

CRVBMWWR 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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To Bakersfield - Part Three

by Forrest Anderson

As our last episode closed, Eddie James (AMA's Membership Director) and I had just filled our stomachs and gas tanks and headed north from Burlington, Vermont in search of another IBET photo. The *I've Been Everywhere Tour* included the town of Bakersfield in its list of 92 towns in which to visit. We were enroute to the Bakersfield in Vermont (a dot on some maps just south of Canada).

It was after eleven o'clock at night when we left the glow of Burlington. Darkness closed in around us. The chill in the air brought with it fog; a fog which obscured the moon and stars and muted everything else. At interstate speeds the chill caused me to crunch behind the windscreen to seek relief from the wind-chill. I began to wonder if my decision to leave my bulky electric vest at home was rather wise or gloriously stupid.

Eddie peeled off the interstate into a Vermont state road with me following close behind. We headed east toward the promised town of Bakersfield. This late on a weekday night there was no one around. No cars, no trucks, not even any lights in the few farmhouses we passed. Infrequently, a fog-enshrouded

light would wink from a barn lot light. The fog dimmed not only the sights but muted the sounds as well. Quiet and dark; the colors gone, replaced by shades of grays. Bleakness prevailed on the mist-covered road as our tires made their tracks easterly.



Houses and buildings along the road became more frequent as we entered a town, a town that could have been in Rod Serling's *Twilight Zone*. All the buildings were mist enshrined and dark. No lights anywhere; no neon; no cars moving; no people; not even a warning bark of a dog. Everything was silent as our tires sizzled along

the dew-covered roadway. The one light in this, colorless town was a single, dimly glowing streetlight. It stood guard over the town's only intersection.

But lo, what do we see, but a huge sign welcoming us to Bakersfield! This out-of-character sign appeared freshly made and placed along the road, just for us. (If this was the Twilight Zone I would expect the music to warn us of pending peril.)

We stopped and mulled the situation over. To get our bikes to be in the photograph with the sign (an IBET requirement) we would have to pull well off the road, down a slight embankment and though heavy wet grass. Eddie got off his bike and waded into the thigh high grass and weeds to ensure that there were no hidden ruts and sinkholes to trap us. Meanwhile, I maneuvered my bike and headlight to illuminate the area. Eddie trudged back and re-mounted. Cautiously he rode down into the ditch to prop his bike under the sign. After fishing out his IBET flag he took a couple of snap-shots while I kept my highbeam on the scene. As he started up the rise the wet grass (continued on the next page)

CRV Activities for June (see the calendar for details)

June 2 -- One-day ride to Americade.

June 14 -- Ride to Bill's Seafood in Westbrook

June 22, 23, & 24 -- Sixth Annual CRVBMWWR Club Camp Out

June 23 -- Road Captain's ride to Central Massachusetts.

became too much for his tires to handle, but with me pushing from behind he steadily rode up and onto the street.

Now for my turn. I brought the R100 around to follow in the track that Eddie pioneered. Confidently I rode down his path and parked beneath the sign. As I placed my IBET flag on the R100's windshield I looked around for Eddie. He's gone! I grumbled to myself; "I hope these pictures come out without his light." A few minutes later, as I put the camera away I thought of my next task "Oh damn, I hope I can make it out of here without his help!" However, my worries were needless as my R bike's narrow tires easily followed the already compressed track which Eddie's wider K tires had made. Once up on the road I could see Eddie waiting for me under the town's only streetlight. As I pulled up behind him, he nodded as if I had been there all along and turned north toward Quebec.

Eddie and I slipped out of eerie Bakersfield without a sound. Eddie held us exactly at the posted speed limit; for him it was out of habit, for me it was for fear of disturbing any sleeping *Twilight Zone* demons. (I watch waaay too much television.) Quietly we rode through the mist and away from Bakersfield leaving only our tire tracks.

We had achieved our goal and now the next job at hand was our return trek. Lake Champlain ferries were closed so the simplest thing for us to do (we thought) was to go into Canada and cross over the top of Champlain. And anyway, Eddie wanted a photo of a Vermont/Quebec border, it was only twelve miles away.

