

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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Going Home - Country Roads

by Larry Friedman

The Allegheny Mountains along the West Virginia-Virginia line gave me and the motorcycle many moments to experience zero gravity over the crests, G-force while accelerating out of the curves and traction tests when leaning steeply back and forth. With dusk looming I checked my map for a likely place to pitch my tent on a warm and dry night. Natural Chimneys Park was along winding lanes to the north and I could avoid the I-81 corridor by going on Rt. 42 east of Staunton, Va.

I found the park but the campground gate was locked. I squeezed the motorcycle around the gate and went to the camper of the Host Family as directed on the sign. Being a weeknight the place was nearly deserted. I signed in and picked a site a thousand feet across the lawn beneath some shade trees. I had just enough daylight to set up the tent and walk to the Natural Chimneys. The rock formations were a few tall limestone towers near a hillside. I have seen many unique rock formations in the western states but this was a rare formation in the east. Not a soul in sight as I sat on a bench eating my sandwich while watching the last bright rays of sun striking the chimney rocks.

At the campsite I met a British family admiring the motorcycle. They said that little Charlie was more interested in the BMW than the chimney rocks. Kids really enjoy a chance to sit on the saddle and beep the horn while the parents take a photo. It's wise to remember to check the switches, especially the kill switch, after they dismount.

I had no matches for my candle lantern so I strolled toward the distant campfire to do the cave man thing and borrow fire. That also let me see the source of the mouthwatering food smells and booming bass speaker sounds.

A couple carloads of Asian youth from New York City had set up their tents and kitchen. As I leaned toward one of their circle of citronella buckets a friendly camper flicked his Bic for me to light my little lantern.

The music died down and the cicadas turned up their volume. Those bugs could compete with the Loud Pipes Save Lives machines. Another night sleeping with earplugs.

A misty morning start toward old Rt. 11 brought me through Bridgewater and Harrisonburg, Lacey Spring and into New Market for a southern breakfast. A 50's

diner set among Civil War era stone buildings is a great start for a day in the south. The huge poultry processing plants down the road nearly took the edge off my appetite with their odors and the sight of numerous truckloads of scraggly white turkeys awaiting their fate.

Rolling along the old road I could sometimes see the interstate nearby with big rigs and speeding cars. What a luxury to make the time to soak in the local views. Battlefield here, Confederate campaign there, Lincoln's father born there. There's still a lot of open land and views easterly to the Blue Ridge Mountains. If I hadn't been on the Blue Ridge Parkway several times I would have chosen that route. At least in the valley the deer know enough to stay hidden and not stand in the roadway around the curves as they do on the Blue Ridge.

The road is four lanes with no traffic so I can easily do a U-turn to read a historical marker or visit a roadside attraction. When I travel, the sites I consider, as roadside attractions are probably not seen as out of the ordinary to local people. Take, for instance, the
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CRV Activities for November/December (see details in the calendar)

November 9 -- Kettletown Camp Out.

November 17 -- CRV Election Meeting in Cromwell.

December 8 -- Grand Tour Awards and Luncheon.

cement statuary dealer. That was worthy of backtracking as my head had done a 120-degree look to the right while passing too fast. I rode through the place looking at all the requisite stone animals and birds, garden ornaments and birdbaths and Civil War soldiers. This being the Bible belt there were few of the religious figures seen in the north but there was an army of—LAWN JOCKEYS. As I photographed the little guys, divided almost equally between pink faced and black faced color schemes, I was greeted by the manager. I asked if he minded my taking pictures and he said, “be my guest”. I pointed to the ranks of jockeys and commented that they might be considered as offensive and not politically correct where I lived in the north.

He said that he too had lived up north, in Fairfax County. He certainly spoke without a southern accent and told me “Offense is in the perception of the individual.” He told me that there is a statue of an African American boy holding George Washington’s horse. He told me that many people of his race “were offended at what they perceived as the demeaning nature of the boy’s role”. I was told that the boy had frozen to death when ordered to stay with the general’s horse and that Washington had the statue commissioned out of remorse and to honor the youth’s loyalty.

