



October 2019

John Humphrey

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I want to thank everyone who came to our house on Saturday for the October meeting. It was a cool start, but sunny and nice for riding. We had a good group of motorcycles show up. Jack Bramkamp was a jacket collector and he brought them to the meeting and offered them for free to anyone who wanted to give them a good home. I got a Gerbing heated jacket. Every jacket was taken by club members. Thanks, Jack. He also did the cooking on our grill.

The October meeting is where we vote on candidates for club officer and board positions. Since everyone was running unopposed the vote was perfunctory. Your officers for next year are: John Humphrey, President; Vince Giannetti, Vice President; Marge Humphrey, Treasurer; Joe Marnell, Corresponding Secretary; David Donley, Recording Secretary, Diane Pears & Joann Barr, Web Masters; Ed Tatters, Board member. The Social Secretary position is currently vacant. Vince has volunteered to handle the Annual Banquet. My sincerest thanks to those who support the operations of the club.

Mike and Kathy Kuenning came to the meeting to tell us of the status of the sale of BMW of Pittsburgh to Mosites Motorsports in North Versailles. Mosites is renovating a building to open BMW, Ducati and Triumph at the same location in North Versailles. The building will open in March 2020. In the meantime, BMW parts and service in Pittsburgh is in limbo. You may be able to order parts from Mosites or club member, Simeon Simenov at www.BeemerParts.com. Service and Sales are available from BMW of Cleveland or Kissel Motorsports in Tyrone, PA.

I am told the deal will close later this week. There will be a Press Release from Mosites with further details. I know Mosites is anxious to develop a relationship with the club as we are in return. Vince and I plan to meet with Doug Mosites and others when the deal is finalized.

I took a moment to talk about the website. Specifically, about purchasing from our online store for membership rally and other things. One of the biggest problems has been PayPal payment processing. I wanted to make sure everyone knew PayPal only processes the payment, it can be a PayPal account or, more likely, your credit or debit card. Look for a small blue link that takes you to your credit or debit card processing. The forum has been well utilized. Anyone can read the forum posts, but you must be approved by Diane or Joann to post to the forum or see the membership list. Please look at the Index tab to keep your posts confined to the correct area in the forum.

The November 16 meeting will be held at Perrytowne Draft House 1002 Perry Hwy. It's West View, so there is limited on-street parking, but there is a parking lot behind the restaurant.

In my opinion, this is the best time of the year to ride. It's mostly cool and sunny. When I was at Seven Springs last weekend, the leaves were in full color. Get out there and ride while it lasts, because winter is coming...



Minutes

Four Winds BMW Riders - General Membership Meeting October 18, 2019, John and Marge Humphrey's home, Valencia PA

John Humphrey, presiding

John called the meeting to order at 12:50 PM. There were 21 members and guests in attendance, arriving on 12 bikes. John reported the first item of business would be the election of officers and directors for the coming year. Nominations were presented at the September 21st meeting as follows:

President: John Humphrey,
Vice President: Vice Giannetti,
Treasurer: Marge Humphrey,
Corresponding Secretary: Joe Marnell,
Recording Secretary: David Donley,
Web Master: Joann Barr and Diane Pears,
Director at Large: Ed Tatters.

Noting this year's slate is unopposed, John called for a vote. The slate was elected by voice vote as nominated. John advised transition from the old Board to the new will begin, and he thanked all current members for their contributions over the past year. He noted that Jeff Harlich will continue to chair the Membership Committee; the Social Secretary's position remains open.

Vince has volunteered to organize the next February's annual banquet so the secretary's duties will not be difficult. Any member interested should contact John.