Ride safe, ride far.
Forrest Anderson

Vice President's Column

Black Leather Glove Dye

I guess most everyone knows it rained Saturday. In the afternoon I rode my F650 to our rally in the rain. I wanted to see how good the tires were in the rain and also try out a Rukka rainsuit while wearing a Vanson waxed cotton jacket over it. It worked just fine.

Now from previous experiences I know what happens when you wear black-dyed leather gloves in the rain, so I wore a pair of undyed, leather, work gloves. They get wet and act like a wet suit on your hands. Works for me on relatively short trips, though you do end up with dishpan hands if you go too long.

After a great Prime Rib supper I decided to go home and get my sleeping gear and come back and enjoy the band. At home, after loading the gear on the F650 and getting ready to head out, the sky really opened up. I traded the work gloves for a pair of black touring gloves thinking they would afford me more protection from the

(continued on the next column)

rain as the gauntlets were longer than the work gloves. I soaked them well with linseed oil and off I went.

By the time I got to the twin hills in Marlboro it was raining so hard I felt like I was under water. I noticed my gloves were soaked through.

I arrived at the rally site and unloaded my stuff in a cabin where, in the light, I saw my hands were stained black from the gloves. No soap I tried at the rally would remove it. I kind of knew it wouldn't as it didn't the last time this happened.

Anyway what I'm leading up to is this, I accidentally found a remover that worked. Sunday afternoon I was back home cleaning up to go to a party. I was splashing on some after-shave when I noticed the dye running off my hands. Must be the alcohol I thought, I grabbed a bottle of rubbing alcohol and washed off all the rest of the dye without leaving a trace. I was happy.

Avon Dual-Sport Tire Recall

On a more serious note I read in the BMW Owners News, June 01, page 95, that Avon is recalling their AV34 "Gripster-H" tires. The article goes on to say if you have these tires they should be replaced immediately.

They're replacing them free of charge with their new Distanza. Anyone with GS's, F650's, or any other dual-sport using these tires should check this out. Call Hoppe and associates (Avon Representatives) at 1-800-624-7470, 8-5 Pacific time.

ride safe,
Lenny LaRose

Good and Welfare

There was a great loss yesterday on the way back from the Square Route Rally, where many of us have gone to in Maryland. CRV folks knew Elyse Bolger of the Finger Lakes Club, husband of Dick Bolger, as she rented to us our cabin #4 at the Finger Lakes Rally every year and they have always been one of the constants of the club. Elyse was the current Co-Road Captain with Rod Curtis of the Finger Lakes BMW Motorcycle Club. She was our dear, kind and gentle friend.

Elyse was killed on her motorcycle in the south part of US Route 390 in New York State coming back from the Rally. We will all definitely miss her.

Ken Hearn & Jeff Buchman

New Web Page Address

Visit our CRVBMW Web Site and see our

"color" newsletter and new links at

<http://www.crvbmw.org>

Charter Oak 15



Another Charter Oak is behind us. And a good one it was. Thanks to all those that lent a hand; committee members, club members, and especially some rally goers who pitched in to make this year's 'Oak run like a well oiled clock. The weather kept our attendance down, but each day held enough sun so everyone could enjoy their rides. The meals were great (as usual at the Charter Oak) thanks to **George Schmidt, Bob Naramore, Ed Mix** and the dozens of kitchen staff. All those that attended seemed to have a great time of it; even the rally chairs.



The foul weather caused all the cabins to be rented (a first for this site). We had a lot of compliments on the facilities; private, quiet grounds, dry cabins, warm meeting hall, etc. Those that went riding; on the poker run or **Rick & April Arnold's** guided tours or **Chris Jennings'** guided tour, etc. came back and commented that they had very good rides (and riding hosts). Many people complimented **Rick Aaboe's**, Charter Oak logo on the coffee cups, pins, and T-shirts. Most people enjoyed the band (a first for the 'Oak).



If you were there, I'm sure you volunteered to help and Jani and I thank you for that. I'm also sure that you enjoyed yourself.