Harper’s Ferry was just a few inches up the map so I pointed the headlight that way. The National Historic Park is in West Virginia at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers. Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland meet there and many historians believe that John Brown’s raid was a pivotal point toward the Civil War. The reception center provides parking and a shuttle bus to the village along the riverbank. The gun factories are long gone. Displays include the primitive Pratt and Whitney machines from Connecticut used to make weapons and the Blanchard lathes from the Springfield, Ma. armory used to mass-produce wooden stocks. The remaining buildings have been restored to show the history of the armory and the story of the infamous raid. Brown was hanged and the abolitionists rallied around his image as a fierce and passionate crusader. He didn’t live to lead the armed slave rebellion he planned but his guerrilla tactics led to his original goal. He was born in Torrington, Ct, was hanged in West Virginia and as the song tells us “John Brown’s body lies a’ moulderin in the grave” at his farm in Lake Placid New York. Now I can say that I’ve been to all three sites.

Long summer days allow enough daylight to move from one interesting stop to another. York, Pa. was along the way so I could stop to talk with a longtime motorcycling

(continued on the next column)

December Newsletter Deadline

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

friend. It is good planning or dumb luck to pass through rural stretches between urban areas while the maddening commute takes place to suburbia. York has a Harley plant and a bunch of other things. It is more interesting to cross a city through its heart than to slice through it quickly on the highway. A traveler sees features that are often overlooked by daily commuters.

At the slower speeds between urban stoplights you can study the distinct architecture of buildings and faces.

You can surmise a lot about the residents of neighborhoods by the way they dress, the vehicles they drive and the pride they place in their homes whether it is by the colorful curtains waving from a tenement or the elegance of a restored mansion.

Lancaster before dark and a roadside motel is the goal. Onto the highway, Exit Only This Lane, This Pike and That Pike and Lititz Pike. Lititz sounds good so I follow the road. Residential, suburban, LOOK! a BMW motorcycle shop! The friendly staff are happy to direct me to lodgings in the village center ahead. I don’t need service or parts so I bid them goodnight and roll ahead to Lititz. The only available room in town is at the old Lititz Inn. There is a big classic and antique car show going on and the street in front of the Inn is blocked off. I parked in a half space behind the place and checked in. The show will be going on well after dark and road grime must get washed off. The historic hotel has huge rooms and a cavernous bathroom with one of those giant claw footed tubs that makes one feel guilty using it during a drought. Since there was no shower I was compelled to soak awhile and leave a ring that started in the Shenandoah and stretched to the Dutch country. The soft luggage/saddlebag liners had enough clean clothes for an evening at the auto show. Beautifully restored vehicles of every description filled the street three abreast block after block. There were old racecars and muscle cars, touring cars and roadsters, street rods old and new and some pristine old trucks and motorcycles. The little Italian place overlooking the main street had a special three-course meal for the car enthusiasts. The family of cooks were proud to serve the best Italian meal I’ve had since the sidewalk cafe in Bologna. Not bad for five bucks. The car show broke up, the awards were presented and the street echoed with the roar of hundreds of engines, many unmuffled, as they cruised away in the darkness.

I started the next day on the northern edge of the Pennsylvania Dutch country most often frequented by tourists. My map showed small villages to the east of my northbound two-lane path. A long series of rights and lefts lured the motorcycle through smooth and narrow farm

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Web Page Address

Visit our CRVBMW Web Site at
<http://www.crvbmw.org>

country roads. The hardware store probably gets little use out of their paint tinting machine since white seems to be standard for houses in the area. Some communities had many Amish people driving their buggies or wagons along the roads. The quiet sound of the BMW motorcycle doesn't seem to spook the road wise horses. I have made it a standard practice to pull in the clutch and glide by whenever I pass a horse.

