

# JAN.

## MOA # 6

BMW Club  
Four Winds Riders



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

# 2015

## RA # 76

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

There will be no president's letter this month. Adrian, our friend and 2014 President, a man of delightful personality and excellent ride leadership but few words sighed with relief thinking his necessary monthly penmanship stint was up come the December 2014 issue of the newsletter, and so, was no doubt surprised by a request for a president's letter this month and probably said upon receipt of the request, "Ummmm...uhhh...Huh??? What???".... And John, our fine new 2015 President, when asked if he might wish to submit one... responded with a ringing ...."OUCH!!! My speechwriter's un-locatable..."

So, OK folks, look for a Prez's letter next month, when John (or his speechwriter) has time to prep one, and where Adrian can just sit back, smile sublimely, and enjoy not having to mess with something to be got in under the 'deadline wire'. Meantime, your ersatz edjiter will try to rummage around in the textual grab bag and try to find something to fill this here space. And if he can't find anything, the space below will remain in snow-white condition as a reminder of what us motorcyclists have to put up with at this time of year. And to be careful out there if you ride on that stuff! Yeeeeeesh.

**THIS IS WHAT SNOW LOOKS LIKE. IF YOU SEE SOME...LEAVE THE BIKE INSIDE...OR BE VERY CAREFUL OUT THERE!**

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!  
MAY IT IN-  
CLUDE MANY  
SMILES!**

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015

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### ANNUAL BANQUET INFO

The annual banquet of the Four Winds BMW Riders will be held on Sat., Jan 17th., 2015 at the Hilton Garden Inn 200 Garden View Lane in Cranberry from 5:30–11 PM. The buffet supper will start at 6:30 PM. Cost is \$25/person and will feature a grab-bag gift exchange for those who participate in it.

## 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., Jan. Banquet: Jan. 17; **Feb. issue deadline: Tues., Jan. 20th**). 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 2015

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

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

**January 17, 2015** — Annual Club Banquet, 5:30-11 PM, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2000 Garden View Lane, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

**February 14, 2015** — Bellaluna Trattoria, Rte 22, Monroeville, 1:00-3:00 PM

**March, 2015** — TBA

**April, 2015** — TBA

**May, 2015** — TBA

**June, 2015** — TBA

**July, 2015** — TBA

**August, 2015** — **Friday, August 14 to Sunday, August 16 49th Annual Four Winds Rally!**

**September, 2015** — TBA

**October, 2015** — TBA

**November, 2015** — TBA

**December, 2015** — No Monthly Meeting

## 2015 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!

## 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, Jan 4 — North at King's Family Restaurant, I-79 & Rt 910/VIP Drive., 10:00 AM

Sat, Jan 10 — West at Bob Evans, Rt 60 & Campbell's Run Rd, 9:00 AM

Sun, Jan 18 — South at Eagles Landing, Rostraver Airport, Rte 51, 10:00 AM

Sat, Jan 24 — East at Dick's, Rt 22 Westbound Side, Monroeville, 9:00 AM

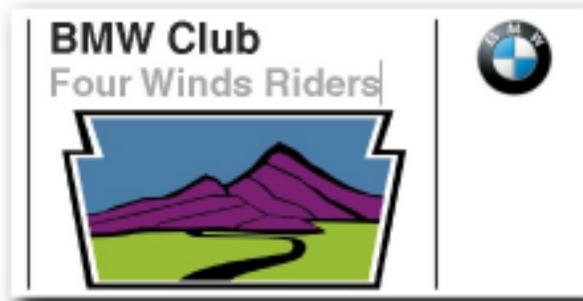
### If you're going to a breakfast

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.



2015 BMW S1000XR

PICTURE SENT IN BY RON  
"REDDYK" LATKOVIC



**SECRETARY'S NOV. MINUTES  
ADDENDUM**

The secretary's minutes of the club meeting in November at the Cornerstone Restaurant as included in the December Newsletter omitted the following important action.

It was moved by Kevin Hart and seconded by several members that Walter Halaja be made a lifetime member of the club. The yeas vote was unanimous by general acclaim, there being no nays.

**END OF ADDENDUM TO OFFICIAL MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 2014 MEETING.**

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**NORTH BREAKFAST RIDE  
12/7/2014**

Well, as I remember it, the temps were somewhere in the upper 30s to start with, but the roads were clear and dry and the sky was blue! Couldn't ask for a nicer day for riding, and as motorcyclists know, such days are better than the 90° or 100°+ days in summer, because in winter there are Widders or Gerbings or Kanetsus to plug in to keep one comfortably warm, not to mention those favorite accoutrements of our fine BMW mounts: heated seats and heated handgrips. Unfortunately in summer there's nothing similar to keep one cool...well, there is...somebody apparently has come up with an AC unit for bikes; at least I saw a report, maybe in Rider magazine, on such an experimental

gizmo. But normatively such things aren't available, and while in winter you can pile on some warm stuff, in summer you can only take so much off before either the cops'll get you for scaring the



ladies and small kids or it's roadrashville if you drop the bike and you're using your skin as the protective covering "in case of mishap".

