

# CRVBMW NEWS

A Newsletter for Members of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc.

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BMW MOA #164  
BMWRA #45

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## News & Notes

by Forrest Anderson

your help it will continue to reach out to all motorcyclists.

The results of the **I've Been Everywhere Tour** have been posted and four club members were among the finishers. This Grand Tour hosted by a BMW club in Minnesota asked for photos of one's bike in some 92 towns throughout North American (and, I think, one in Central and South America too). Congratulations to **John & Judy Raymond** who collected 29 towns, yours truly with 50 and **Sue Hamilton** with an amazing 82 towns. Of over three hundred and thirty entrants only about half finished the tour by collecting a minimum of 25 towns. Sue finished tenth overall with her 82 photos. Great going Sue!

**AMA members** are reminded to **vote**. In your January issue of the *American Motorcyclist* (mailed early December) is a mail-in-ballot to select a member of the AMA Board of Directors. Several months ago we were asked to nominate people for this post. From that nomination process we now have the opportunity to select someone to the Board. In Region One (New England & New York and Upper Atlantic states) we have three candidates from which to choose. All three have dedicated a large part of their

lives to motorcycling and all three could fulfill the post admirably. Please read over their slated position statements in the *AM* and make your decision. Ballots must be in the mail by January 15.

**Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour** information will be presented at the next membership meeting, Sunday, January 14. This will be the first Grand Tour that the club has hosted. As discussed in past newsletters, a Grand Tour is an event covering a span of time (days, weeks or months), in which entrants ride to a number of various locales as per the rules of the tour. In the CRV GT we give riders up to six months to ride to a minimum of 25 towns which about the Connecticut River and take a picture of their motorcycle. There are 97 towns along the river and different levels of awards will be given to those who visit 25, 55, 85 or all the towns. Rules also allow the tour to be completed without traveling to New England by collecting towns having the same name as the Connecticut River towns.

If members wish to be involved with hosting the (continued on the next page)

Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century! A new century, another new year which brings another full year of motorcycling activities, shows, races, rallies, camp outs, cookouts and more! Now is snow season but along with it is *show time* for motorcycles. January 6-7 there is a **Motorcycle Expo** which will be held at the Hartford Expo Center (just north of downtown). Don't forget the **International Motorcycle Show** at the Jacob Javitts Center in NYC on February 24-26. CRV is planning a bus ride to this event.

Want to receive a free renewal on your AMA membership? Yes, "free" got your attention? Well all you need to do is to recruit 4 riders to join when you renew your membership and, walla, you get your **AMA membership renewal free**. For each new member you bring to the AMA you will receive \$10 off your renewal, up to four. If you have eight friends, then renew for two years. Remember each new person you sign up when you renew knocks \$10 off your annual fee. Talk with your friends, bring them to the Hartford Expo or Jacob Javitts and sign them up at the AMA booths. Or simply call in to 1-800-AMA-JOIN.

The AMA is growing at a fantastic rate and now has over 270,00 members. With

### CRV Activities for January (see the calendar for details)

January 14 -- CRV meeting at Central Pizza in Berlin.

January 21 -- "And Now For Something Completely Different"

January 27 -- Third Annual Planning Party.

tour we would gladly welcome all volunteers. Most of the work will be needed when the tour ends in October, however, we need help with advertising, registration, mailings, etc., to get this event moving smoothly. If you want to join in the ride and/or if you want to help, please give me a call, or e-mail me at ama\_rep@sprynet.com.

Talking about needing help, there will be a **Charter Oak** meeting immediately following the membership meeting. So far quite a good number of club members have stepped forward and committed themselves in hosting the 15th Annual Charter Oak. I want to thank **Brian Fisk** for taking charge of the door prize recruitment for this year. As previously mentioned **April & Rick Arnold** will be in charge of the Guided Tours; **Bob Naramore**, with **Jim Faucher**, Food Committee; **Tracy Smith**, Registration; **Ted Lawrence**, Hospitality. However, there are still some vital posts needing chairs, such as the Country Store, T-shirts, Field Events, Entertainment, Breakfast, Vendors to name a few. The Entertainment Committee is the next Chair that needs a volunteer so we can get research started soon in that vein. If ya wanna party hardy, how 'bout signin' on? At this January meeting we will also review all T-shirt and pin designs that have been submitted. If you have a design in mind, please get it to this meeting.