The roads lead through small towns that look long past prosperity. Hills and curves weave toward Scranton and the Interstate becomes the inevitable route through the region. The stretch of I-81 leads to I-84 and closes the circle of adventure I started many days earlier. The hills and valleys, prisons and rivers rush by as the miles blink past. A multi truck rolling road block in the opposite direction brings fifteen miles of vehicles to a near halt as someone's agenda inconveniences thousands of people who cannot imagine what's happening at the front of the line. Tiring of the truck traffic I headed north on the Taconic Parkway that would lead me to the Berkshire hills and home. I looked forward to the slower pace and narrower corridor of trees pointing north. The world's increasing pace has pushed the traffic on the Taconic to the 75-80 mph range sandwiched between luxury sedans and SUV's. I exit at Rt. 23 for my last road food of the trip at the Chief Martindale Diner. Onward through Great Barrington as it is being swallowed by exurbanites and it's seven sushi bars. A final forty miles of truly rural riding along the southern edge of Massachusetts brings me and my trusty machine home to my tolerant wife and the comforts of home.

Officer Reports:

As Treasurer Ron Faibusch was absent, Larry Friedman reported the current checkbook balance. Larry went through recent expenses and revenues and hosted discussion on the treasury budget.

As part of the Secretary's report, Tracy Smith called for a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter; accepted by acclamation.

Committee Reports:

The November meeting will be the Election meeting will be at the Cromwell Fire House on Sunday, November 17th at 4:00PM with Dinner at 5:00 PM. Keith Olsen will be the Election Committee – Absentee Ballots and write-ins
(continued on the next page)

**November CRV Election Meeting
Sunday, November 17**

The November CRV Club meeting will take place on Sunday, November 17, beginning at 4:00PM, at Coles Road Fire House in Cromwell, CT. This is our special Election Meeting where club officers for the 2003 year will be elected. Plan to stay after the one hour meeting and have a free spaghetti dinner. The dinner will begin at 5:00 and is being planned, organized, cooked, and served by CRV members. Below are directions to the meeting location:

FROM I-91 NORTH/SOUTH:
Take exit 21, go left at the end. Pass the Radisson Hotel on your left. At next traffic light (see Webster Bank on corner) go left onto Coles Rd. Go through stop sign, see station on left.

FROM ROUTE 9 NORTH
Take exit 19 (West St.) and go left at end. Pass Friendly's restaurant on your right. At next traffic light (see Webster Bank on corner) go right onto Coles Rd. Go through stop sign, see station on left.

FROM ROUTE 9 SOUTH
Take exit 19 (West St.) and go right at end. Pass Friendly's restaurant on your right. At next traffic light (see Webster Bank on corner) go right onto Coles Rd. Go through stop sign, see station on left.

**Minutes of the Connecticut River
Valley BMW Riders, Inc.
(Minutes are unofficial until
accepted at the next scheduled
business meeting)**

The October monthly meeting of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. was called to order @ 2:07 PM on October 20, 2002, Larry Friedman presiding.

Nineteen members and guests were in attendance at Central Pizza, Berlin, CT.

Officers in attendance:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| President | Larry Friedman | Present |
| Vice-President | Lenny LaRose | Present |
| Secretary | Tracy Smith | Present |
| Treasurer | Ron Faibusch | Absent |
| Co-Road Captain | Brian Fisk | Absent |
| Co-Road Captain | John Shields | Absent |
| Member-At-Large | Jani Anderson | Present |

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should be directed to Keith.

Nominated Persons and Office:

Larry Friedman – President
Lenny LaRose – Vice President
Forrest Anderson and Ron Faibusch – Treasurer
Tracy Smith – Secretary
Brian Fisk – Road Captain
Michael Vinette – Member-At-Large

Winter Banquet: Larry discussed the Winter Banquet – there may be a change in entertainment, but the Polish National Home will be contacted to host the Banquet again.

