

DEC.



2008

MOA # 6

www.4windsbmw.org

RA # 76



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

What a long strange trip it has been. The Year 2008 has been one for the record books. Many of you have seen your 401Ks turn into 201Ks. The banks have tanked like Dan Weaver's final drive. Gas went up to \$4 a gallon and back down to almost \$2. During the spring and summer, scooter showrooms emptied out and you still have to wait 18 months for a Smart Car.

On a personal note, I haven't had so many W2's since I was a teenager. I am currently working for Day Vespa in Shadyside and for the next several months, and with the riding season over, I will have to sell enough Jeep, Chrysler, and Dodge vehicles to justify my keep until the warm weather and another spike in fuel prices creates brisk demand for the showroom full of Italian beauties within my gaze as I write this missive.

Today, I have driven my car to work for the first time in 192 days. I was trying for 210 days, but there was no way to safely navigate the icy brick paved streets in my neighborhood on the scooter.

So the banquet is coming soon. Our original venue tanked, but the venerable 4-Winds board with magnificent help from Sean

HAPPY HOLI- DAYS!

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NO DECEMBER MEETING

The next meeting of the Four Winds BMW Riders will be held in January at our annual Banquet on Sat., January 17th, 2008 at the Crown Plaza Hotel, across from the South Hills Village Mall from 6–11PM. There will be a buffet meal at 7, preceded by a cash-bar from 6 to 7PM. Overnight accommodations can be had at the hotel for \$95 for those who wish to stay overnight after the banquet. **There will be no regular club meeting in December.**

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 BEFORE the club normal club meeting date (e.g., Dec. Non-Meeting: Dec. 20; **Jan. issue deadline: Tues., Dec. 16th**). 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 hgd 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.

December, 2008 — No Monthly Meeting

January 17, 2009 — Annual Club Banquet, 6:00-11 PM, at The Crowne Plaza Hotel, 164 Fort Couch Rd (about 5.7 miles South of the Liberty Tunnels off Rte 19).

2008 SHACK SCHEDULE

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

Barrett scrambled and found a new venue. The number of emails back and forth darn near made my Blackberry explode.

So watch the website for events such as Shack Packs, the Banquet, and possible car-pooling opportunities to Cleveland for the Motorcycle Show. I have several dozen new and used minivans at my disposal, and yes, I will definitely try to arrange one to use for a wintery voyage to the IX Center.

And finally, since a picture says 1,000 words, here is a picture that says "SNOW! frick, frick, frick, one thousand times FRICK!"



MPCH

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, Dec 7 — North at King's, I-79 & Rt 910/VIP Dr., 10:00 AM

Sat, Dec 13 — West at Bob Evans, Rt 60 & Campbell's Run Rd, 9:00 AM

Sun, Dec 21 — South at King's, 3049 Washington Pike, off Exit 54, I-79, Bridgeville, 10:00 AM

Sat, Dec 27 — 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.

'09 F800GS TEST

January 2009's Rider Magazine, p. 30, has a rider test article on the 2009 BMW F800GS. They like it! They like it!





MEETING MINUTES
FOUR WINDS BMW RIDERS
Nov. 15TH

Location: Vincent's Pizza, Greentree
Board Attendance: Jay Singh, Ralph Meyer, Joann Barr,
Diane Pears, Tom Primke, Ron Latkovic

Approximately 30 people attended the meeting which was called to order by Vice President Jay Singh

January Christmas Banquet: Will be held on the usual third Saturday of the month, January 17, 2009. Sean Barrett reported that the Greentree Holiday Inn has been sold and various complications have arisen, therefore the location has been changed to the Crown Plaza Hotel (formerly a Holiday Inn Express) next to the South Hills Village Mall. Various options for a speaker are still being pursued. We are going to invite the Laurel Highlands club to join us. Please send photos of anything bike related you've done to Ralph for a slide show loop. Bring your photo albums to the banquet as well. Watch the newsletter for more details and the reservation form. Ideas for door prizes, awards, entertainment, etc. are always welcomed.

Re-evaluate Membership Dues: Walt Halaja mentioned that the club dues have not gone up for ten years and suggested we may need to consider raising them perhaps to \$25 a year instead of relying solely on the rally to generate operating funds. He also suggested a possible multi-year option at maybe \$60 for 5 years might be good to consider as well.