If you weren't there, too bad. Rain or shine, do yourself a favor and start planning for next year's Charter Oak.

Forrest Anderson



July Newsletter Deadline

Monday, June 25, is the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter.

Additional Charter Oak Photos on pages 4 and 7

CRV Club Store

Club T-shirts — heather gray with club logo
Short sleeve S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL \$8
Long sleeve M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL..... \$10
Club Sweatshirts — heather gray, crew neck, club logo,
lettering on arm M, L, XL, XXL..... \$15
Club Hooded sweat shirts — heather gray, club logo,
lettering on arm M, XL, XXL \$20
Cycle foot \$2
CRVBMW Belt Buckle..... \$15
CRVBMW Club pin..... \$2
CRVBMW 4" decal \$2
CRVBMW 3" decal \$1

Ride to Bill's Seafood

Ride to Bill's Seafood in Westbrook, on Thursday, June 14. Yep, it is that time of year again when we get a lot of sunlight and get a chance to ride into the late evening. I'll start this ride from the K-Mart Plaza in Cromwell, near the intersection of Route 3 and Route 9. If you are there before me, be in site of the Ruby Tuesday's restaurant. I plan on being there at 4:45 PM with a full tank of fuel. I'll leave at 5:00 PM. The ride should take just over an hour. Unless the weather is bad, it may take a bit more. If you wish you can arrive in a tin rainsuit. Please give me a head count so that I can scare the waitress. Contact me at 860-635-1173 or brainfish@deadhorse.com

Thanks
Brian Fisk

Gathering of Friends & Other Strange Beings Sixth Annual CRVBMWR Club Camp Out

On June 22, 23, & 24, kick back and enjoy rural New York at the Sixth Annual CRVBMWR Club Camp Out. The camp out will be held at Clyde & Diane Pratt's House, 160 Sullivan Road, in Kirkwood, New York.

It will feature semi-primitive camping (one shower and porta-cans). An optional Saturday meal with shared costs. To cover the costs for the camp out, a donation is requested.

Directions: Route 81 to Exit #1. Go up hill on Cedarhurst Road, **not** toward Route 11. In approximately 1 mile, take first right onto Sullivan Road. In approximately 1/2 mile, at the top of the hill, turn right into 160 Sullivan Road, a yellow and brick house.

For further information call 1-607-775-9015 (home) or 1-607-725-7009 (work). If no answer leave a message.

Items For Sale or Wanted

For Sale

1997 Honda ST1100 with many extras. \$8,500. Call Jay at 860-257-4285 after 6:00 PM or email jcombe@snet.net (ad posted 4/01)

Wanted

Latches (2+) for Olympus Bags. They're Krauser look alikes for an R65. Contact Terry LeTellier at 413-786-4723. (ad posted 3/01)



2001 Calendar of Events CRV Activities

June

June 2 -- One-day ride to Americade.

June 14 -- Ride to Bill's Seafood in Westbrook, starts at K-Mart Plaza in Cromwell. Details on page 4.

June 22, 23, & 24 -- Sixth Annual CRVBMW Club Camp Out. Details on page 4.

June 23 -- Road Captain's ride to Central Massachusetts. Details to the right.

July

July 16 -- Mini Golf on Berlin Turnpike. Details to follow.

August

August 8 -- Hot Dog Ride. Details to follow.

August 16 -- German Food. Details to follow.

August 18 & 19 -- Optional overnight campout involving day rides to art galleries or northern Vermont. Details to follow.

September

September 9 -- CRV Club Picnic. Initial planning is being looked at for Stanley Park in Westfield, Massachusetts. Details will follow.

November

November 10 & 11 -- Fall Campout. Details to follow.

Other Motorcycling Activities

June 3 -- Open House at Lindner Cycle.

July -- 2001 MOA National Rally will be held at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Redmond, Oregon.

July 12-15 -- Top O' The Rockies Rally. Paonia, Colorado. Contact Deb Lower - (303) 778-8617 or (303) 356-6612 or deblower@attglobal.net

July 18 -- Ride to Work Day. In their October 2000 Board of Directors meeting, the AMA unanimously voted to, "Approve and endorse the

(continued on the next column)

value of motorcycles as a vehicle for daily personal transportation, and designate the third Wednesday of July as Ride To Work Day in recognition of that value."

