

Minutes - Four Winds General Meeting
Saturday, November 18, 2023
North Park Lounge, Cranberry Township PA

Beth Ann Brady, Vice President, *presiding*

Beth Ann called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM. In addition to her 16 members and guests attended, including 7 riders today. She noted the newly elected officers and directors had just concluded the Board's meeting and have begun planning for the coming year.

The next scheduled **monthly membership meeting** is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday, January 20, 2024**, but a location has yet to be confirmed. She invited suggestions, noting that the Monroeville / Murrysburg "Bella Luna" venue enjoyed for the past four or five years has closed and reopened under new management with a smaller private room. The Board is looking to find a new spot in the same area on the eastern side of the city, and the search continues.

The club's **Annual Banquet** will return to the traditional date, the 3rd Saturday of February. A new location, the **Antonelli's Event Center**, (100 Colony Drive, Irwin PA 15624, www.antonellieventcenter.com), has been selected and will be secured shortly by deposit. The **February 17th** event will be in a private room with the dinner menu and other arrangements posted on the club's website. Cost will be \$50 per person, with a portion of that expense refunded at the door to members on record as having paid their 2024 membership dues prior to the event as well as those having Life Membership status. Advance reservations will be encouraged, with details posted on the club's website. The club will provide dessert, and arrangements will include a cash bar.

Beth Ann also shared that in setting the price for this year's event, the Board has been mindful of the need to keep the cost of attending club events at a minimum but that there is no practical way other than a modest increase from prior year's costs if the quality of our banquet is to be preserved. All venues are experiencing increases in the cost of doing business and pass them, or a portion of them, on to customers. As in the past, the club will continue to subsidize a portion of the event by purchasing the dinner dessert and door-prizes as well as through the partial refund at the door to paid-up members.

Annual membership dues for 2024 are due by the end of January and remains at \$20 for regular members and \$10 for associate members. Dues may be paid by cash at the January monthly meeting, by check or through the club's website. All are encouraged to contact a Board member with questions about dues payments or membership status. Leads for new members are always invited or members may simply suggest attending a monthly meeting.

Beth Ann reported the Board continues to evaluate the best approach to bring a Roadguardians.org safety and accident-scene program for members as riding season gets closer. The educational session will take the better part of the day. March 23 or 24 are under consideration and a search for a meeting spot and potential sponsor will have to precede further decisions.

Members were reminded that Mosites Motorsports in North Versailles PA (www.mositesmotorsports.com) has announced it is offering complimentary bike pick-up and delivery services in the region in conjunction with off-season maintenance and repairs. Contact the service department for details (412-275-5365.) The program runs through the end of February 2024.

Kissell Motorsports (www.kissellmotorsports.com -- 814-861-7890, Tyrone PA) has been offering its program of complimentary pick-up and delivery service as well since early October, and the offer is to continue through February 28, 2024. The service department will confirm scheduling and any additional details.

Ed provided the Treasurer's report and confirmed that all payables are up to date to his understanding. Results from this year's annual Four Winds Rally in August show receipts very slightly ahead of expenses.

Diane asked if there were any new faces at today's meeting. None attended today, but recently joining members Don & Shawna Reid from Vandergrift reported they were enjoying another monthly meeting with the group.

Sean and Nancy were asked for a recap of their recent adventure in the Southwest. They participated in a Motoquest guided tour which extended about 2,000 miles on a loop including visits to the National Parks in four states. The trip included seven bikes counting the tour guide. They selected an RT which handled the wide-open terrain well, as anticipated, and spent most of the time riding first in line following the guide. The other riders had a variety of riding experience, including an apparent novice, so the pace was at times a bit unpredictable. Weather and road conditions were generally good, although in a few instances the promise of all paved roads proved a bit too optimistic. The loop started and ended in Las Vegas and included stretches on Route 66. The pace was roughly 300 miles a day with the exception of several 150-mile days inside National Parks. In the category of a small world, the Barretts ran into old Four- Winds member Bruce Conaway in Moab UT. Bruce relocated to Colorado several years ago. Breakfasts, dinner and nice lodging were included with the package, with the group gathering to socialize at the conclusion of each day's riding. Sean noted that nighttime and early morning hours in the desert can get very chilly so warm gear should be included when packing. (Rick G. speculated that the cold could be forgiven as most likely a "dry cold.")

On the subject of recent adventures, Beth Ann reported some of the highlights of a group trip in October to the Barber Vintage Festival (www.barbermuseum.org/barber-vintage-festival/) outside of Birmingham AL. This year's event was organized around the celebration of the 100th year for Motorrad. The gathering of vintage motorcycle enthusiasts is always a great reason to travel, but the BMW displays were indeed impressive, with few expenses spared for this year's milestone anniversary. The array of vendors was extensive; factory trucks and test rides included Indian and Triumph in addition to BMW. Beth Ann noted the Barber Museum is a must-see for any enthusiast.

Hearing no further new business, upon motion of Denny and Diane's, the meeting adjourned at 1 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Donley, Recording Secretary