Re-evaluate Breakfast Rides: Walt Halaja requested a re-evaluation of breakfast ride schedules. They are currently listed in the MOA Anonymous Book which obligates us to have someone present at each one. He suggested possibly consider reducing the frequency and/or stopping in late fall and starting again in early spring, and suggested having all rides start at 9:00AM.

Member Kathy Rolonski's Death: She was a good friend of Kay and Gary Smith's. Joanne Barr will send a card from the club.

Guests: Kris McClain, friend of Patrick Barrett.

Shack Pack Meeting This Thurs., Nov. 20: Tom Primke will be hosting with maintenance on K75's and possibly a K-100 project on the agenda. Watch the website and newsletter for directions.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

DIANE PEARS

RECORDING SECRETARY



BMW BOOKS

THE ART OF BMW: 85 YEARS OF MOTORCYCLING
EXCELLENCE

I've received the invoice for the BMW books members ordered. According to the invoice, as we mentioned before, the cost per book is \$21.60 (46% off the cover price of \$40.00/book), and the shipping costs per book from Motorbooks International in Osceola, WI to Pittsburgh work out to \$1.40 per book.

Hand delivered at one of the Breakfast Rides to those who wish them, the total price is thus \$23.00. Tom Primke says he'll shoot me in the foot if I hand out any books without payment, so please provide either a check for the amount made out to "4 Winds BMW Riders" or the exact cash for the book you ordered when you pick the book up. **Please e-mail me at meyer@zoominternet.net or phone me at 724-443-4937 and let me know at which breakfast ride you would like to pick up your book.** I plan definitely on going to the North, West, and East Breakfast Rides, and can go to the South if there are folks who would wish to pick up their copy at that location. You can also pick up your copy at my home in Bakerstown any time if you wish. **But you must let me know where and when!** If the weather's good, I'll carry the books to the Breakfast Ride(s) in the Beemer (R1200RT). If it's bad, I'll break down (ugh!) and use the cage. But I will be there if that's where you want to pick your book up, all things being equal, the creek don't rise, and the epizootic don't hit (and if any of them do, I'll in turn let you know in plenty of time beforehand!)

However, if you want or need your copy delivered some other way (mailed to you via USPS or hand delivered to your home, or somewhere near there), please let me know that also either by e-mail or telephone, ASAP. Of course, there'll have to be an additional postage/packing charge/gas burned charge for such special delivery. Sorry about that.

As of this date (Tuesday, Nov. 18th) the books have arrived and distribution operations are ON. Please be sure to e-mail or phone me FORTHWITH (i.e., ASAP) with where those of you who have ordered a copy wish to pick it up.

RALPH





WEST BREAKFAST RIDE SAT. NOV. 8, 08

by Walt Halaja and John Allen

John Allen was the first to post that he would be there because he needed a place to go/ride. The weather doesn't stop John; remember the picture some months ago of a snow covered landscape behind the windshield of a motorcycle? Well, John took that photo, so you see weather is not an issue with John: "He Rides"! NICE! That was all it took for me to attend. Ralph Meyer also posted: another member who isn't afraid to venture out. I knew Paul White ("PW") was coming, "who finally got himself an electric vest"—another NICE! So that would make 4 members: just enough. Well, we had three more show up: Dave Manfredo, Dave "2 Spark" McLaughlin, and Greg Lievan. A good long breakfast we had—actually we didn't leave till approx. 10:15 hours.

Friday nite I received a phone call that kept me from riding, so instead of just going to our grandson's birthday party at 16:00 hrs., I had to attend another party at 12:30 hrs.. Dave Manfredo had things to do; besides, he had two extra wheels (the 'cage'), and Ralph and PW were heading home. So that left John Allen, 2 Spark and Greg Lievan. John wanted to explore part of Rt. 18 and beyond on his way home, so those three headed out together while the rest of us went our separate ways. Well, last month I wanted to take a long ride and couldn't, and the same thing happened this month, so, if the weather is good next month maybe a ride for me will happen.

...WALT

Here's a description of the ride:

Our threesome gassed up and left Bob Evans heading west on US22 and then south on PA18 through Burgettstown to Cross Creek road where the fun begins. We rode on through the towns of Cross Creek and Avella and PA50 to PA231. A detour on PA231 led us further west and into Bethany, WV where we jumped on WV88 going south to Wheeling. Out of Wheeling we checked out CR5 which parallels the more commonly used WV88 south, but is more rural. I highly recommend CR5 for its lack of traffic and twisty nature, though the blacktop is not exactly pristine. Senator Byrd, calling Senator Byrd, we need an earmark for CR5, and while you're at it, WV72 from Kingwood to Parsons needs your attention too.