John next introduced Mike and Cathy Keunning and asked for an update on the sale of the Wexford dealership. Mike confirmed that the sale was all but finalized and the acquisition by Mosites Motorsports will be completed in a few days. The new owner will relocate the dealership to its current facility in North Versailles where it already sells Ducati, Honda, Kawasaki, Can-Am, and Triumph brands. Plans are to have a new showroom open by the beginning of March of 2020 for the BMW, Ducati and Triumph portion of the business. In the interim, the closest dealer for service and parts will be BMW Motorcycles of Cleveland (Aurora OH).^{Note 1} Discussion followed, confirming other resources immediately available include: Simeon Simenov's OEM parts business, (Geniune BMW Motorcycles Parts)^{Note 2}, Kissell Motorsports (Tyrone PA)^{Note 3} or Johnny K's Powersports (Lodi OH and 2 other locations in Ohio)^{Note 4}. Simeon is a club member and attended today's meeting; he welcomed all inquiries. Kissell and Johnny K's are BMW Motorrad dealers.

John next invited all in attendance to peruse and take home any of the ten or so motorcycle jackets that Jack (Bramkamp) had brought to today's meeting to give away. Jack's generosity was once again on display; the selection was impressive. Jack encouraged those in attendance to take home any that fit with his compliments.

John asked if anyone would be interested in running a 50-50 raffle today. The responsibility is customarily that of the Social Secretary, but the position is not as yet filled. Linda Loesch stepped up and ran today's raffle.

John reported that Vince will be planning the annual banquet for the coming year and is considering La Casa Narcisi Winery as a possible venue. John also reported on the last-minute lunch and ride organized on October 13 at the winery. About a dozen or so members participated, including a new member or two. Following lunch, Vince led a ride to the Fall Festival held in Foxburg PA. In addition to the great company, it was a spectacular autumn day for motorcycling.

John asked Marge for the Treasurer's report. She advised there had been but one expense since the last meeting, payment of a monthly fee (approximately \$10.00) for the MailChimp platform. Marge reported also that two membership applications have been processed since the last meeting, one for George Vandebosch who resides in the Hidden Valley area and one for John Hensley. As John was attending, the President welcomed him and asked for any brief comments about his motorcycling interests. John hails from Gibsonia and rides a K1600 GTL. He is also interested in older BMW's.

Regarding the club's internet presence, John Humphrey noted the growing use of MailChimp to support our activities and communications. It's at a point now where a modest fee is required. With credit to Diane and Joann for their continuing and substantial efforts, the website is exceptional when compared to that of other small organizations. He thanked those responsible for making it a success and encouraged all members who may not currently be using it to become familiar with it, particularly the Forum and, for purchases and payments, the Storefront.

The Forum provides a great means of communicating with others and staying current with news and events. Users do not have to be club members to post but must obtain approval from an administrator in order to post content on the site. Diane and Joann are active in monitoring requests in order to keep spam at the absolute minimum. John noted also that the "Storefront" page is a convenient way to make payments or purchases. He emphasized that you do not have to have a Paypal account to pay or complete a purchase. Only a credit card is needed. Any members having an issue with the website or wanted to learn more are encouraged to contact John or another officer.

John advised the next general membership meeting is scheduled for November 16 at the Perrytowne Draffhouse in Perrysville. The restaurant is directly on Perry Highway toward the center of the commercial area.

John asked for an update on members who have encountered some health issues. Best wishes for speedy recovery followed for:

- Ralph Meyer who is facing lung problems but hopes at some point to return to riding,
- Tom Furey who is on the mend following a concussion sustained at the hands of an errant motorist, and
- Walt Halaja who has had a knee successfully replaced but advises his hip may now be aggravated.

With thanks extended to Linda for seeing to today's 50-50, John called for the drawing. Reddy-K's (Ron Latkovic) ticket was drawn. He generously donated all of the proceeds back to the club to defray the costs for today's meeting.

Upon Mary's motion and second by Roberto, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
David Donley, Recording Secretary

Secretary's notes:

Note 1: BMW Motorcycles of Cleveland: 330.562.5200
www.bmwoc.com

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Note 2: Genuine BMW Motorcycle Parts: 412.313.4918
www.beemerparts.com

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Note 3: Kissell Motorsports: 814.861.7890
www.kissellmotorsports.com

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Note 4: Johnny K's Powersports: 330.302.4155
www.johnnykspowersports.com