Club Charitable Donations were discussed, with the focus of the club contributions primarily aimed at the AMA and MDA. A motion was made and seconded to make a \$500.00 donation to the AMA. The Stanley Park Foundation – our host of the Club Picnic for the last two years – was nominated to receive \$200.00. Motion made and seconded, vote passed by acclamation.

MDA was voted to receive \$500.00 from the Treasury and an extra \$150.00 from the proceeds of the Grand Tour. Vote passed with no dissention.

A new BMW dealership is planned for Danbury, CT. Larry has made a letter of introduction to the owner and we will be pursuing a Dealer Discount Program for club members with them.

Tracy offered a suggestion to the membership present in having the CRV provide name tags to the membership. Please see the article elsewhere in the newsletter.

Forrest spoke about the Grand Tour and how successful the program was. He mentioned he will not be able to coordinate the program next year, so he will be looking for a volunteer to run the program. Please consider volunteering.

The club needs a representative to the AMA Sanction meeting – Lost Lenny volunteered to go.

New Business:

A suggestion was made to consolidate all the club information on one club-owned laptop. An appeal will be made to club members to find a used laptop.

The New York Bike Show will be held on Sunday, January 12 and the club will look into getting a bus chartered for the day.

The next monthly meeting will be on November 17th, 2002 at 4 PM featuring club elections.

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A motion to adjourn was made @ 3:14 PM. Motion was passed, meeting closed by Larry Friedman, President.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy L. Smith
Secretary, Connecticut River BMW Riders, Inc

President's Column

It is good that you are reading this club newsletter and catching up on developments with your friends and fellow motorcyclists. We hope you find this, and all other issues, to be informative and entertaining. Our editor, Keith Olsen, has generously offered to continue to serve our club with his enthusiasm and talent. Thank you, Keith.

Several members of our club recently donated their time and energy once again as motorcycle escorts for the Greater Hartford Marathon. I joined our contingent at Bushnell Park in Hartford after a chilling pre-dawn ride from Massachusetts in the pouring rain. As usual, the day was filled with zipping through intersections and roadblocks, our assigned passenger hanging on for dear life, camera or radio in hand. When the starter's pistol is fired with nearly 8,000 runners behind you it's smart to avoid stalling the engine. It was the consensus among the riders that many more would have volunteered if they had known that the race was to be the world's largest wet T-shirt contest.

I hope to see you at the November 17th, 4 p.m. club free supper meeting at the fire station in Cromwell.

Look for details and directions in this issue.

We have had another year good times riding our motorcycles and socializing among good friends.

At the October CRV meeting we reviewed many past events and discussed plans for next years rides, gatherings, rallies, expenses, charitable donations and other eventualities.

The November meeting brings us to our annual club election. You will have an opportunity to choose some new officers or to keep some old ones (older every year!).

We will be having our annual Winter Banquet at the Polish National Home for the third year. We are negotiating details for a late January date.

Rally co-chairmen Jim Faucher and Lost Lenny Nicholas have already started planning the Memorial Day weekend Charter Oak Rally.

We plan to re-establish our dealer's discount program as we welcome a new BMW dealer, Danbury BMW, to our region.

We are arranging our annual bus trip to the Motorcycle Show in New York City for Sunday, January 12th.

There will be many more events, rides and other opportunities to share our enthusiasm for motorcycling.

Larry Friedman

2002 Calendar of Events CRV Activities

November

November 9 -- Kettle-town Camp Out. See details to the right.

November 17 -- CRV Election Meeting in Cromwell. Details on page 3.

December

December 8 -- Grand Tour Awards and Luncheon. See details below.

Other Motorcycling Activities

November

Canton Cycle Events for November

November Special -- 10% off all battery chargers.

November 5 -- Election Day. Free tire gauge to all who voted. Show us your "I Voted" sticker.

November 12-16 -- Veterans Week. All vets and armed forces personnel get 15% off all parts and accessories plus entered to win a \$100 gift certificate, our way of saying thanks!

November 19-23 -- Enter to win a free Thanksgiving turkey all week.