As good as the preceding roads were, now we're getting to the really good ones. US250 east from WV88 to Cameron, WV is motorcycle heaven. We went north out of Cameron by twisty back roads

to Waynesburg, PA and then north to one of Dave's favorite eateries in Ten Mile for a giant hamburger. After a sumptuous repast we took more scenic roads through Marianna and then north to Beallsville on US40 where we abandoned Greg to find his own way home somewhere north of Pittsburgh and the Allegheny River.

We saw many damp roads on our ride, but were spared any actual rain and had a grand time, about 165 miles from Bob Evans to South Park. Who knows how many more miles Greg needed to find his way home. 😊

...JOHN



JEFF FOXWORTHY ON PENNSYLVANIA:

If you consider it a sport to sit in a tree all day long with a bow or a gun just to put food in your freezer, you might live in Pennsylvania.

If you're proud that your region makes the national news 96 nights each year because Bradford is the coldest spot in the nation, you might live in Pennsylvania.

If your local Dairy Queen is closed from November through March, you might live in Pennsylvania.

If you instinctively walk like a penguin for five months of the year, you might live in Pennsylvania.

If someone in a store offers you assistance, and they don't work there, you might live in Pennsylvania 'cause you're all so damn friendly.

If your dad's suntan stops at a line curving around the middle of his forehead, 'cause he wears a hardhat, you might live in Pennsylvania.

If you have worn shorts, sunglasses, and a parka at the same time, you might live in Pennsylvania.

If your town has an equal number of bars and churches, or if you are in church and your priest or minister asks you to pray for the STEELERS, and wants to get himself and you all home for the 1 p.m. kickoff, you might live in Pennsylvania.

If you have had a lengthy telephone conversation with someone who dialed a wrong number, you might live in Pennsylvania.

YOU KNOW YOU ARE A TRUE Pennsylvanian WHEN:

1. 'Vacation' means going up north past I-80 for the weekend.
2. You measure distance in hours.
3. You know several people who have hit a deer more than once.
4. You often switch from 'Heat' to 'A/C' in the same day and back again.
5. You can drive 65 mph through 2 feet of snow during a raging blizzard without flinching.
6. You see people wearing camouflage at social events (including weddings and funerals).
7. You install security lights on your house and garage and leave all the doors unlocked.
8. You carry jumper cables in your car and your girlfriend knows how to use them.
9. You design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit.
10. You feel driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow.

11. You know all 4 seasons: almost fall, winter, still winter, and road construction.
12. You can identify a southern or eastern accent.
13. Your idea of creative landscaping is a concrete statue of a deer next to your blue spruce.
14. You were unaware that there is a legal drinking age.
15. 'Down South' to you means Morgantown, WV.
16. A critter is something you eat.
17. Your neighbor throws a party to celebrate his NEW FORD F150.
18. You go out to a fish fry every Friday and bingo every Wednesday.
19. Your 4th of July picnic was moved indoors due to frost.
20. You have more miles on your snow blower than your car.
21. You find 0 degrees 'a little chilly.'
22. You actually understand these descriptions and can't understand why some folks don't.

If you have cable or Dish TV, watch Jeff Foxworthy and the Blue Collar Comics on the Comedy Channel.



BANQUET SLIDE SHOW

We are making up a slide show of club members, places been and seen, and activities in 2008 about what the club members have been up to, to show during happy hour at our January 17th Banquet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. If you have pictures you would like to put in the show that you've taken of your and your club's activities during 2008, you can e-mail them (if you haven't already) to meyer@zoominternet.net; Ralph is making up the DVD for the slide show to use at the banquet. Also, if you have a laptop with a DVD player, please let Mitch or Jay know if it can be used to project the slides at the banquet. Please get any pictures you want in to Ralph by the 31st of December.



REVEREND LIVE-TO-RIDE GOES HOME

By Don Poremski

It is a day for reflection. I sit at my keyboard looking out at the snow that is trying to accumulate on my lawn and can't help but feel all the things that come with the seasons' cycling: bleak skies, the last

of the deciduous leaves clinging to their perches, dry-brown vegetation and dormancy. Fall of 2008 is a bit drearier with the loss of friends to the inevitable human cycle of birth-life-death.