Happy New Year to all . . .  
Forrest Anderson  
AMA Field Rep

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## President's Column

by Larry Friedman

The Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. remains an active and healthy club in 2001. Your continued support of club activities will prove to be rewarding in the coming months. This year's officers have a wealth of experience in successful club leadership. You will see in this newsletter that there are several events planned before the prime riding season begins. I encourage you to attend as many of these as possible to demonstrate to your friends that we are committed to enjoying all that motorcycling has to offer.

Send your checks now for the New York Bike Show and the Winter Rally, two very popular gatherings. Note that we are having the swap meet this year. You will be amazed at the treasures that change owners.

Our club will have a very active riding season with plans for weekly gathering spots and both local and overnight trips. The rally schedule promises to be a fine one with plans for our own Charter Oak Rally shaping up for Memorial Day weekend. Members will be riding to rallies from New England to Oregon this year. Plan to attend club meetings and read our quality newsletter to maximize your enjoyment of another fine year of motorcycling.

(continued on the next column)

Now go mark your calendar and send those checks. Enjoy life.

Remember . . . this is a club, not a country and not a country club.

See you down the road,  
Larry

## January CRV Meeting Sunday, January 14

The first CRV Club meeting of 2001 will take place on Sunday, January 14, beginning at 1:00PM, at Central Pizza in Berlin. Central Pizza is located west of Route 9 and the Berlin Turnpike, at the junction of Mill St. and Webster Square St. in Berlin, CT (adjacent to route 9.)

Lunch will be available, the restaurant (Italian/Pizza fare) opens at noon; or stay after the meeting. Let's get together to plan for 2001.

## Tack för ordet!

While I see in the December Newsletter that I owe Shirley a response to her question about how to say "Thank you" in Swedish, Nikki and I would also like to take this opportunity to voice our accolades for her time as our President! Well, here is thank you, or many thanks not only in Swedish, but in the other Nordic languages as well:

Swedish	Tack så mycket
Norwegian	Tusen takk
Danish	Mange tak
Icelandic	akka ér kærliga fyrir
Finnish	Kiitoksia paljon
Lappish	Kiitos, kiitos

Lappish is spoken by some 40,000 wandering reindeer nomads above the Arctic Circle in Norway (~55%), Sweden (~30%), Finland (~10%) and the Kol'skiy Peninsula in Russia (~5%). Lappish is not just one language, it's more like a hodgepodge of the Nordic languages. Most of Lappish descends from Finnish, though, such as the word for "laplander" itself, which is lappu in Finnish.

Tack för ordet! (Swedish for "thank you for the opportunity")

Rolf

Visit our CRVBMW Web Site and see our  
"color" newsletter and new links at  
[http://members.aol.com/  
crvbmwr/crvbmwr.html](http://members.aol.com/crvbmwr/crvbmwr.html)

## If I Hadn't Seen It I Wouldn't Believe It

Sunday morning, December 10, when I got up the temperature was 10 degrees. The roads were 'clean' - free of most ice - so I decided to take the 'old girl', my BMW, down to coffee break in Guilford. Out of 12 people there, I was the only one on a motorcycle. After having coffee and breakfast in Westbrook, I was heading home through Higganum when I saw this nice Christmas tree. So I stopped and bought it. Of course the people wanted to know when I was coming back down to get it and I told them I was taking it with me. Here is the living proof that a BMW can be used for anything.

Dick Johnson

p.s. It is now standing in the living room, decorated . . . thanks to Carole.



## The Great New York Motorcycle Show

The Great New York Motorcycle Show is currently open until April 10, 2001. Over 35 examples of the New York built motorcycles dating from the 1890's through the 1990's show how the machines have changed over the years. New York's motorcycle industry has left a legacy of intriguing machines. Curated by Museum historian Geoffrey Strein, the show includes motorcycles from a number of museums and private lenders in the US and Canada.

The NYS Museum is located on Madison Ave, in the Cultural Education Building, Albany, NY. Open daily, 9:30 to 5:00. The suggested donation is \$2/person. Call 518-474-5877 for general info or 518-474-5843 for group reservations. Additional information is available at <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov>.

January 2001

## February CRV Swap Meet/Meeting

It's once again time for a CRV Swap Meet. Every couple of years we sell or swap our stuff related to motorcycling, tools, camping, etc. Bring what you can and go home with someone else's treasures. You may want to bring a folding table and chair.