In any event the neat 1989 R100RT with the fairing everyone says



is one of the best going, that Carl Hartz kindly sold me, needed a real try in cooler weather, so off I headed on the RT for King's, to find several other bikes already lined up and their riders doing the usual pre-breakfast tire-kicking and tale telling. Along with the tire kicking, we were privileged to have one of Santa's appointed helpers, our own ReddyK, wearing the appropriate hat, and distributing candy canes to one and all for the holiday season! Neat-O! And Many Thanks, Ron! Hope Santa brings you many nice things for Christmas!

It didn't take too long before quite a number of other riders rolled in, mostly on fine 2-wheeled conveyances. When we'd hiked into the room Super Bob, the King's manager reserves for us each month, there were 16 of us all told: John Allen, Sean Barrett, Frank Beatrous, Wes Biery, Jack Bramkamp, Denny Callahan, Don and Kim Chembars, Tom Furey, Bob Hall, Carl Hartz, Ron Kranz, Ron and Jeannette Latkovic, Ed Tatters, and I. That made a room-full even with missing the regulars that usually show up, like the Daves—McLaughlin and Manfredo, Walt Halaja (who was represented in absentia by a chair reserved for him with ReddyK's Santa's Helper chapeau), the Larrys—Morley and Snodgrass, etc. One of these days

if all the usual suspects show up we'll need one of King's larger venues! In any event, we had a fine old time discussing things of motorcyclist import before finally wending our way outside after



*Walt's Reserved Chair*

masticating the delicious King's munchies. Our usual outside photographer, Walt Halaja, wasn't present, so our fine 'Staff Photographer,' Ron "ReddyK" Latkovic did the honors—all the picture accompanying this bit of screed are by

Ron...with our thanks for his fine shutter work.

At past North Breakfasts, Tom Furey rode in on his beautiful recently restored airhead, and this morning we had 2 more show up. Wes Biery and I rode in on our oldy but goody airhead R-Bikes (see the pictures). Like they say, BMWs are like the famous Energizer Rabbit—they just keep going and going and going and going (and besides that, they're still fun to ride! ...Not to mention easy to work on). Speaking of going and going, I saw on one of the web sites where someone had not too long ago retired his old R-Bike with 500,000 miles on it, and, he said, he was now riding his 'new' airhead with 'only' 300,000 miles on the odometer. Those are some figures!

*RALPH*

P.S.: Speaking of Breakfast rides, three of us showed up at the Bob Evans on Rte 60 for the West Breakfast Ride, Carl Hartz, Bob Hall, and myself. All three of us came in 4 wheelers as the weather report for the morning said occasional showers that, coupled with low temperatures, would result in instant black ice on the road wherever it should sprinkle. We all three figured the better part of valor in that situation was to leave the bikes clean and dry at home. While only three of us, we still had a grand time motorcycling on Bob Evan's fare. And Carl provided me with a sidestand for the R100RT that he said Rabbit had made as a copy of a Brown sidestand. From my short experience with the OEM one on the 'new' R100RT, coupled with the muttered comments on riders' web sites about the OEM sidestands on that bike, and it's clear that at that point the famed Bayerischen Motoren Werke engineers had darn dull pencils. While easy enough to put down, getting an OEM side stand up is a royal pain.





*Wes's Airhead R-Bike*



*Ralph's Airhead R-Bike*

**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.

**Parts Fiches for BMW Bikes:** <http://www.maxbmwmotorcycles.com/fiche/PartsFiche.aspx>. Need a genuine BMW Part? There are several Dealers that feature parts fiches for BMW bikes. One of the easiest and most convenient to use is that of MAX BMW of New England.

**FOR SALE**

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

**Stuff for F800ST:** 26" tall Parabellum Windshield, Touratech crash bar set, Bar Back, BMW Tank Bag. Windshields are clear and already have Velcro strips for attaching EZPass Transponder. **Rick Mayer heated Pilot Seat for 2006 K1200GT.** Asking half new price (or less). Make an offer on any or all items. Contact: [meyer@zoominternet.net](mailto:meyer@zoominternet.net) .

**Big Al Vangura's Kymco for sale:** We are selling Big Al's Kymco Scooter. If you are interested or know anyone that would want to purchase this scooter, please contact us or pass this message on. This is a 2009 Kymco 250 Ri Scooter. We are asking \$3,500 or best offer - It has on it 19,940 miles, and includes an extra long wind shield, Special brake light, cover, and Top trunk. If interested, please call: 724-736-2884 or 724-557-0802. Dee Vangura. Please see the pictures of it and its accessories on page 16 of the March 2013 newsletter.