November 23 -- drawing for free turkey at 1 pm. winners will be notified.

November 2 -- Frost on Da Pumkin in Vermont - Deadhorse

Canton Cycle Events for December

December Special -- 10% off all repair order charges.

Closed December 22-25 and December 29- January 1.

Grand Tour Awards and Luncheon

The Grand Tour Awards Presentation and Luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 8, at 1 p.m. at the Trout Brook Inn on Ct. Route 159 at the Windsor/Windsor locks line. All participants, their guests, club members and friends are welcome to attend. We will order off the menu.

If you plan to attend please contact Forrest and Janie Anderson for a head count; 1-860-873-8712 or email at; ama_rep@sprynet.com

Annual Kettle-town Camp Out

On Saturday, Nov. 9, the Annual Kettle-town Camp Out is scheduled to be held. As always the weather will play an important part on this being held. If in doubt, please contact me, Brian at 860-635-1173. There will be a recorded message if I do not personally answer the phone.

I plan to get there early in the afternoon (before 2 pm, but hopefully more like 12:30) to get a site. There will be a stew pot as always and donations for the pot are requested (food ie. veggies/meat or perhaps bread). Not much, but something! Hopefully we can also have the coffee pot going. There will be a fire if we have wood (bring your piece).

The campground area is free at this time of year, but don't plan on a shower. We have always had a good time so plan on being there.

Remember that we have to camp in the over flow area so when you get there just drive straight in and follow the road around the circle. You should see someone there or you may be the first. If you are don't be afraid to claim a spot. On previous camp outs, we have had 25 people camp.

See you there Brian

More Motorcycle Signatures found on e-mail

Sometimes the fastest way to get there is to stop for the night.

Always back your bike into the curb - and sit where you can see it.

Work to ride Ò ride to work.

Whatever it is, it's better in the wind.

Two-lane blacktop isn't a highway - it's an attitude.

When you look down the road, it seems to never end - but you better believe it does.

A rider can smell a party 5,000 miles away.

Winter is Nature's way of telling you to polish.

A motorcycle can't sing on the streets of a city.

Keep your bike in good repair: Motorcycle boots are NOT comfortable for walking.

People are like Motorcycles: each is customized a bit differently.

Items For Sale or Wanted For Sale

- New windshield for 1979 RT ... older. \$80 Contact Trevor at 860-267-2633 or morningpond@earthlink.net (ad posted 11/02)
- 1986 GL1200 Gold Wing. 40,000 miles, too many extras to list. For information call Rick Arnold at 203-426-2904. (ad posted 11/02)
- 2000 K1200LT Standard. Excellent condition, 12,500 highway miles, still under warranty. Basalt gray. \$12,500.00. Call or email Peter Burr: 203-255-0291 or p.burr@worldnet.att.net (ad posted 10/02)
- 1982 R65LS-red, my baby, corbin solo gunfighter, tank cover, hard bags, new tires, Luftmeister 2-1 pipe, jetted, have all original parts, wonderful for smaller rider, sounds like a Ducati, \$3K obo (no longer riding solo-broke back at Vermont Rally) Debbie Knowlton 413.565.2865 or theknowltons@rcn.com (ad posted 10/02)
- Sidecar rig - black 1987 K100RT with CALI sidecar, Lowell Neff subframe & leading link forks, profesionally set up, dialed in, will drop sports bikes in really tight stuff, give away \$6K obo (can no longer ride) Debbie Knowlton 413.565.2865 or theknowltons@rcn.com (ad posted 10/02)
- 1984 BMW R100Rs, 24K miles. Very clean. New tires, recently a major service done by Canton Cycles. Original owner. \$4500. Call Ellsworth at 860-669-4547 (ad posted 10/02)
- 1992 Kawasaki EX500, Blue and White, needs a little tlc, but runs fine, \$700. Call Lenny at 860-635-203 (ad posted 10/02)