But we are best remembered by how we conduct ourselves in the middle of that cycle. Remembering Al Yorio after his memorial service has been curiously uplifting, however, because of the example he provided to all who knew him, in whatever context that occurred.

My first meeting with Al came when he was president of the Four Winds when I joined the club in 1987. Another Al (Vangura) was instrumental in promoting membership when he learned of my purchasing a BMW motorcycle. How different a group that was, and yet how similar. There is still the commonality of BMW ownership, the gathering of riders to repair, modify or primp their mounts, the same hilarity at our annual rally-but what will be missing is the constancy of Al Yorio's outlook and behavior toward his fellow riders. At his recent memorial I heard that the same attitude prevailed with his non-riding contacts, too.

It was an honor when Al got to know you well enough to refer to you as "brother", and when he said it, he meant it. He was a spiritual man who practiced his religion in actions as well as words, but without the proselytizing. He found his joy in most things that surrounded him: his family, his church and his motorcycles. Would that I had ridden with him more often, for there is nothing that bonds one man to another than sharing a road well ridden together.

When references to Al come at some time in the future, as indeed they shall, our thoughts should be about his ebullience, steady faith in the inherent goodness of his fellow man, and his love of the riding experience. He was taken too early in the middle of the human cycle, but I'm sure that he would remind us that for him it was an entry into the next cycle and for us to "miss him, but let him go".

DON



SAFETY TIP

Winter's here, and Pye Youmping Yimminy, there'll be temperatures below 32° Fahrenheit (whoever he was) which, according to physics teachers and others in the know, is the temperature at which a certain ubiquitous liquid transforms from that state into a solid one... with the propensity, upon a bit of heat and pressure, to liquify again on its slippery smooth surface, creating a situation that, unless one's tires are equipped with steel spikes, lets their coefficient of friction

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.

<http://blog.oup.com/2008/11/hypermiling/> What's Hypermiling? (It's the Oxford Dictionary "Word of the Year".) Check out what it is and entails at this URL!

shake hands with zero--i.e. no grip at all: Ice. It's bad enough to ride on when you know it's there, but when you're dealing with 'black ice,' the stuff that you can't really tell is ice, it becomes even worse. A dry road can have patches of this stuff in spots you never expect, but the worst places to 'find' it are on curves. So keep an weather eye on the road surface and be especially careful on curves, even when the temp's above 32°, as shaded spots can harbor this stuff, still unmelted and dangerous.



KATHY ROSLONSKI PASSES

Walt Halaja

Please be advised that club member Kathleen Roslonski has passed away. Kathy was a dear friend of BMWMOA Ambassadors Gary and Kay Smith. Kathy used to travel on the back of Gary's bike on trips. I had posted one of Kathy's articles on our web site and it is reprinted here following this notice if you would like to re-read it. You can hear Kathy's 'voice' that way if you never had the chance to meet her. This article was reprinted from the February 1998 newsletter.

Gary e-mailed me:

Walt,

I'm sending you this email today to inform you that Kathy Roslonsky, a club member, died on Friday, October 31st. She had been dealing with cancer and various treatments for some time. She went into the hospital in the morning to address the build up of fluids, took a turn for the worst, and died quickly. She was a very special friend of Kay's and our family. She was like an aunt to our children from the time they were very little. Please let the club know of Kathy's death.

Thanks.

Gary Smith



**NEW ZEALAND
ON THE BACK OF A BMW
REPRINTED FROM FEBRUARY 1998,**

by Kathy Roslonski

Last year at this time I was touring the South Island of New Zealand with Kay and Gary Smith. Seventeen men and woman along with our guides Al and Bob enjoyed the Maori Meander offered by Beach's

Motorcycle Adventures, Ltd. To say these two weeks were an adventure would be putting it mildly. Gary and I rode an R80 GS while Kay rode a Yamaha Diversion 600.

Riding on the left side on two lane roads with no guide rails caused even good drivers like Kay and Gary to increase their levels of concentration. The admonition to "think left, look right" was never far from our minds.

We began our first day's ride, as we would many others, in the rain. Shortly after leaving Christchurch Gary thought he saw road construction ahead. Much to our surprise, we quickly became enveloped by a crowd of sheep running down the road. We simply had to stop and wait while they pushed past us.