## ONLINE BANQUET PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

Here are the Four Winds' Web Site On-Line credit/debit card payment instructions for the January 17<sup>th</sup> Banquet: Items in ***bold italics*** are selections:

On the 4 Winds Home page, the middle of the left side you will see a grey box: "January Banquet". (If it doesn't display correctly, clear your browser cache).

Select the quantity that will be attending and ***Proceed to Payment***

On the next page, you can ***Update Quantity***, then click ***Begin Checkout***

On the Checkout page/Billing address: Fill in your name and email, click ***Continue Payment Method*** (PayPal will process the credit/debit payment) click ***Continue***  
You will see an order summary, click ***Place Order***

At this point, you will be transferred to the secure Pay Pal website for your credit/debit card transaction and processing.

Select: ***Pay with a Debit or Credit Card*** or you can use your Pay Pal account.

On the next page, enter your credit card information. Click ***Review and Continue***

When you have completed entering this information, ***click Pay Now***

You will receive an email with confirmation of payment. You can also print an invoice.

Now, you can click ***Return to the 4 Winds web site***. If you see a "non-secure website warning" just ignore it and continue. (It means you are leaving the secure Pay Pal web site).

Upon returning to the 4 Winds web site, you'll see a message: "Checkout Results - Thank You".

JOHN / MARGE HUMPHREY, TREASURER 2014 / 2015



## 2015 BANQUET TIMES

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING TIMES FOR THE 2015 BANQUET, AS THEY ARE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF EARLIER YEARS' BANQUETS:**

Cocktails & Mingling: 5:30 - 6:30

Dinner: 6:30 - 8:00

Grab Bag: 8:00

Awards & Entertainment: c. 8:15 - 9:30

Fun & Games: c. 9:30 - ???

After Hours Lounge available 11:00 pm - ???

Please note: The Inn's bar/lounge normally closes around 11 pm unless there are people there, then they will stay open as long as customers are there. So, if anyone wants to hang out afterwards, they need to be in that vicinity a little before 11:00. (Not sure if it needs to be listed on our program though.)

DIANE



## BANQUET ENTERTAINMENT

Our banquet speaker will be the acclaimed Jim Vota. Jim is an instructor at Duquesne University in the Media Arts department. He is an avid adventure rider and film producer. He has produced films on riding the original pony express trail and other cross country trips on motorcycles highlighting Indian culture and national parks. Jim will speak about his cross country adventures and show clips from some of his movies. He will also outline suggestions for producing some of your own adventures by developing a compelling story for your pictures or videos..

VINCE



## 2015 Banquet Party Grab Bag

We will hold a grab bag surprise gift exchange at the Four Winds Holiday Banquet. IF you would like to participate, you must bring a \$15, wrapped, gift to the banquet. You will be given a ticket upon arrival with your wrapped gift.. At the time of the Grab Bag exchange, ticket numbers will be called. When the number of your ticket is called, you may go to the table that holds the wrapped gifts and choose any gift, or if someone has already chosen a gift that you like, you may "steal" it from that person. The person who loses his/her gift to theft can now choose a new gift from the table, or "steal" a different gift that has already been unwrapped. Only two "steals" in a row is allowed. Please mark your gift as for a female, a male, or for either.

JOYCE

# 4 Winds BMW Riders Annual Banquet



## *Hilton Garden Inn*

2000 Garden View Lane  
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066  
Tel: (724) 591-9024

## *Saturday, January 17, 2015*

Cash Bar Cocktails & Mingling from 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Buffet Dinner from 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Grab Bag, Awards & Entertainment from 8:00 – 9:30 PM

Fun & Games from 9:30 - ???

To stay overnight, call the Inn (Phone # above) to reserve your room.  
Overnight cost will be \$99 + taxes.

-----snip----- **RSVP before January 10, 2015** -----snip

Number Attending x \$25 pp = \_\_\_\_\_

Names of people Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Check (made payable to: "4 Winds BMW Riders") to:

**Marge Humphrey,  
Treasurer, 4 Winds BMW Riders  
180 State Road  
Valencia, PA 16059**

## "DIMINISHING RERUNS"

By Don Poremski

It would be difficult to be a member of either the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Cleveland or The Four Winds BMW Riders club without having heard of Hungry Mother State Park. However, for the benefit of newer members of either club, I will offer a reprise of the HMSP adventure.

Situated approximately 25 miles south of the West Virginia border in Eastern Virginia, the park offers wooded hills, camping and lodges for those wanting to explore the tri-state area. Explore? Yeah, baby, we *wanna explore*.