On Saturday, February 17, we will meet at Moffat-Raymond Landscaping in Avon. Enter opposite Hebert's Candy. Early arrivals will help to clean and set up. The Swap Meet will be from 2PM-4PM, followed by a CRV meeting at 4PM. Mark your calendar for this event.

Additional details and directions will be in the February Newsletter.

## IMAX Show

On Thursday, December 14, those of us that went to see Everest at the new IMAX Theater in Hartford had to drive through our own Everest scenery and highways to get there. The trees and scenery were beautifully covered in ice, while the roads were just OK. Should you ever attend an IMAX show, keep in mind, sit as far away from the screen as you can get. Too close and you will be overwhelmed. I had to close my eyes at several points. Too much to take in. Members from 2 states and several CT counties attended the IMAX show. After the show, only some 40 minutes long, which was rather short, a few of us headed for Prospect Cafe for a critique of the film we had just viewed. We also discussed rides past and rides future. THIS was the best part of any of our get together. Attend club functions! You get a lot more out of it that you put in to it!

Matt Strus

## February Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, January 25, is the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter.

## Annual Winter Rally

Friends . . . fun . . . good food, along with music, entertainment, and awards. It's time for the annual CRV Winter Rally.

When: Saturday, March 3, 2001

Where: Polish National Home  
60 Charter Oak Ave. Hartford

Time: Social hour 6:30-7:30  
Buffet dinner at 7:30

Bring your friends, all are welcome.

Don't wait, reserve your spot today for this event. Please send your payment of \$24 per person (checks payable to CRVBMW) to:

Larry Friedman  
900 Granville Rd.  
Westfield, MA 01085

If you have any questions, call Larry at 413-562-3164 or email: Lfrdmn@map.com

Hope to see you at the Winter Rally

## Trip to the Bike Show at the Jacob Javits Center in New York

CRVBMW Riders have a bus to the Bike show in NY. The details are almost the same as last year. Except for the date, this trip will be February 25, 2001.

Pickups will be at:

7:00AM -- Bob's commuter lot, Route190  
Enfield

7:45AM -- Exit 21 commuter lot in Cromwell

8:30AM (approx.) -- commuter lot, most likely  
in North Haven

The price is \$28 per person. This includes the bus and entry into the show. I think there will be orange juice and water on the bus to go with the donuts. You all bring your own coffee. We will also make a two hour stop at the Harley Davidson Cafe. Others will go to places to eat that are nearby.

Please let me know at what stop you are planning to get on the bus. Also this is a first-come first-serve trip, there are 55 seats on the bus. Right now 54 are open.

Send to Brian Fisk 409 Main St. Cromwell, CT 06416 phone 860-635-1173 or better yet e-mail brainfish@deadhorse.com

## Items For Sale or Wanted

### For Sale

Motoport "Canyon" Suit: (Jacket Small, pants Medium; fits women's size 8.) Black with purple shoulders. Cordura nylon, waterproof, features removable knee, hip, shoulder, elbow pads, and back board. Many pockets. Includes GoreTex liner for coat. Great for cool-weather riding. Asking \$150. Contact Robin at 440-288-6056 or email: zzum@aol.com (ad posted 1/01)

Aerostich Unobtanium Vest, size large, used twice. Was \$137, asking \$100. John Shields, jjshields01@snet.net or 860-646-5177. (ad posted 11/00)

1/6 rear wheel, complete, needs work. Seat, fair condition. Instrument pod, empty. Left muffler. 5.3 gal tank, nice, \$150 black. Krauser bag & hardware (no right bag). Luftmeister fairing, lowers, and gauges, \$150 black for '74 'S'. Windshield, scratched. Front fender. Unless noted, these items will go for any reasonable offer. Call Steve Varhol at 860-583-9893 or email to haylsdad@usa.net (ad posted 10/00)

1979 BMR R65 with Denfeld hard saddle bags, tank bag. New tune up, oil change, oil filter, and air filter. New windshield, excellent tires, runs great. \$2560. Contact Marshall Robinson at 203-271-2378 or email to mkrobinson@snet.net (ad posted 10/00)

### Wanted

For a 1985 model K100 RT, the hard case that mounts on the small rack directly behind the seat. Also, does anyone know who sells Luftmeister accessories? Contact Marshall Robinson at 203-271-2378 or email to mkrobinson@snet.net (ad posted 10/00)



**It's  
been  
said that  
Jim is  
the  
world's  
most  
often  
exchanged  
holiday  
grab bag  
gift.**

## 2001 Calendar of Events CRV Activities

### January

- January 14 -- CRV meeting at Central Pizza in Berlin. Details on page 2.  
January 21 -- "And Now For Something Completely Different" See the details to the right.  
January 27 --Third Annual Planning Party. See details below.