On our way to Milford Sound we drove on a dirt road through Heimer Tunnel which was pitch-black with water dripping from the ceiling. And I always hated to drive through the Liberty Tubes in a car! I've come a long way, baby!!

On our way from Te Anau to Queenstown Gary decided to take a dirt road. Are you surprised? Along the way we forded two streams and went through twelve cattle gates. Of course, it was my job to get off the bike to open and close the gates. I knew I was good for something! At the end of our ride Gary put both bikes carefully on the ferry which took us to Queenstown. Kay headed to bungee jump while Gary and I drove toward Arrowtown and our own adventure. However, you will have to ask Gary about that!

We began the second week of the tour in the rain on a road that was very rough and muddy. The tourbook suggested we turn back after enjoying the view up the side of the valley. Of course we didn't turn back! The scenery was beautiful. Waterfalls cascaded out of the mountains so close to the road that I was thankful to have worn my rain gear. We came around a curve to see waves crashing on the sea.

On the last day of the tour we were on our bikes by 6:35 in the morning. The road meandered along beautiful seacoast with pounding waves past stately palm trees standing lonely on the horizon. The ever-present fern trees waved to us as we sped past. Rock formations shaped like pancakes stood silently on the horizon. We soon left this beautiful scenery behind only to be greeted by "purple mountains majesty." Going through Otira Gorge and over Arthur's Pass was breath-taking, and I must admit was the only time I was scared on the bike.

At a mass I attended in Christchurch the priest quoted a wise man who said, "A person is not spiritually mature until he has learned to spend some time with himself alone." On the bike I felt alone—completely free with no cares in the world. To paraphrase the Nissan commercial, "Life is a journey. I certainly enjoyed the ride!"

KATHY

Requiescat in Pace, Kathy!



Attention all members who have submitted beginning mileage reports this year -- you know who you are. December has arrived! Please submit your ending mileages before Jan. 8th.

Note: your Dec. 31, 2008 mileage will be your beginning mileage for Jan 1, 2009!

Four Winds Mileage Contest

Jan 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008



Ending Mileage Form – Year 2008

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	Ending Mileage
Bike 1		
Bike 2		
Bike 3		

Mileage submitted must be an honest record of the odometer readings for the Motorcycles you currently own, operate and submit for the beginning and end of the 2007 year. 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:





**NORTH BREAKFAST RIDE
11/2/2008**

Well folks, it happened this-a-way. “Lineman” (Scott) said on the club net site he’d make it, and pretty soon others’ hats were also in the ring. ReddyK (Ron Latkovic, also AKA “Cycleholic”) posted that he’d asked the manager of King’s to leave a note for the Sunday morning folks to reserve the front room for us. And they did! Many thanks, Ron! By the time everybody moseyed in, sixteen riders had arrived to sample King’s fare. Which we did. You could tell when the food arrived as the the sonic volume diminished to merely a dull roar. Obviously we were having fun comparing notes prior to eggs, sausage, pancakes, fruit, oatmeal, juice, and what-not, all washed down with fine tea or coffee.

I have no idea when we actually finished verbally kicking tires, as the clock on the RT was still on DST and EST had reared its ugly head earlier in the day. I’ve heered tell EST’s supposed to go on at 2 Ayem, but I ain’t hung around before hittin’ the hay to find out what the timey buggers do with that extra hour they grab away from us. Never hung out in a pumpkin patch to see if it was sincere enuf for the Great Pumpkin to arise neither. So I couldn’t tell when we really quit eatin’ an’ saddled up.

Anyways, a bunch of us last spring rode up to the Mishihoguan U.P. (Upper Peninsula) to the RA Rally, an’ most of us were there at the breakfast. Come ta find out, seems one of that bunch, a fine feller by the name of Larry Morley, who’s the township manager of New Brighton, wound up with a sciatiky nerve problem and them white coated hospital fellers did a bit of operatin’ on ‘im a week or two before to fix it so’s his gitalong did’nt have that hitch in it any more. He was still recuperatin’ and maybe not feelin’ quite up to snuff, so PW (Paul White) had e-mailed a couple of us with the suggestion that a ride up to Larry’s place to cheer him up and ogle the town might be a good idea. PW sent me a Garmin Mapsource map with Larry’s house marked, so I punched in the North B-Ride King’s and told Mapsource to lay us out the shortest route there—pretty please with sugar on it. —I’ve done found out that if ya tell the dang thing to go the fastest way, it always sticks ya with runnin’ on the turnpike or one’a them Interstatey things. Never did like either one of ‘em much ‘cept when I really hadda get somewheres fast. Found out too that ya could tell the thing whether ya like highways, er byways. I let it set betwixt the two, an’ it spit out what

