

CRVBMW NEWS

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

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Country Road

by Larry Friedman

Wandering along countless country roads on a solo tour I eventually arrived home safely, proving that I really wasn't lost at all. Frequent references to my maps provided last minute route changes. Conversations with people along the way also offered opportunities to discover other paths.

The summer had been hot and dry with more of the same predicted. I decided to join friends at a rally in the rural area along the Massachusetts and Vermont border. The event was a bare bones affair in a rustic fairground setting. One meal and camping for \$35 with Saturday night entertainment consisting of a lone bagpiper playing near the snack bar. Coffee was free but the mug was an extra \$5. The profits were distributed to local charities. Sunday donuts arrived by helicopter from Boston. Too bad most riders had already left.

The weather was stifling so I wandered back home to repack and prepare to ride off again.

Over the Hudson and on past Scranton to roll over Route 6

in northern Pa. The First Gear mesh jacket is like wearing a t-shirt with the security of armor in the critical areas. The air blows through keeping the rider cooler and dry. After many small towns I chose to stay in Wellsboro. With thunderstorms looming, the Penn Wells Hotel in the heart of town was a good choice. It's an old place with an elegant lobby and dining room, and low rates. There is a theater next door with restaurants and pubs across the street. I am attracted to towns that have not lost their character to malls, Walmarts and over development by urban escapees whose culture clashes with the tranquil town's lifestyle. Wellsboro has gaslights that glow warmly at night along Main Street. Small community economies are often dominated by a major employer. In Wellsboro it's Eagle Brand sweetened condensed milk and associated dairy products. I enjoy listening to workers describe their job with pride though their work related terminology

may require some clarification. One man told me he's been operating a pan for 27 years. He evaporates milk and blends the sweetener to exacting standards.

The Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania, ten miles outside of Wellsboro, attracts boaters and campers. I left town with a blue sky and rain washed streets to pass through forest and farmland. Traveling alone prevents one from annoying others with compatibility issues such as; speed, stops, sightseeing choices, food preferences and schedules. The interpersonal aspects of motorcycle travel are less inhibited when traveling alone.

It is apparent that a lone cyclist sitting on or standing by the motorcycle will attract friendly comments. "Nice bike.", "Where you from?" "Great day for a ride." People seem less reluctant to converse with an individual than a group. Comments and conversation quickly develop when each

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CRV Activities for September - November (see details in the calendar)

September 8 -- CRV Barbecue.

October 4-6 -- Buzzard Crest Campout.

November 9 -- Cattletown Camping End Of The Year Gig.

party is able to speak about their interests. The town, the weather, the terrain, the motorcycle, the local attractions and economy are among the less controversial items to discuss.

Down the road was a sign for The Lumbering Museum of Pennsylvania. No traffic, not yet nine and only one other vehicle in the parking lot. The yellow bus had transported the Amish youth group more than four hours to visit the old lumber camp, as it was nearly a century earlier. I marveled at the youngster's comments about the exhibits as they drifted among the buildings. They had a blacksmith shop at home like the one we viewed. They had a harness shop, woodworking shop and kitchen like the ones on display. They, too, had no electricity and used old style hand tools. Their visit seemed to validate their existence. There I was, looking through a window in time and the only thing out of place was me.

Down the road to Coudersville for a late breakfast. Another Main Street with varied old architecture and a parking place in front of Kate's restaurant. Everyone was acquainted with one another and I was welcomed in.

Surprisingly cheerful place considering the local economy had just gone from boom to bust. Seems that Adelpia Communications is headquartered in this isolated town and the CEO had absconded with a half billion. The oft-repeated tale of corporate greed had not taken the heart and soul from the town as it had from its perpetrators.

Hey, look at the map. Titusville is a couple hours ahead. Drake discovered oil there. So what if there's a national forest in between. The roads through the forest would bring me from Route 6 to Route 66 to Route 666.

Last year's jaunt across Saskatchewan Route 13 wasn't so unlucky. I survived, didn't I? Route 66 was fine. Love those smooth hills and curves. Side roads lead into 666 by way of fast sweeping curves, suddenly across an open grate steel bridge with a stop sign at the end and a rock wall opposite the T intersection. †The ABS brakes on the BMW motorcycle worked well. †Left onto the devil's highway along side a river. †Narrow pavement with buzzing and chattering from a budget layer of blacktop. The curvy arrows indicated twisties ahead. Instead there were stretches of whoop -de- doos. At double the limit you get

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October Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, September 25, is the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter.

air. I guess there's no sign for vertical curves.

The sign in Titusville says " Left Lane for Drake Well Museum". Turn left and ride through town, out of town and stop to inquire. " Go back and turn right before you cross the bridge again". Seems the road construction crew took down the sign to rebuild the sidewalks. The State museum has a reproduction of the original well run by steam. Indoor and outdoor displays tell the story of early oil discoveries and the boomtown era. Those were simpler times before cartels, EPA, OSHA, and oil wars. I gassed up and rode off toward the Four Winds Rally to the south.