### February

- February 13 or 17 -- "And Now For Something Completely Different" See the details to the right. Vote for your choice of activity.  
February 17 -- CRV Swap Meet and Club Meeting. Details on page 3.  
February 25 -- CRV trip to the New York Bike Show. Details on page 4.

### March

- March 3 -- CRV Winter Rally. Details on page 4.  
March 10 -- "And Now For Something Completely Different" A night out at the Brew Ha Ha Comedy Club. See the details to the right.

## Other Motorcycling Activities

- Currently - April 10, 2001 -- The Great New York Motorcycle Show. Details on page 3.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Planning Party

- When:** Saturday, January 27, 2001
- Where:** Bob Naramore's  
6 Stoddard St.  
Seymour, CT 06483
- Why:** A gathering for those riders wishing to share their favorite weekend junkets and forays for the 2001 season.
- Time:** 6PM . . .till? Feel free to bring along a Thermarest and bed roll. Plenty of floor space for those wishing to avoid a DWI.
- Agenda:** Besides decorating your calendar, I will have some malt beverage, pasta with sauce and garlic bread and a fresh jar of TUMS. Bring a snack if the spirit moves you.

## And Now For Something Completely Different

On January 21, get together with other CRV members and friends at Duffy's Irish Pub for an afternoon of cards, games, camaraderie, and idle chit-chat. When was the last time you enjoyed a good game of Cribbage or Hearts or Checkers or Backgammon or Monopoly or Yatsee or Chess or whatever with friends. Put this date and time on your calendar right now!!!

Sunday, January 21, Starting about 2 PM till ??? At Duffy's Irish Pub at 1 Wall Street, just off Main Street (Rte 99) in the center of Cromwell. Call a member or friend you haven't seen in a while and let them know you will see them at Duffy's. I'm looking forward to a game of partners Cribbage. Good food available also. See you there

February 2001 — To be announced in the February Newsletter. Options include: Bingo or Snow Tubing. Bingo in Bristol, Tuesday, February 13. Starts @ 6:45, basic card package approx. \$30. Snow tubing at Powder Ridge in Southington, Saturday, February 17, 2001, 3PM to 6PM session. You can bring your children and their friends to this one. Could be a fun family day. \$18 per person, children cost less.

MAJORITY RULES!!!!!! The choice will be in the February Newsletter. Contact me about your choice (vote) at Madmatt@deadhorse.com or 860-584-5760

March 10 -- How about a night out at the Brew Ha Ha Comedy Club at City Steam in Hartford. This would be the 7:30PM show on Saturday, March 10, (with 210 reservations (our membership is over 300 + spouses and significant others) we could have a private show [wishful thinking, but possible]) At this point, no idea who the head liner of the show might be. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED, \$14 per person, over 21 only.

I will handle reservations for those who send me \$14 per person for the show that I receive prior to Saturday, March 3. After that you are on your own to make reservations. Reservations are NOT accepted at the Club until Monday, March 5. Should you make your own reservations, you may or may not be seated with other CRV members. At this point I'm not sure if it's dinner before or during the show (this will appear in the February Newsletter). The Holidays are upon us and time is short to get this in the newsletter. More details in the February club newsletter. If you have a club members list, you know where to send your reservation check.

Matt Strus



# Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour



Named “Quinnitukqut” (meaning *long river*) by the Mahicans, the Connecticut River begins in the Northern Lakes Region of New Hampshire and meanders down between Vermont and New Hampshire, through Massachusetts and Connecticut before emptying into the Long Island Sound. The Connecticut River Valley is watershed to more than 11,000 square miles of mostly rural, sometimes urban and sometimes wild land in four of the six New England states. Rich in history, the Connecticut River was explored by the Dutch in 1614 and has some of New England’s earliest settlements. Sea going vessels once navigated as far north as Hartford while many towns used it for waterpower. Even today, it is still a source of recreation and picturesque beauty.