The accommodations are great, but the roads available to motorcycle enthusiasts are even greater. To take advantage of these two lane wonders, riders from Ohio and Pennsylvania usually wind up on portions or all of WV16. Ohioans pick it up at St. Marys, Pennsylvanians usually do so in Beckley. The road weaves back and forth across 19 so it's the driver's choice as to how many towns you'd like to see along the way, but whatever you do, be on it when it goes through Mullens and Pineville. That's when things get really interesting. Those roads will prepare you for what comes when you arrive in Tazewell, VA.

The regulars call it up-down, up-down, up-down, other visitors call it "The Back of the Dragon". Where there's a left, there's an even sharper right. Don't consider having a getoff to your right. You'll be airborne if you do. Having traversed it toward Marion, you will arrive at Hungry Mother State Park on your left about six miles north of Marion.

Take a deep breath, unload the bike, settle in to your lodge. The group is usually no more than 12 persons. That's about all the lodges can handle, but all the amenities are there, even if you decide to cook in. We don't. First night is Chinese buffet in Marion for up to, but no more than "fo owers". Management gets upset if you linger too long. You can have a fire for BS-ing back at the lodge if you like, but it's usually to bed for an early start the next day. So many apexes, so little time.

This last time the group consisted of five from PA and two from OH. The Ohio boys didn't deviate from 16 at all, so their day was long and about to get longer. Rounding a gentle right on the first of the up-downs, we were greeted by a large tree fallen across both lanes and the guard rails. Big strong men can break enough branches to get the bikes by, right? Wrong. The tree may have fallen but it was determined not to let us pass. A driver coming down the road from the other side told us that there was a detour we could use about a mile back that would bring us out on the upside of the tree. We would even have a cage to guide us. Back down the hill, a left and what awaited was a truly gnarly mountain road, our salvation detour. Ruts, big rocks, fallen branches, steep climbs...these were elements of the tour that hadn't been counted on.

Both street bikes made it back to the two lane without a drop and onward to HMSP. The route so far, the delay and the detour had us meandering toward the lodge in the dark. What fun. These roads are truly challenging in broad daylight, but worth a story when traveled at night. High beams, and auxiliary lights got us to the lodge to find that the PA boys had gone to dinner and the lodge was locked. That is until the Ohians found an unlocked window. In they went and a cell phone called to duty. The Chinese diners would bring back some combination fried rice in payment for starting a cheery fire in the nearby shelter. Fair exchange, so then we were seven and the stories begun.

Too bad they weren't all good. One rider learned of an appointment that had to be kept the next day. One's wife required extra attention and one was losing his teeth. No, not in his mouth...on his

belt-driven bike. The general concensus was that belts were so much more convenient because they required very little attention. Well, a back road coming from one rally to HMSP kicked up a stone that had lodged on the motor side long enough to destroy some belt teeth. The two guys required to return without the "riding around like A-holes" to quote one unimpressed rider from an earlier ride, would accompany the toothless one in case things got worse. And, surely enough, they did. Toothless had to rent a truck in Beckley to get his GS home. That left a group of four bikes to once again experience the tasty turns.

You've heard their names: Maggie Valley, The Dragon, Cheraholla Skyway, The Blue Ridge Parkway, The Snake, Roan Mountain, Little Switzerland...they all tempted us, but we followed the best of the foursome without much consideration for the names. You must CONCENTRATE on these roads and doing so left no time for note taking as to which were traveled that day. Lunch came just south of Switzerland of North Carolina which meant two shots at 226. Yum. There followed a bit of the parkway less populated by the constabulary on a Monday and a bid for home.

After perhaps seven visits not unlike the one described here, there never seems to be any reason not to do it again and again.

Hope you are tempted to try this destination after reading this. The legend has to be passed on.

DON



## WEBSITE DUES INSTRUCTIONS

You can now easily pay your club dues via either Paypal, a Debit, or a Credit Card using the club's web site. Here are the instructions from our treasurer, John Humphrey:

We plan on making credit card payment for the annual banquet and Rally registration available soon.

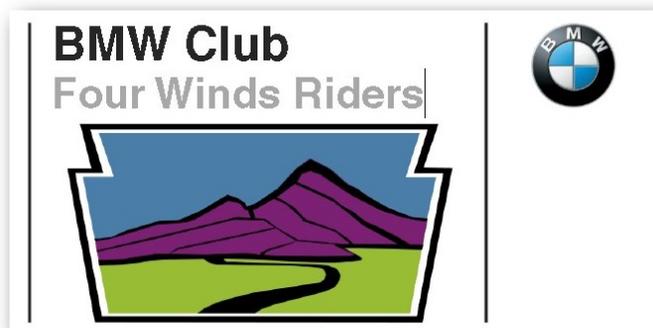
We are using an annual membership dues payment for illustration:

- Sign up for membership by selecting "Membership Form" from the "Home" page.
- Fill out the membership form. Select the type of membership, answer the security question and hit return.
- You will see: "Success! The next step is to submit payment by PayPal"
- You are automatically redirected to the Pay Pal site where you can specify Membership type.
- This is where you "shop" for the membership type (and other things, eventually).
- Select the membership type
- Then select "Pay with Pay Pal" at the bottom.
- If you want to pay with a PayPal account, just proceed as you would normally.
- If you want to use a credit card, select "Don't have a PayPal account?"
- Here is where you can fill in your credit or debit card information.
- PayPal is a highly secure site. Your information is safe.
- When complete, click "PAY" at the bottom.
- A receipt will be sent to your email address.
- The charge will be listed as: "FOURWINDSBMW"

This procedure has been tested many times. If you have a problem or question, call me (412) 897-1903.

