

RETIRING PREZ NOTES

What a year this has been. We have had a great year of riding. Weather has been great all summer long. All that can be said is WOW!

THE YEAR IN SUMMARY:

First there was our very successful DownEast Rally 2001. Thank you all who helped make the event such a success. And especially thank you Sharon & Bob for getting all those little details accomplished. All summer long I met riders who said either (1) Thanks for a great rally. We always have such a good time at the DownEast Rally, or (2) I missed the rally this year; "... How can I get in next year?" **We are definitely doing it right.**

Secondly, we have had a group ride after every club meeting this riding season. Our rides were all great. A couple months we had two separate groups going in differing directions. Thank you to the ride leaders and planners. We all had a great time shooting the notches, following Eric in western Maine, drooling over Dave Perceival's collection of classic and vintage beemers, or proving to Tom Hazzard that a new R1150 will get better than fifty miles to gallon. With the great weather this year many of us rode to work often. I drove to work (cage) only two or three days. It helps having college age drivers wanting your car.

We had a meeting every month this year including meeting at Bill Parker's home, drooling over his garage and workshop while enjoying his hospitality, and meeting at the Garrett's for the August meeting. It was fun moving the meeting around to different locations. Fran enjoyed having everyone for breakfast and we will do this again. Maybe a May meeting for a pool opening?

Many of you have ridden some serious miles this year. Dave Stone took the award for most miles ridden. This was quite an accomplishment when we realize the mileage ridden by Bob Collin, Fred Burgess, Irene Boetcher, Assunta Kent, Bill & Fritz Parker, et al. Congratulations to Dave. What has impressed me is that this year must not be considered a lot of miles as Dave has the Airhawk Air Cushion bottom pillow for sale. See our web site.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the great work by Don Lockhart, Karen & Mike Cocks on our club website. These club members have created a very professional web site that represents our club very, very well. It is going to be difficult to live up to the professional impression a mere visitor could get. What are our Harley riding friends going to think?

Lastly as I step down as President, I want to thank all of you for your support and efforts to make the club more inclusive and better. Many of you continue to perform tasks for the club year in and year out and for that I thank you for myself and for the club. For those of you that are relatively new to the club and have jumped in to help and support club events and tasks thank you. I believe we are entering an exciting time for this club. Our web site, close working relationship with Street Cycles and our attentive members continue to bring new members. We are growing. This simple fact will present challenges, but I'm confident that our new leadership is up to the challenges. I am confident that Don Lockhart will provide great leadership. I will support him and will focus my efforts on gaining new members for the future. We have a great new year and riding season just beginning. Let's all do our part to make this year the best year yet for the "BMW Riders of Southern Maine."

To all members. Any ideas you have that would (1) improve the club, (2) improve or add to club events, (3) make the club serve you better or (4) attract new members please send your ideas and thoughts to Don and myself. You can reach me by email at rsixfive@nqi.net.

Again, thank you for letting me be part of your club

Steven Garrett