The oldest BMW motorcycle rally in the USA had changed sites to New Bethlehem, Pa. There were some old friends and many new ones there. Camping was at a rustic fairground with one meal for \$35. Seems like a pattern.

Sleeping soundly on the self-inflating air mattress when FLASHBOOM with no space between. I thought the tingling in my arm was from the lightning until my mind awakened enough to figure out that I'd been sleeping on my side and the arm went a bit numb. The pouring rain passed along with the flashes and booms. Next day I joined a ten-bike tour of hills and farmlands. The leader rode quite fast through blind curves, dips and dives. We dodged horses and buggies along with road apples. Some bikes had passengers, some riders were relative novices and the line would accordion back and forth between stop signs. Stops at an Amish store and a fruit stand provided opportunities to count survivors. All ten bikes finished the ride.

The map shows the Cumberland Gap area of Maryland to the south and the mountains on the east side of West Virginia below. Rally friends said the riding there is great so those thin black map lines will lead me there.

Look! The Johnstown Flood National Historic Site is nearly in my path.

Next issue: Johnstown flood, racing behind the locals, knobs, runs, grits, hidden railroad, motorcyclist's heaven, giant antennae, Oh Shenandoah, Chimney Rocks, Harper's Ferry, Scrapple, car show and more.

Web Page Address

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

**Don't miss the CRV Barbecue
Sunday, Sept. 8 at 1 P.M.
Free! Free! Free!
Send your check today!
Registration must be received
by September 3.**

You don't want to miss this one. The event will be held rain or shine. Your president has arranged for a super catered barbecue picnic. We will gather at the Stanley Park in Westfield, Massachusetts.

This is one of the most beautiful parks in New England. Walk through the gardens, along trails, and around the ponds. There are great roads to and from the park. This year's food will be better than ever. Our club has had another successful year and we want to share that with our members.

The CRVBMW club is paying for all members and auxiliary members. It is worth more than your annual dues!

To get a correct count and to properly plan the barbecue, all persons age 12 and over must **send \$20 to our Treasurer**, Ron Faibusch. Members and auxiliary members will **receive a full cash refund at the barbecue**. If you don't show up we pay the caterer anyhow but you get no refund.

You will be asked to apply your refund to next year's dues (members-\$20, auxiliary members \$10 and a \$10 refund at the picnic)

Children 6-12 eat for \$5 each. Kids under 6 eat for free.

Bring your friends or prospective club members along (no refund for them)

Great scenic roads— Look for BMW roundels near the park.

Send your checks today:

Ron Faibusch
CRVBMW Treasurer
241 Talcott Notch Road
Farmington, CT 06032

**Registration must be received
by September 3.**

**Directions to the CRVBMW
Barbecue**

Directions from Hartford:

I-91 to Bradley airport exit

Rt. 20 exit to Granby

At Rt 10/202 continue west 1/4 mile to Rt. 189

Right on 189 to Granville, Ma.

Right at T onto Rt. 57

1/4 mile and left on **Old Westfield Rd.**

(it becomes Granville Rd. in Westfield)

Straight ahead a for few miles, pass water filtration plant

Left on Northwest road, go slow for a mile.

At stop sign turn right.

2 miles to second park entrance.

Drive across parking field and park near fence.

Walk in through rose garden and past fountain.

From Southern or Western CT:

Rt. 8 north of Winsted , over Ma. line

Right on Rt 57 (fantastic road)

Through Granville and turn left on Old Westfield Road.

See directions to the left

From Springfield;

Rt. 20 West through West Springfield.

In downtown Westfield go left on Rt. 10/20

10/202 goes right onto Court St.- follow this

Court St becomes Western Ave. and leads to Stanley Park

**More Motorcycle Signatures
found on e-mail**

Never be afraid to slow down.

Only riders understand why dogs love to stick their heads out of car windows.

Bikes don't leak oil, they mark their territory.

Never ask a rider for directions if you're in a hurry to get there.

Don't ride so late into the night that you sleep through the sunrise.

Pie and coffee are as important as petrol.

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Buzzard Crest Campout October 4th, 5th, and 6th Near Pine Plains, New York

Come join us for a glorious fall weekend in the foothills of the Catskills and Berkshire Mountains. Our 10 acres of land is located right on the Columbia/Dutchess County line and offers plenty of camping space. A firepit provides warmth and a gathering place for sharing stories and songs, and a grill provides opportunity to create a group meal for the campers. Plenty of great roads to ride nearby, and restaurants and shopping areas for those who have to spend money.

Siouxzanne and Voyle Harris invite you to enjoy two cool days (and cold nights) of fall camping on their ten acres in Gallatin New York- **October 4th, 5th, and 6th 2002.**

For those of you who attended the NY National in 99, this is about 15 minutes closer to the Connecticut border.

Friday night there will be chili and munchies available, and a campfire going. Saturday there will be a few breakfast runs and foliage rides, then a grilled dinner with everyone's contributions.

Sunday we'll drink some coffee, eat some leftovers, and head for home.