REGARDS,

JOHN



**2015 4-Winds Dues Submission form:**

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

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

**Post Office:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Members' Names (if any):**

**Associate Members' Names (if any):**

**Number of Members' Dues submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$20 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Associates' Dues submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$10 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

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

***Liability Waiver (if you have not signed the risk waiver form previously, please do so and send it in to the treasurer with this page. You need only sign the risk waiver form one once).***

I understand that the Four Winds BMW Riders of Pittsburgh, PA, cannot assume responsibility for any aspect of my safety. I also understand that my participation in any Four Winds BMW Riders activity is strictly voluntary, and further, I release and hold harmless the Four Winds BMW Riders of Pittsburgh Motorcycle Club from any loss to my person or property.

**All Applicant(s) Signatures(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**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: (Note that dues can also be paid online at the club web site)**

**Marge Humphrey, Treasurer, 4 Winds BMW Riders of Pittsburgh  
180 State Road  
Valencia, PA 16059**

## ASSUMPTION of RISK, RELEASE, WAIVER of LIABILITY, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

*Please carefully read the following. This is a serious and binding legal document.*

In consideration of becoming a member of Four Winds BMW Riders Inc. ("Four Winds") and/or being permitted to participate in club activities, I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estate, and, if applicable, as parent or guardian of a member or other minor participant under the age of 18, and their heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estate, AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. I acknowledge, understand, and appreciate that motorcycle riding is a hazardous and very dangerous activity with inherent and other risks of serious personal injury, death, and property damage. I voluntarily and knowingly assume full responsibility for all these risks and dangers arising from or related to, directly or indirectly, my, and any minor under my legal responsibility's, participation in any Four Winds-sponsored, coordinated, or organized event, rally, activity, meeting, picnic, or party, including the negligence of others and negligent rescue operations.
2. I release, discharge, agree to hold harmless, covenant not to sue or file a lawsuit against, and waive any claim or cause of action against Four Winds, its officers, directors, ride leaders, and members, and their heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estates, from and for any and all losses, injuries, claims, costs, attorney's fees, expert's fees, court costs, causes of action, liabilities, judgments, or damages of any type or kind, even if any of the above persons or entities are or are alleged to be negligent (whether solely, partially, concurrently, actively, or passively) or otherwise at fault in any way, on account of any personal injury, death, or property damage which may result, directly or indirectly, from my, and any minor under my legal responsibility's, participation in any Four Winds-sponsored, coordinated, or organized event, rally, activity, meeting, picnic, or party.
3. I agree to FULLY DEFEND AND INDEMNIFY Four Winds, its officers, directors, ride leaders and members, and their heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estates, from and against any and all losses, injuries, claims, costs, attorney's fees, expert's fees, court costs, causes of action, liabilities, judgments, or damages of any type or kind, even if any of the above persons or entities are or are alleged to be negligent (whether solely, partially, or concurrently), or otherwise at fault in any way, on account of any personal injury, death, or property damage which may result, directly or indirectly, from my participation in any Four Winds-sponsored, coordinated, or organized event, activity, meeting, or party.
4. I agree to follow sensible motorcycle riding principles, ride carefully, and follow all applicable laws, rules, and regulations to ensure my own safety as well as the safety of those with whom I share the road.
5. I consent to and permit first aid and emergency medical treatment if I am injured.
6. I acknowledge that Four Winds is a motorcycle riding club which is dedicated to the furtherance and preservation of the sport. I therefore agree to follow general rules of good conduct and sensible behavior at all club functions and wherever Four Winds appears in public in any way.
7. This ASSUMPTION of RISK, RELEASE, WAIVER of LIABILITY, and INDEMNITY AGREEMENT is valid and enforceable until revoked in a writing signed by me. It is not necessary that I sign a new such Agreement every year or for every event.
8. Photocopies, fax copies, or electronic/pdf copies of this signed document are just as enforceable as the original. If you are signing up for membership on the Four Winds website, by clicking "submit" you are formally agreeing to and accepting all terms of this ASSUMPTION of RISK, RELEASE, WAIVER of LIABILITY, and INDEMNITY AGREEMENT and you agree that your witnessed handwritten signature is not necessary to make the terms of this Agreement enforceable.