Items Wanted

- BMW R80 GS and F650 GS are wanted to buy by Mr. & Mrs. Mad Dog (a.k.a. Jim and Shirley Faucher). Call 860-928-0272 or email faucher@mindspring.com (ad posted 11/02)
- 3/4 seat for '84 RT plus rear storage box. Also left lower fairing. Contact Trevor at 860-267-2633 or morningpond@earthlink.net (ad posted 11/02)
- 1999-2001 BMW R1100RT to buy immediately. Contact Jeff Burke at (860) 668-9796 or email to JBurke@smgmeats.com (ad posted 8/02)

Ride Report from the 2002 Greater Hartford Marathon on October 12, 2002

As many of you know, the CRV supports the Greater Hartford Marathon Foundation by sponsoring motorcycle escorts for the ever more renowned running event. Our duties at the event have included carrying videographers, photographers, race officials and occasionally the odd dignitary or two. In the years we have participated in this event we have had only one minor accident which resulted in no injuries (and the loss of a mirror pod from a 2000 K12RS which was returned to the owner by the police). This sterling safety record is due to the professionalism and skill evidenced by the CRV volunteers. A fun job very well done.

My thanks to this years participants: Mike Dzen (K1200LT), Matt Strus (K75RT), Ken White (R1150GS Adventure), Chris Chorney (Honda 1500 Goldwing), Art Daly (F650), Larry Friedman (R1100RT) and Mike McGlammery (R1150GS).

This year there were also five volunteers from various UTC companies, the main sponsor of the event. These gentlemen (there were no women volunteers this year) did a good job riding everything from a Goldwing to the new Honda Silverwing (which by the way made an excellent event motorcycle).

I hope the CRV continues to support this event not only so we can give something back to the community, but because it is so much damn fun.

John Shields

The following are emails I have received from participants:

It was another fine event and a pleasure to be on the team with you. If there had been advanced notice that the event was a 7,000 people wet T-shirt contest I am confident that we would have been overwhelmed with volunteers (with dubious motives).

I took advantage of the various stops along the course as my passenger assisted at critical areas. Of course I pitched in to direct runners and offered my personal shouts of encouragement. Early in the race the runners were pumped up. The enjoyed my shouts of; "Go Hefty Bag team" to the ones with the black garbage bags, "Run for the donuts!" to the ones with the Dunkin Donuts bags, "Stay vertical!" to the ones who looked shaky, "Keep the shiny side up!" to the bald runners, and other such comments.

Of course I was more subdued at the hill on Asylum and Broad with runners going both directions at mile 20-1/2 outbound and 26 inbound. Many runners were hurting or hallucinating so I avoided provoking or confusing them. I went to a neighborhood party that night and proudly wore my new yellow Marathon shirt. I told friends that I

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Greater Hartford Marathon (cont.)

finished the marathon and went halfway around the course again since I wasn't even tired. As usual, nobody believed me.

If we get a restaurant certificate like we did last year we should consider meeting to eat at a mutually convenient time.

Shiny side up,
Larry Friedman, President,
CT. River Valley BMW Riders

Thanks for the Thanks!!!! Yeah, what a day, huh! My ride went well, though my "rider" had his woes. His camera failed from the get-go, due to the wet conditions, so I brought him home to my house, to see if we could dry the camera some and put some dry film in, I also got my camera and took shots too, for back ups...so we ended up with about 6 rolls shot. My Hein Gericke rainsuit (my wife got it in Germany) kept me totally dry, my new GS did the job as well and all-in-all, I had a lot of fun, AS USUAL. Thank you for organizing the motorcycling piece. Nice Job. Stay in touch and let's go for a ride sometime.

Mike McGlammery

Candidate's Statement: President

I urge you to support my qualified and worthy opponent who will continue our club's tradition of helping one another to have fun while motorcycling and supporting worthy causes. Since my opponent has failed to step forward to be identified and put their head on the chopping block I have happily agreed to serve another term. I have once again declined the title of **President for Life** since that would inevitably result in a violent overthrow or assassination. I have told our executive committee at a recent meeting that my platform for another peaceful and productive year of CRVBMW Motorcycle Riders activities will be based on four planks: Fun - Accommodation - Respect - Teamwork .

