thanks for the response back. The bus was on the East bound and I was on the West bound side of route 30. It was a 2 lane there and we were both sitting still as a kid was boarding the bus from the bus door side. The lady that hit me from behind was barreling down the road and left skid marks a good 40 to 50 feet long before impacting me. I was tossed into the air and landed on Rte 30 in front of her car. The bike was pushed under the edge of the bus halfway down the driver's side of the bus with the throttle pinned to the ground and it was still running. I got up and shut the bike off and started to walk around a little. A sore right ankle is all I have wrong with me.

The bike is pretty trashed- bags, fender, bag mounts, tail of frame, potentially rear wheel/ shaft housing/ frame. The impact pulled off the right carb. and scraped open the right valve cover plus scraping up the right crash bar. I was wearing a reflective Joe Rocket Coat with padding, Bright Orange outer vest garmet, helmet, gloves, eye protection and shin high riding boots. I was hit at probably 20-25 MPH by the time the P/T Cruiser hit the back of the bike.

Again, share with all & learn from it I guess. What could I have done different: ALWAYS scan the mirror WHENEVER coming to a stop on ANY road. I did look down and nothing was coming and then once I heard the screech of tires I went to look again but that was too late = AIRBORNE! Had I looked at my mirror the whole time, I guess I could have advanced forward through the bus stop (which is illegal). The lady is in big trouble and will be paying for repair or replacement of a 1992 R100GS/PD.

PEACE-

GJBIV

From the editor...

George kindly said I could share this with you-all in the club newsletter as a very clear heads-up to all of us to "watch your Six" (o'clock) as the fighter pilots used to say—as that's still a place where those who can get you can come from. It's pretty clear that even stopped legally for a school bus with flashing red lights, no less, is not a guarantee of safety. Thanks for sharing, George, and we all hope the aches and pains from the unwanted 'flight' are well gone, and you'll

soon have a bike in good repair and on the road again! Peace to you too, friend! And to all, as the Amish say, "Be careful out there among them English!"



Location: Eastern Freeway (Kew) Melbourne Victoria
Time: 6:30pm Sunday 27th January
Speed: 100km/h

AUSSIE BAR-B TRANSPORT

On Australia Day down under, y' can't do without ya takes yer Bar-B with ya to yer cook-out, can ya Myte? Yeperee. Or, at least, so this Aussie thought. Well, if he did hit something, he'd be protected by steel all around and a grid in addition to his helmet face-plate. "All the gear, all the time," huh? Picture sent along by Jürgen Brune, our Spokane WA correspondent.

Incidentally, for the metrically unaware, 1 km = .621 miles. This fellow is going about 62 mph...