**I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, ACCEPT, AND AGREE TO BE LEGALLY BOUND BY THE ABOVE TERMS IN THEIR ENTIRETY. I READ AND SIGNED THIS DOCUMENT WHILE NOT UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANY DRUGS OR ALCOHOL. I SIGNED THIS DOCUMENT KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, AND WITHOUT ANYONE'S PERSUASION, INFLUENCE OR COERCION.**

<b>Print Member's Name</b>	<b>Member's Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Print Associate's Name</b>	<b>Associate's Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Minor's Name</b>	<b>Parent or Guardian's Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

This form may be used as a Beginning or Ending Mileage Report Form, or both. If you submitted a beginning report form you need only submit the ending mileage(s) **before the Friday a week before the banquet** in January of the Coming Year. If you have not yet submitted your beginning mileage(s) for this year and did not submit the ending mileage(s) for last year, submit your beginning mileage(s) now! If you did neither and it is the end of the year, then submit BOTH your beginning and ending mileage(s) on this form. **Be sure to date the form!!!**  
**Note: your previous year's Dec. 31 mileage(s), if sent in, will be your beginning mileage(s) as of Jan 1, of this year! If so, you need only submit your ending mileage(s) at the end of this year.**

## Four Winds Mileage Contest



Mileage Form – for the Current Year

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

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

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

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

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

Mail Form to:  
**Mileage Contest**  
**c/o Walter Halaja**  
**1318 Merryfield St.**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15204**  
**or E-mail to:**  
[wshalaja@msn.com](mailto:wshalaja@msn.com)

	Make / Model / Year	Beginning Mileage (ONLY if not sent in last January!)	Ending 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 and/or end of the 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 \$50 gift certificate to refill your tank at:



**And Note: ADDITIONAL PRIZES will be offered this year:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** will win a \$25 Sheetz gift certificate

**3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Prizes:** ALL Participants' names will be put in the 'hat' and 2 will be drawn to receive a 1 year's Free 4 Winds Membership. As the saying goes. . . **"It pays to play."**

## THE WAY WE WERE BACK WHEN--2004

prepared by Walt Halaja



### THREE SLEEPLESS WEEKS... GIVE 'R TAKE.

Kevin and Shirley Hart

The clock reading an early "AM" on a Sunday morning, I quickly open the door to the garage and turn on the lights. The florescence lights up the area and I was pleased to see the girls were not clawing each other to death. Our new-to-us K1200RS Taxi was sitting easy on its center stand and the gorgeous Night Black R1100RT held its usual position near the far wall. "So, ladies...Getting to know one another?" I asked. The lack of a decent night's sleep had reared its ugly head for another night and was obviously playing hardball with my senses, but then that was a good thing. For you to understand the situation, I must backtrack a few weeks.

*Oct 1st, Friday*

While perusing the classifieds on the ST web site (What else?), I came across an ad that had caught my eye earlier, but that I had felt was not the right time to pursue. However, the seller had lowered the sale price significantly and I sat bolt upright in my chair. Just then, Bill, from down the hall, poked his head into my cube and said, "Did you see the "Taxi" add on the ST website?"

"Yeah, I'm looking at it right now. Can you believe that?"

"No, I can't."

"What's up, what did he do?... Oh, I see... He's taken off all the carbon fiber accessories."

Wow! My mind's now turning because I was really interested in a stock RS to begin with! Have the Gods smiled or what?

Later that evening while watching TV with Shirl we somehow came onto the conversation of the RS. I explained what the gentleman had done and why it was so interesting. She knew from several conversations what I was interested in, but she had heard a few of them for the last year or so since she first suggested that I find another bike for "Guy Trips." I started looking at the K1. It is awesome with chiseled looks and graphics. The Blue/Silver caught my eye and there were several on EBAY at various times. Completely engrossed in researching the K1 led me to the K1100RS SE. I liked its narrow bars and small windshield. Prices for both were workable and I came very close to the K11SE because of the hard bags for storage. But did I really want another Black/Silver bike which is what the SE came as? The K12 RS soon became the finalist for the second bike list. With the introduction of the "S," it became apparent that many were seeking this new model from Germany and very nice early model RS's were becoming available, with low mileages to boot.

"Well, you'd better call about it tonight," she says. "It sounds like a great deal." I sat in stunned silence for all of a moment or two

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*continued from p. 13b*

over that table? I quickly don my riding gear with helmet and tell Bill I will escort him over the hill to the Parkway entrance. Three streets away Bill and I enter the parkway ramps. He stayed right and I left, which took me on my first ride up the parkway to Churchill. JHC, this thing moves! It reminded me of my GSXR 1100 without the low clips and high pegs. What a hoot! I hit the exit ramp and swing around to the west parkway entrance. Five quick shifts and I'm on the ramp and back down to Ardmore Blvd. Downshift twice and take a left into Edgewood. I pass Lois coming from our house. Give a wave and receive the thumbs up. I head up the hill to home.