To avoid offending those people I may have missed I have decided not to have the acronym for my campaign printed on signs.

I urge all members to contribute to the success of our club with suggestions, participation in activities and help planning and leading rides or other events.

Thank you for your past
and future support,
Larry Friedman

Voting Instructions for Officer Elections for 2003

In an attempt to make it easier for you to vote, there are three ways you may vote for CRV Officers for 2003.

Option 1: Attend the CRV Meeting on November 17, receive a ballot, and cast your vote.

To vote by Option 1, attend the CRV Meeting on November 17. Details of the meeting are on page 3.

Option 2: Mail a printed copy of your ballot.

To vote by Option 2, use a printed copy of the ballot found on page 9 of this newsletter.

For each position, **circle** the **one** candidate you wish to cast a vote for.

If you choose to have a "Write-in Vote", on the available line for the position, print the person's name you are voting for, then circle the name.

Cut the ballot at the marked line and mail your completed ballot to:

Keith Olsen
53 Richland Road
Greenwich, CT 06830-6012

Ballots must be received by Thursday, November 14, 2002.

Option 3: Cast your vote by email.

To vote by Option 3, go to the URL:

<http://www.crvbmw.org/Election/CRVElection02.html>

A link to the above site will be available on the CRV Web Site listed on page 2 of this newsletter. When you get to the Election Web Site, follow the instructions printed at this site. Ballots must be received by Thursday, November 14, 2002.

Important Details

Anyone voting by Option 2 or Option 3 will lose the privilege of voting during the CRV Meeting on November 17. This includes the right to vote for any candidates nominated for a position at that meeting.

In the event that you submit two ballots, only the first ballot received will be accepted, processed, and recorded.

CRV Officer Candidate Election Statements

Statement by Forrest Anderson, candidate for Treasurer

(AP wire service) DATE LINE: 11/'02 CANTON, CT

TWO CT RIVER VALLEY MEMBERS
VIE FOR SAME OFFICE

For the first time in recent history, Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders have two individuals running for the same office, the office of Treasurer. The last time that any CRV staff post was contested was when the...

With national, state and local political campaigns in full swing the selection of club treasurer is somewhat a trivial matter. But it got me thinking about why all CRV positions aren't contested. Perhaps many of us are simply too busy. Perhaps we are satisfied with the present officers plus the club seems to function well. But that's not the point. For your own benefit it should be your goal to take an active role in CRV, whether by becoming an officer, chairing an event or even leading a ride. *(Or writing an article. Ed)*

Over the years I have truly enjoyed the friends, gatherings and events of the club. But the times that I value the most were those where I worked with other members to put on a club project. As a co-road captain with Mike Dzen I lead several rides, such as, to Battleship Row in Rhode Island and to wineries in Old Stonington, as well as, to Ruggle's Mine in NH. Those that had a good time made my day even more gratifying.

Jani and I hosted (I am not capable, able nor willing to do things without my better-half, or at least without her blessing) CRV's fall picnic a couple of times. Twice we chaired the Charter Oak, which was great fun because more members get involved to put together one of the leading rallies of its size in New England. Last autumn we lead a sunny ride to a Corn Maze. We also initiated and chaired two Grand Tours for the delight of hundreds of riders around the Country. The bottom line of all this is the fact that the more effort I put into something the more enjoyment and good memories, I get back.

Many of you know that I am a volunteer field rep. for the American Motorcyclist Association and as such attend many motorcycle events and shows. Fun! Just this year I became a Motorcycle Safety Instructor for the State of CT. Even more fun!