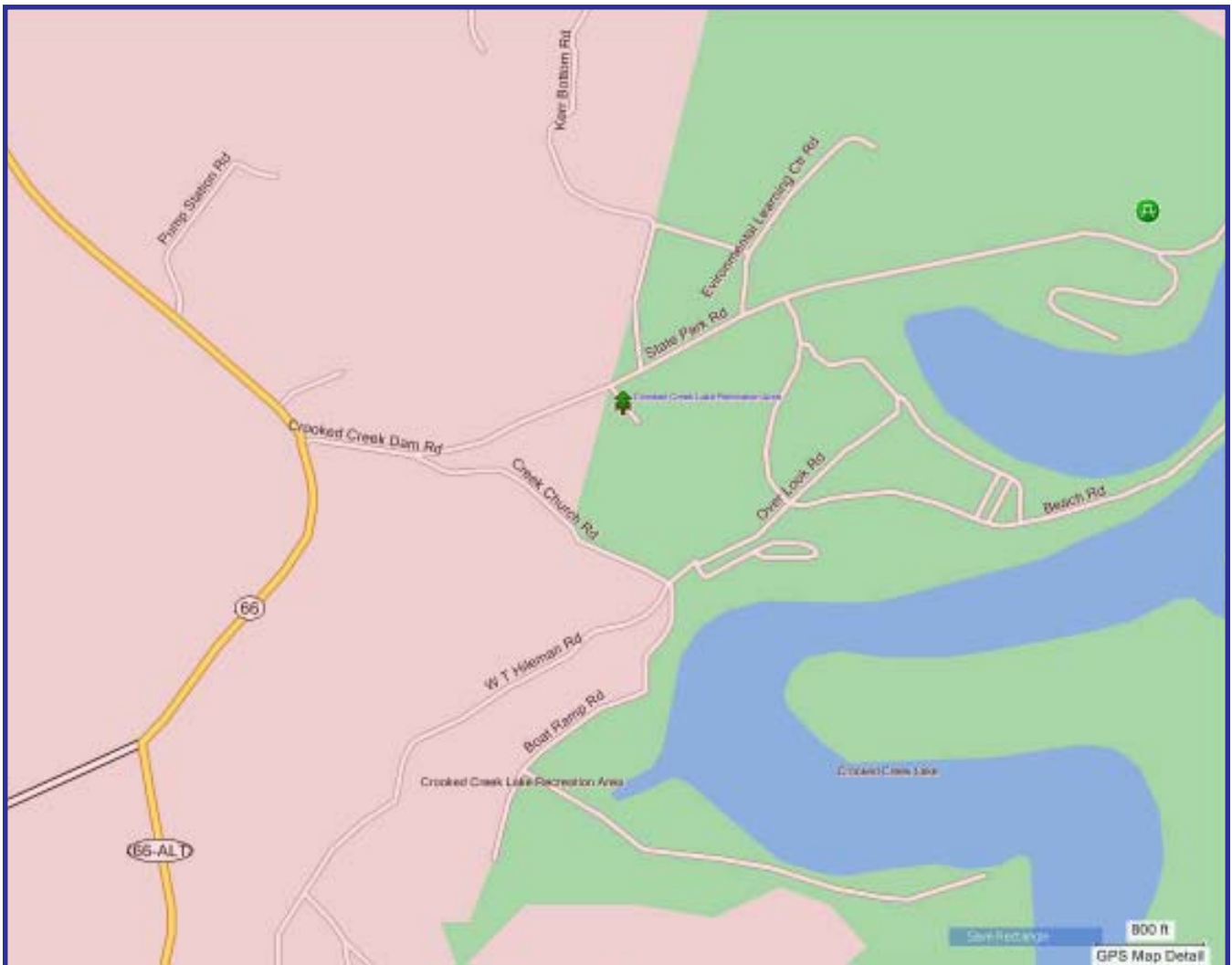
BREAKFAST RIDERS

Kev Hart sez he shot this picture of our breakfast riders at the North Breakfast Ride... Or was that the South?? West??? East???? Looks familiar though, don't it? Izzat Dan 2nd from the left? ...Nahhh. The Syphoon? PW? Walt? Dave? John? Sean? Ron? Ralph? Sonny? Jack? Mitch?... Kinda hard to tell in a small photo, huh?



MEETING MAPS

Here's an Aerial view of the meeting location for this month, with a map below.



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

To join, come to a meeting and introduce yourself. Meetings are listed here in the Newsletter and in the schedule of events on the Web Site, www.4windsbmw.org. Membership dues are \$15 per year for primary membership, and \$7.50 per year for associate members residing in the same household as a primary member.

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING:

The regular club meeting will be held October 18th, 2008 from 2:00 PM** to 5:00 PM at the Shelter 'Constitution' in Crooked Creek Lake Park, 114 Park Main Road, Ford City, PA 16226-8815. Bring your own sack lunch and drink.

From the East and South: If you're coming from the South on Rt 66 from Leechburg, turn right onto Crooked Creek Dam Rd. approx. 0.5 miles after Rt. 66 merges with Alt. Rt 66. Follow Crooked Creek Dam Rd, which turns into State Park Rd., for approx. 1 mile. After you cross the dam turn left into the Constitution shelter parking lot.

From the West and North: If you're coming from the West or North on Hwy 422, take Exit A after you cross the Allegheny River and merge onto Rt. 66 south. After approx. 6.4 mi south on Rt. 66 turn left onto Crooked Creek Dam Rd. Follow Crooked Creek Dam Rd, which turns into State Park Rd., for approx. 1 mile. After you cross the dam turn left into the Constitution shelter parking lot.

See the picture and map on p. 11.

**The Board will meet at 1:00PM before the regular meeting.