Now were do you go on your new scooter? Well, to the Four Winds Club meeting down at Heritage, where else? Just seven miles away, I was there in no time. Too excited to even listen to what was going on during the meeting, my mind was telling me to just go back out riding.

Now would you think I was able to get some sleep that first night I had it home? Of course not. I had to go down to the garage several times and make sure it was still there and I wasn't dreaming, didn't I? So starts the third week of sleepless nights - give or take.

KEVIN & SHIRLEY HART



### FOR WINTRY CONSIDERATION IN HONOR OF JANUARY:

#### COLD IS A RELATIVE THING...

- 65 above zero: Floridians turn on the heat. People in Buffalo plant gardens.
- 60 above zero: Californians shiver uncontrollably. People in Buffalo sunbathe.
- 50 above zero: Italian & English cars won't start. People in Buffalo drive with the windows down.
- 40 above zero: Georgians don coats, thermal underwear, gloves, wool hats. People in Buffalo throw on a flannel shirt.
- 35 above zero: New York City landlords finally turn up the heat. People in Buffalo have the last cookout before it gets cold.
- 20 above Zero People in Miami all die. Buffalo natives close the windows.
- Zero: Californians fly away to Mexico . People in Buffalo get out their winter coats.
- 10 below zero: Hollywood disintegrates. The Girl Scouts in Buffalo are selling cookies door to door.
- 20 below zero: Washington DC runs out of hot air. People in Buffalo let the dogs sleep indoors.
- 30 below zero: Santa Claus abandons the North Pole. Buffalo natives get upset because they can't start the Snow-mobile.
- 40 below zero: ALL atomic motion stops. People in Buffalo start saying...'Cold enough for ya?'
- 50 below zero: Hell freezes over. Buffalo public schools will open 2 hours late.

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and then realized I did not print out any of the information regarding the seller's info. So, I call my baby sister, Kelly, in Valencia and have her get it off the web site. Within minutes, I place a call to the gentleman in Michigan leaving a voicemail explaining who I am and how to be contacted. He returned my call the next morning.

So starts the first week of sleepless nights. I keep dreaming about the RS.

#### *Oct 9th, Saturday*

We are standing in line with Tim & Diane Pears and Adrian & Lois Marini for the play "NOAH" in Strasburg, Pa. and I am bursting with news I want to share with them. The seller and I have agreed on details and all I have to do is find a way out to see the bike, test ride it, and get it home. Shortly we may be adding a RS to the stable. I ask Shirl if it would be OK to tell them and she gives the nod. Of course both couples are surprised and I backtrack on the last year's events recapping about Shirl telling me to look for another bike and the short list I was working with. The men break off into guy talk about horsepower and handling and from the corner of my ear I hear Shirl telling Diane & Lois what a pain in the @ss I've been. Funny, I thought I had permission. Oh, she must mean the lack of sleep that I'm causing her also.

So starts the second week of sleepless nights. Shirley included. "Share the pain," I always say. I keep dreaming about the RS.

#### *Oct 15th, Friday*

The whole week has been a blur. Meet with the Linnemans and, again, the Pears for an after work get together earlier in the week with Tim loaning me his motorcycle ramps for the trip to Michigan. Jim found his way home for a visit and it would be our only chance to catch up. We broke bread at Jim's favorite hamburger joint in Bloomfield, Tessaro's. Nicky was nice enough to print out one of the photos I had sent in a Email, so Heff (Jim) wouldn't be left out of the good news.

Shirl has driven me to work to meet up with our friend/coworker Bill English. Bill has offered to make the road trip. I unload the ramps from my S10 and load them onto his crew cab Dakota, along with riding gear and overnight luggage. We set out about 8:30 AM for what was to be a seven hour drive. Rain and cold the entire drive through Ohio has left me wondering if riding the RS home is possible. The route takes us into Indiana and Bill checks off another state for his Dakota. He would much rather be checking them off for a motorcycle, but riding is on hold for him a little while longer. I hope not too long, as his eagerness to ride is contagious.

Funny how the time zones work. Indiana is one hour behind, but not Kalamazoo, our destination for the day. Thinking we had three hours to kill, I noticed a billboard along the Indiana pike with information regarding the Air Zoo. It's a museum exhibit of WW2 aircraft along with several up-to-date Navy jet fighters including the famous SR-71 Blackbird. No, not the Honda, the real one with titanium construction and huge power plants capable of Mach 3.2 at 85,000 feet. Bill suggests we take in the museum as it's only 15 minutes from the current Taxi driver's house.