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Although we would like for you to visit the historic Connecticut River Valley we realize that for some it might not be feasible. Thus this Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour is designed to be ridden anywhere.

There are 97 towns bordering the 407 mile long Connecticut River and the goal of this Tour is to visit at least 30 (or as many as you can.) *Special Note: you only have to visit a town having the same name as one along the Connecticut.* Proof of your visit will be a photograph of your bike next to a town limit sign, post office, police department or town hall of a town having the name of those that adjoin the Connecticut River.

There will be different levels of awards given for different levels of completion: bronze for visiting 30 towns, silver for 60 and gold for all towns. Special pins will be given to all those that apply and finisher’s bars will depict your level of completion. For those that visit all the towns a wall plaque commemorating your goal will be sent to you as well. Random door prizes will be drawn too.

You can start on this journey April 15<sup>th</sup> 2001 and will have six months, until October 15<sup>th</sup> to finish the Tour.

The entry fee of \$20 (\$25 with passenger) can be mailed to CRV, care of F. Anderson, 95 Boardman Road, East Haddam CT 06423-1338. Checks or money orders payable to — Connecticut River Valley—would be preferred. You will receive notification of its receipt and your packet (which will include your Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour pin) with the official list of towns to be visited and rules will be mailed prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> of April.



# Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour Rules

Connecticut River Valley Riders would like to extend, to you, this opportunity to visit many of the picturesque and historical towns which border the Connecticut River. Rich in heritage and beautiful in nature the 400-mile long Connecticut River is considered by many to be the essence of New England.

There are 97 towns abutting the Connecticut and to successfully complete this Grand Tour, you should ride to a minimum of 30 towns. Those that visit 30 towns will be awarded a bronze level finisher's award and will be eligible for CRV GT door prize drawings. Those who capture 60 towns will receive a silver level award and gain another entry into the door prizes. 90 towns or more will not only earn the gold level but will receive a wall plaque in commemoration of attaining that goal.

We realize that not everyone will be fortunate to partake of our winding and scenic New England roads, hence, CRV GT has been designed so you may participate anywhere. That is, we don't insist that you visit Hartford, Connecticut specifically, but any town named Hartford. There are at least 15 in the U.S. alone! Can you imagine some of the possibilities now?

- ◆ You will be allowed six months, from April 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup> 2001, to ride to as many towns as you can. The official list of the 97 towns will be included in the Tour Packet that will be mailed to you shortly before the start date. The tour packet will also include a Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour pin and your assigned CRV GT flag. You will have up to the end of September 2001 to enter but the sooner you sign up the sooner you can get started.
- ◆ You may ask for a specific CRV GT number and we will try to abide, however, we may restrict some numbers and there is always "first come first served."
- ◆ Proof of your visit will be a photograph of your bike with your CRV GT flag next to a town limit sign, post office, police department or town hall of a town having the name of those that adjoin the Connecticut River. No other sign or fixture will be accepted. *In all cases* the name of the town must be legible in the photograph. If you enter as rider and passenger, the passenger must be visible in half of your photos. Sorry, digital cameras *are not* permitted.
- ◆ *Please note that 5 of the 97 towns have identical names, i.e. two Windsors, two Hartfords, two Springfields, two Lymes and an East Hampton and an Easthampton. To keep things simple we will only ask for one photograph of each of those towns and as a bonus you may do either spelling of East Hampton. Thus you have 5 towns under your belt already and only need to find 25 more to reach the first level of completion.*
- ◆ Each town can only be used once; i.e. three different "Claremont"s will only be counted as one town. We will review all photos and reject any that do not meet the rules.
- ◆ Do not lose your CRV GT flag, as it will not be replaced. If you find someone else's flag please leave it as they may return for it. Please note the location and number notify the Tour Masters ASAP and we will contact the rider.
- ◆ All photos will have to be in the mail, no later than October 15<sup>th</sup>. Tour results, awards and (if your number is drawn) door prizes will be back to you as soon as all photos are reviewed and data compiled.
- ◆ Photos will not be returned. Connecticut River Valley reserves the right to use any of the photos submitted for our review. We may post some of the more interesting ones on our web site.



**Additional information to follow in the February Newsletter**



January 2001

NEWS

CRVBMWR

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c/o Tracy Smith  
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**This winter are you going to visit a bike show, go to our Winter Rally, or have you tried a “And Now For Something Completely Different” Activity?**