Directions:

From Route 44: take 44 west through Millerton NY, turn south (left) onto Route 22- follow for a little bit to NY Route 199. Take a right (west) follow 199 through Pine Plains. About 2 mile west of the town, take a right turn onto county Route 50. Follow to the end. bear left at fork. Travel approx. 6/10ths of a mile- driveway is on the right side. There will be rondells to help guide you from Pine Plains.

From Route 84: Take Route 84 west to Taconic Parkway- go North to Jackson Corners Rd. exit. Go right at end of exit. Travel 6/10ths of a mile to driveway on the left. There will be rondells to guide you.

Address:

1789 Jackson Corners Rd.
phone 518 398 5436

If you know you are coming, please call so we can plan appropriately for food.

Items For Sale or Wanted For Sale

1983 BMW R100RT 66K miles. Burgundy. Never down. Maintenance records since new (recommended plus extras) With Reynolds stand, Telefix fork braces, Koni shocks, Seat backrest, and Stainless steel lines. Asking \$2950. Contact Jeff Burke at (860) 668-9796 or email JBurke@smgmeats.com (ad posted 8/02)

2000 Kawasaki W650 Retro in very good condition with 10K.Givi Bags, Five Star Rack, Hagon shocks and galfer brake line included. Asking \$4,200. Won second place "Best Japanese" at the 2001 British Iron Association Meet. Contact John Shields at 860-646-5177 or jjshields01@snet.net (ad posted 8/02)

1995 BMW K75, silver, RT fairing, electric w/s, saddlebags, touring trunk, low seat, wrist rest, clean and well maintained. 17K miles. Asking \$7000. Call Walter in the evenings at 860-563-7108. (ad posted 8/02)

1999 BMW R1200C, blue, saddlebags, engine guards, exhaust heat deflectors, windshield, centerstand, wrist rest, clean and well maintained. 4K miles. Asking \$10,000. Call Walter in the evenings at 860-563-7108. (ad posted 8/02)

2001 BMW R1100RL. Black, wire wheels, BMW hard bags, windshield, heated grips, Run-N-Lites, tank bag, and cover. 9,500 miles. Perfect condition. Asking \$7,500. Call Bob Ljungquist at 860-491-9703. (ad posted 6/02)

Items Wanted

1999-2001 BMW R1100RT to buy immediately. Contact Jeff Burke at (860) 668-9796 or email to JBurke@smgmeats.com (ad posted 8/02)

Trailer hitch for late airhead ('85 to '95); prefer Reynolds but will consider others. John Helming, 860 536-7549, john27fv@aol.com (ad posted 6/02)

2002 Calendar of Events CRV Activities

September

September 8 -- CRV Barbecue. On Sunday, Sept. 8 beginning at 1 P.M. in Stanley Park in Westfield, Massachusetts. See details on page 3.

October

October 4-6 -- Buzzard Crest Campout, Near Pine Plains, New York. Siouxzanne and Voyle Harris invite you to enjoy two cool days (and cold nights) of fall camping on their ten acres in Gallatin New York. See details on page 4.

November

November 9 -- Cattle town Camping End Of The Year Gig. See your camping mates one last time. Cancelled if weather is bad. In question call and listen to message at 860-635-1173.

Other Motorcycling Activities

September

Canton Cycle Events for September

September Special -- 10% off gloves.

September 7 -- Grandparents Day. All grandparents enter to win a \$100 gift certificate. Show us your pictures.

September 14 -- Super Saturday of September #1 BMW Day with a German menu.

September 21 -- Super Saturday of September #2 Triumph Day with more great food.

September 28 -- Super Saturday of September #3 Victory Day with an American menu

September 28 -- NEMG Rally.

October

Canton Cycle Events for October

October Special -- 10% off all heated apparel.

October 19 -- Clean Out the Barn Day. Our day to clean house and your day to find that special old part at a great price. Lots of used parts!

October 31 -- Halloween Party with free candy. Don't let us eat it all.

October 6 -- Marcus Dairy - Super Sunday

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

November 9 -- Cattle town Camp Out. Cattle town Camping End Of The Year Gig. See your camping mates one last time. Cancelled if weather is bad. In question call and listen to message at 860-635-1173.

Canton Cycle Events for December

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

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

More Motorcycle Signatures found on e-mail (continued)

Sometimes it takes a whole tank of fuel before you can think straight.

If you want to get a job, you may have to compromise your principals (you may even have to shave).

Riding faster than everyone else only guarantees you'll ride alone.

Never hesitate to ride past the last street light at the edge of town.

A cold hamburger can be reheated quite nicely by strapping it to an exhaust pipe and riding forty miles.

Never do less than forty miles before breakfast.

If you don't ride in the rain - you don't ride.

A bike on the road is worth two in the shed.

Respect the person who has seen the dark side of motorcycling and lived.

Young riders pick a destination and go . . . Old riders pick a direction and go.

A good mechanic will let you watch without charging you for it.

September 2002

NEWS

CRVBMWR

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

**Registration for the CRV Barbecue must be received by Tuesday,
September 3. Barbecue details and directions on page 3.**