The museum is brand new and the displays are incredible. This place is a must see for "Wing Hounds." Included is a 4D movie on a B17 named the "Kalamazoo Gal." Only one of the gal's crew made it out alive on his 21st birthday after the plane was hit by flak over Germany. He thanks his crew mates for the life he was able to lead and recognizes them every year on his birthday by telling them how his year has been and what he remembers of them. Very touching.

Well, it's that time. We leave the museum and the additional

display hangar well photographed and make our way over to the seller's house. Believing we have plenty of time, I'm surprised to see Jon's (current Taxi rider) van in the driveway. Thinking he was able to get off work before 5 o'clock I thanked him for meeting us. Imagine my shock when we found out we are 30 minutes late. We quickly determine that Indiana is the culprit (damn dairy cows!) and get on to business.

My warning to Bill was to make me get into examining the bike and not just stand there with my mouth open like a doofus. Remind me to take someone else next time as he let both of us stand there like idiots when the garage door opened. It was beautiful, even in the dim 60 watt light. I carefully begin the review of items Jon (soon to be without Taxi) and I have already covered through email and phone. Bill kneels down to look for leaks and check tires. I look for broken fasteners, missing hardware, brake pad wear, and body work damage. Jon brings a box full of items he wants to include in the sale but for additional cash. I look outside and realize there is not going to be a test ride as the rain and cold continue as it has all day.

With Jon's permission I turn the key, flip the kill switch to run, check neutral, thumb the starter and take in the most luscious K12 Remus exhaust sound known to man. JHC on white toasted bread. It's not going to get any better than this. Quick Bill, load this baby up before Jon changes his mind. I continue working out details and finalize them with Jon when Bill reminds me he hates me because he was also watching the RS on the same website with interest. Ouch!

Business concluded and the sounds of Remus still in my head, I invite Jon to join Bill and I for dinner. We head off to a place that has Mexican food to knock the chill off of a very cold evening. During dinner conversation Jon reminds me that he has every receipt and document for the RS and that I should review them when I have time. We talk about the weather in Kalamazoo and Jon informs us that the lake effect snow can be overwhelming during winter. A drive just thirty minutes east can have clear skies and no snowfall, while Kat Man Do is getting hammered. Same goes for summer rain.

Saturday morning comes with showers and temps in the very low forties. The 40 mph wind is blowing the rain horizontal. We are up at 6 and both Bill and I shower, catch the Weather Channel and head out the door. A quick stop and Denny's for breakfast and then over to Jon's (no longer a Taxi rider) residence. It is painfully apparent we have to haul the RS home in the back of Bill's Dakota. We assemble the ramps and begin pushing the bike into the bed. This was another reason for the lack of sleep on my part as I've done this before with smaller off-road bikes but nothing like the 600 pound RS with pristine Taxi Graphics. Straps tightened and ramps secure we load the additional items Jon and I worked out in the sale into the back seat of the Dakota and bid farewell to the second owner of the RS. Do I have to tell you that Jon watched us leave? That's a given.

With the wind at the Dakota's tailgate we make great time heading home. The weather through Ohio, however, was a mess: sleet and freezing rain with 40 mph gusts across most of the entire state. Listening to country music passes the time and before we know it we are backing into my driveway in Edgewood. The sun is out and it's a great looking day. Nothing compared to the weather back west. Welcome home, RS. I've interrupted Shirl's open house for crafts and she and Lois Marini come out to see our new acquisition. It quickly meets both of their approval and Shirl runs next door to solicit our neighbor Jerry's help in unloading the bike. It's on the ground and we fire the engine to life and share the wonderful sound of the K12 Remus.

Bill bids farewell, as he has promised dinner to his wife for their anniversary. What interesting conversation is going to take place

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**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 \$20 per year for primary membership, and \$10 per year for associate members residing in the same household as a primary member.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE BANQUET**

The 2015 Four Winds BMW Riders' Banquet will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2000 Garden View Ln, Cranberry Twp, PA, USA, beginning at 5:30 PM Saturday, January 17th, 2015.

*From the North (North of Rte 228, Cranberry):* Get on I-79 South and take the Cranberry Exit (#78), turning Left out of the exit onto Rte 228 Eastbound. Go about 1.2 miles to Franklin Road and turn right onto Franklin Rd. Go about 2/10ths of a mile and turn right onto Longtree Way. Go about 300 feet and turn right into Garden View Lane and the Hilton Garden Inn Parking Lot.

*From the South (South of Rte 228, Cranberry):* Get on I-79 North and take the Cranberry Exit (#78), turning Right out of the exit onto Rte 228 Eastbound. Go about 9/10ths of a mile to Franklin Road and turn right onto Franklin Rd. Go about 2/10ths of a mile and turn right onto Longtree Way. Go about 300 feet and turn right into Garden View Lane and the Hilton Garden Inn Parking Lot.

The Hilton Garden Inn's Latitude and Longitude Coordinates for GPS users: N40.68352 W80.07701 .