Before CRV, in the '70s we were involved with Corvettes Limited of CT (a 150 member, non-profit, social organization) where I held each office (except editor) and similarly hosted their big, annual, three day event. While treasurer, I moved them from just check book reports to keeping a recording journal with ledgers for each event. After bringing their financial records up-to-date I filed for incorporation (which had lapsed), as well as, taxes with

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Statement by Ron Faibusch, candidate for Treasurer

Dear CRVBMW Membership,

The November meeting will be your opportunity to, once again, select your officers to run your club. To assist you in making your decision regarding the office of Treasurer, I have prepared the following information regarding my experiences in serving the membership.

Our club was founded in 1986 and as Charter Member # 4, and as Treasurer for 3 years, I played a critical function in guiding the direction of the club. Based on that guidance, as well as the leadership of our other charter officers, our club has grown to where it is today. I am very proud of that. After 3 years, I stepped back as other volunteers filled in and we continued to grow. Each year, for many years, I continued in an advisory role and audited the transition of Treasurers. These written audits helped to set direction for fiscal responsibility and assured the growth of our club.

Two years ago, unknown to many, our club was in a leadership crisis. Late in the year the leadership withdrew, failed to organize activities, and failed to provide for an effective transition of officers. Learning of this problem, I contacted Larry Friedman, and convinced him that he had to become President to assure the continuity of the club. I assured Larry that I would pick up the responsibility of Treasurer and work with Tracy Smith, our Secretary. At a time when the future of our club was in jeopardy, our team got everything back on track, grew the membership, grew the activities, grew the membership benefits, and grew the financial reserves.

My style of management is detail oriented and some have indicated that I lack flexibility. There is some truth to that, however, there is much responsibility associated with the many transactions involved with running our many activities. I have implemented computerized bookkeeping utilizing Quicken, and for the first time, I am able to provide instant reporting on the status of each of our activities. I have regularly provided printed reports to the chairmen of the Charter Oak Rally, Grand Tour, Fall Picnic, Winter Banquet, and other activities. These reports accurately track where we are, and our profitability for each activity. We know the success of each event, and our officers and activity chairmen can make more informed decisions to better run our club.

I have worked with our Newsletter Editor to set up our expanded website. I have worked with our Secretary to reconcile the membership and rally data base information to our financial records. We have streamlined the renewal process.

As you evaluate your options when casting your vote

(continued on the next page)

CRV Officer Candidate Election Statements (continued)

Statement by Forrest Anderson, candidate for Treasurer

the State. Today, though the forms have changed, the process is still similar.

Yes, I am asking for your vote as CRV Treasurer. But I am also asking for you to consider how much fun you can have by raising your hand and saying; "I will!"

. . . ride safe, ride far
Forrest Anderson

Statement by Ron Faibusch, candidate for Treasurer

for Treasurer, I ask that you make an objective decision, and not a personality decision. My opponent for this position, has an excellent history of service to our club, but his skill and dedication is related to organizing activities, not to managing funds and effective computer reporting. I ask for your continued support and your vote so that I can continue to serve our club with the excellent team that we have built.

Regards,
Ronald Faibusch,
Treasurer, CRVBMW

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Election Ballot for 2003 CRV Officers

Please follow the voting instructions found on page 7.

| <u>Position</u> | <u>Candidates</u> | <u>Write-in Votes</u> |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| President: | Larry Friedman | _____ |
| Vice President: | Lenny LaRose | _____ |
| Treasurer: | Forrest Anderson or Ron Faibusch | _____ |
| Secretary: | Tracy Smith | _____ |
| Road Captain: | Brian Fisk | _____ |
| Assistant Road Captain: | | _____ |
| Member At Large: | Mike Vinette | _____ |

Print Member's Name: _____

Member's Signature: _____

Member's Home Telephone Number: _____

November 2002
NEWS
CRVBMWR

CRVBMWR
c/o Tracy Smith
66 Morris Street
Naugatuck, CT 06770

CRV Officer Elections are held at the November 17 Meeting. Instructions for three methods of casting your vote are found on page 7 of this newsletter.