looked like a pretty good route to Larry’s dome-ee-sile. Then I plugged in m’ GPS unit to the computer and told it to trot that there route right on down an’ put ‘er in the ‘lil black box. Sent the file with the route over to PW too, and he said it looked good to him, so I figgered we were in like Flynn.

So after we adjourned from King’s a bunch of us had other things to do, but 7 of us headed out by them there back roads to Larry’s. It were kinda a neat ride, though I was keepin’ an eye sorta on three places at once, the GPS screen, the road, and the guys behind me so’s not to leave anybody in the lurch. Come to find out, they were some pretty dang nice roads... up and down and sorta all around. Not much straight stuff a-tall. An’ all two laners too.

Well, we made ‘er to New Brighton all right, and wound through



town to Larry’s to find him out and supervisin’ the leaf rakin’ his family was doin’ around some big trees. Seems the operation put him in the driver’s seat when it came to the rakin’: supervisin’. He said he was doin’ fine, and lookin’ happy as a lark, so after some more kickin’ of tires, and gettin’ of some pictures, and rakin’ of some leaves we all hopped back on the bikes and headed for home. Another Breakfast Ride that turned as yewshual into a great day.



Rowf!



The Four Winds Annual Banquet
at the

CROWNE PLAZA PITTSBURGH SOUTH

164 FORT COUCH RD. * PITTSBURGH 15241
(412) 833-5300

Saturday, January 17, 2009

6:00 - 7:00PM - Cash Bar

7:00PM - Buffet Style Dinner

Dinner followed by Entertainment 'til 11:00PM

\$25.- /pp

(Members, Associate Members, Laurel Highlands Members, Guests, Non-Members)

(special 'Four Winds' Room Rate available: \$95)



Directions to the Crowne Plaza Pittsburgh South:

From Downtown Pittsburgh, the East and North:

Take I-279 south. Take exit 5A for Banksville Rd. and merge onto US-19. After approx. 3.0 miles turn left at Cochran Rd./PA-121/US-19. Continue to follow US-19 for another 3 miles. Turn left at Fort Couch Rd. and after 0.3 mi make a U-turn at Oxford Dr. Go back approx. 0.2 miles and arrive at the Crowne Plaza.

From The Parkway West & Greater Pittsburgh International Airport:

From Pittsburgh International Airport Follow 60 South which turns into Rt. 22/30. Follow signs for I-79 South-Washington. Take Heidelberg-Kirwan Heights exit 55. Make a right onto Washington Pike. First light left onto Vanadium Road. First light right onto Bower Hill Road. Second light left onto Painters Run Road. First light right onto McMillan Road. First left onto Ft. Couch Road. Second light left into parking lot.

✂----- **RSVP by January 10, 2009** -----✂

Name : _____

attending : _____ **x \$25.- =** _____ **(enclose this amount)**

Send check (made payable to Four Winds BMW Riders) to:

Tom Primke - Treasurer 512 White Birch Court Pittsburgh, PA 15238

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

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

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

JANUARY BANQUET INFORMATION:

**NOTE THAT, AS IS OUR USUAL WONT, THERE WILL BE NO
REGULAR CLUB MEETING IN DECEMBER.**

Mark your calendars: **The Annual 4-Winds Banquet** will be held from 6:00PM to 11:00 PM on Saturday evening, January 17th, 2009, at the Crown Plaza Hotel, 164 Fort Couch Road, Pittsburgh, PA, which is about 5 miles south of the Liberty Tubes just off Rte 19 and directly across from the South Hills Village Mall. There will be a cash bar happy hour from 6-7PM, with a delicious buffet meal and program to follow. The price of the banquet is \$25.00 per person, and you can mail in your reservation and check to Tom Primke, our treasurer, using the form on the previous page. You might want to clip the reservation part off to send to Tom, and keep the rest as it provides directions to the Hotel (but they'll also be in the January Newsletter).