September 20-23 -- BMWRA Rally held in Morganton, NC.

Road Captain Ride

Join us for a relaxing day of riding in Central Mass/Quabin Reservoir area on June 23. We will leave from MacDonald's at the intersection of routes 91 & 305 in Windsor at 8:30AM sharp. Cruise to the Quabin Reservoir, historic Deerfield, and a lunch stop at Wolfies in Deerfield at approximately 1:00 pm. See ya there.

Blessing of the Motorcycles

These photographs were taken at the Blessing of the Motorcycles held at the Our Lady Of Lourdes Shrine in Litchfield, CT, on Sunday, May 20, 2001. I don't know how many motorcycles there were in total, but I heard the priests saying that last year there were over 500. There were mostly Harley-Davidsons, lots of the



Japanese H-D look-a-likes, and I know I saw one other BMW, maybe two. I know I had the only R1200C.

Rich Bremer

Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour



Entry Form



The entry fee of \$20 (\$25 with passenger) and the entry form 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 and flag) with the official list of towns to be visited and rules will be mailed prior to April 15, 2001.

please print

Rider: _____ AMA # _____

Passenger (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Telephone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Motorcycle (Make/Model/Color): _____

M/C Club Affiliation: _____

————— THIS IS A RELEASE, READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING —————

I understand that the Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour is a motorcycle-riding event. I understand that motorcycling is an inherently dangerous activity, which should be undertaken by competent, experienced individuals. I further acknowledge that during the course of the Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour, I will be subjecting myself to any and all hazards associated by motorcyclists. I agree to abide by all applicable traffic regulations in the state(s) in which I ride. I accept full and complete responsibility for my own safety during this Tour. I acknowledge that motorcycling under adverse road, light, weather, rider and traffic conditions is inherently dangerous and could result in injury or death. I hereby accept these risks which I might incur or which I may cause to another as a condition of participation in the Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour and hereby waive any and all claims I may have against the Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour, its organizers, agents and sponsors as a result of my participation in the Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour. I further agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour, its organizers, agents and sponsors any claims against them by third parties as a result of my conduct of actions during the Connecticut River Valley Grand Tour.

Rider's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Passenger's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Free Batteries Anyone?

The following information was received by a club member. This has not been verified and we are not endorsing this program. If anyone tries it, please let us know the level of success you have.

Motorcycle Batteries USA. is extending to your club a special discount on our premium sealed and maintenance-free AGM motorcycle batteries . We are currently offering club discounts of 5% on all battery purchases .

Your clubs unique discount code is 5523 and can be used online or by calling our toll free number at 866-654-062 to receive this discount.

Thank you for your time

Motorcycle Batteries USA.
www.motorcyclebatteriesusa.com



Dear Sir and Madame,

My name is Chris Webb. I operate a Vintage Motorcycle Touring/Vacation company in beautiful Nova Scotia, Canada. I also offer custom vacations to owners of modern bikes and clubs (bring your own bike). Please check out my web site at www.vintour.ca If you feel that this service could be of benefit to you or your organization please call me at 1 866 425 6305 for information and brochures. Thank you for your time.

Chris Webb

PS I am a member of the BMW Owners of Nova Scotia.

Hi,

I caught your site and wanted you to have the latest info on Mayer seats. As many of you know, Bill Mayer, my father the inventor of the Day Long Seat, died following heart surgery last year.

I am once again building custom seats in his tradition, a skill learned directly from my father, and can be found at the following links:

www.rickmayercycle.com

<http://mayercycle.homestead.com/MAYERCYCLE.html>

and at this e-mail address: RickMayerCycle@aol.com

Thank you, and please pass it along,

Rick Mayer
Mayer Saddles



Special Recognition for CRV attendance at the New York Motorcycle Show



June 2001

NEWS

CRVBMWR

CRVBMWR
c/o Tracy Smith
71 Hillside Drive
Ellington, CT 06029

Hope your riding and rally season are going great !!!