

# 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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53 Richland Road  
Greenwich, CT, 06830

## Do You Know Where You Are? Garmin GPS V Product Review

by Keith Olsen

When I'm out on a ride in a new location I like to know where I am. A good map always makes me feel comfortable in getting from one place to another. Well, at least that was the case until a few years ago. Needing glasses for reading also means I need glasses to clearly read the map. I no longer had the visual acuity to glance at the map, pick up my location, and determine where I wanted to go next. Maps were now dangerous to use when riding.

Enter the high-tech answer to my problem . . . a gps unit. I've been looking at gps units since the Missoula National Rally. Finally, my need met up with my interest.

There are many types and sizes of gps units to meet the needs of everyone from hikers, to bikers, to aircraft pilots. Screen sizes vary from smaller than a credit card to as large as a paperback book. Some screens are black and white, others are color. Some gps units even talk to you.

The unit I selected was a Garmin GPS V. The reasons I selected this model begin with

it being clearly readable and usable at the distance I need on the bike. It is small and portable enough to use when hiking. When not plugged into the bike, it runs for up to 25 hours on four AA batteries. It is basically weatherproof under normal use, including on boats in a saltwater environment.

Built into the unit is a base map including all North American interstates, most state highways, and numerous major local roads. Did I add that it comes with a Windows' routing software for planning or reviewing travel plans. This means street level planning. The software includes points of interest, food locations, and additional local details. Since I do not have a Windows computer, I have not yet tried this software.

In actual use, this unit is ideal for my needs. Going to a new destination I can ask the gps unit to program a road by road route; I can designate my final location and the gps unit will always point to that location; or I can simply scale in or out on my screen view and get there any roundabout way I would like. I've found it most

helpful in scrolling out to about a five mile view and just driving off to secondary roads and going where I want. I can always scroll out farther to see the location of a state or interstate road to get my bearings if needed.

To safely hold the gps I purchased a R-A-M Mount from CycleGadgets.com. It has an infinite positioning system that should fit everyone's personal needs. For me it positions the gps just over the front of my tankbag. In my normal riding position I can see all gauges and warning lights over the gps unit.

The R-A-M Mount securely holds the gps on the bike. When parked, it takes about one second to remove the gps unit and store it out of sight.

My only regret is that I didn't buy a gps sooner. It adds to my fun in going for a ride, since for me knowing where I am makes it a more enjoyable ride.

**On the next page are photos showing how the gps unit goes onto the bike.**

(continued on the next page)

### CRV and Local Activities for August (see details in the calendar)

- August 13 -- (CRV) BBQ Food Ride
- August 15-17 -- (CRV) First Ever [B]<sup>5</sup> Gathering. Camp out at Bobble's
- August 16 -- (CRV) Country Fair Ride
- August 21 -- (CRV) German Food Ride
- August 24 -- 21st Annual Michael Bristol Memorial Motorcycle Ride to Benefit MDA- Jerry's Kids.



View of stock set-up



R-A-M Mount in place



Replaced R-A-M Mount Connector



Garmin GPS V in place

## ALMOST HEAVEN ???

**Well, not exactly, but it wasn't all that bad.**

I would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to all of our YB and CRV friends who offered their support and suggestions when our tent blew into the river. The most comforting advice to me was the combination of two suggestions:

“If BMW NA could not get me a key from my ignition and VIN numbers, then \*\*\*\* ‘em , we’ll hot wire it.”

I felt so relieved. No matter what happened, I would be able to get home. I would also like to thank the unknown heroes who retrieved the tents from the river. Our tent must of become snagged in the vegetation on the river’s edge, because the contents of our tent were dry. We may have had more luck than the small dog that was retrieved from a tent in the river. Thanks for being good friends.

Shirley and Jim Faucher

## German Food Ride

Gee it’s August already, everyone ready for the annual German Food Ride? This year it is taking place on Thursday, August 21. We will again meet for a short ride over to the restaurant. Please Let me know if you plan on attending (this is rain or shine), so that I can give a heads up to the staff. Meet me at the Good and Plenty Diner on Route 372 in Berlin, CT. The diner is located off Exit 21 off of Route I -91. Head west about 1 mile, the diner is on the left in a small plaza. I will leave at 6 PM.

Any questions or to let me know that you will attend, call 860-635-1173 or e-mail [brainfish@deadhorse.com](mailto:brainfish@deadhorse.com)

## CRV Web Site Address

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

## **MDA Update from the Office of the cat**

Well it is that time again. Funny how it comes each summer. This year's ride will be on Sunday, August 24th. It will be at the new location of Canton Cycles on Route 44 in Winsted, CT. The phone is 860-738-1718. Ralph DeLuco and Larry Friedman have started the ball going by picking the date, getting the DJ and band, and soliciting door prizes and some of the food. I understand Mike Dzen and John Shields are working on the route. Registration is to start at 9:00 this year.

We need volunteers. There will be several meetings at Ed Mix's abode at 9 Bonnie Dr; Farmington, CT. His phone is 860-674-9408. My Phone is 860-496-7074. Please call Ed if you would like particulars on the meetings. If you wish to volunteer the day of the event or in any way, but can't make the meetings, please call me. Call with any suggestions, ideas, input, whatever. If email is better mine is john.badeen@snet.net. There are signs to put up the day before, and take down after. There is food to be cooked and served. There are registration, 50/50, mileage pool, door prize, poker run tables each needing 2-6 workers throughout the day. People to help set up and clean up are needed as well. Those folks should plan to get there by 8:00 to get things going.

We need coolers. These will be needed at Canton Cycles by the 16th of August. We have been lucky to get ice donated in the past if we had coolers on hand for a regular volunteer to pick it up with.

We need your help to show up, bring some friends, and spread the word. As you can tell I am now owned by a cat who will allow me the privilege of feeding her?..now.

Thanks  
nhoJ

## **New Country Store Coordinator Needed**

After running our Country Store for some time, Penny Podgwaite is stepping down from the role. Any members interested in taking over this role are asked to contact Penny at her email address of mrmrs191@aol.com or to telephone her at 203-776-9757

### **September Newsletter Deadline**

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

## **November Cruise with Club Members and Other Motorcyclists**

Have you ever wanted to go on a cruise with a group of motorcycle friends? This may be your chance, as a special cruise is in the works. A seven (7) day cruise out of New York City to the Bahamas and Florida. The cruise will depart Sunday, November 16, and return Sunday, November 23, 2003. An inside cabin, with all port charges and taxes included will cost \$677.73 per person based on double occupancy, plus your beverage tab. Upgrades in cabins are available at an additional cost. This special group rate is available to CRVBMW members and their friends, as well as to members of other BMW and Guzzi clubs.

This special cost of \$677.73 includes port charges and taxes. This does not include gratuities, drinks, insurance and shore excursions. The number of rooms, inside cabins, category K is limited. You must reserve early to get one of these rooms at this price. Room upgrades are available. You can have an ocean view or balcony overlooking the water if you wish. This rate is good until August 2. After August 2, contact Terry Pelletier for cabin availability and possible rate increases for the cruise. Reserve now. Norwegian Cruise Lines will provide round-trip bus transportation from Hartford to the pier for \$50 per person (perhaps a better rate and better pick-up locations if we have enough people). Currently five people have placed deposits for this trip.

A \$250 deposit is required to hold your cabin on The Norwegian Dawn.

Additional details are located on our web site or in the May Newsletter.

## **Country Fair Ride**

On Saturday, August 16, I'll lead a ride to the Bridgewater Country Fair. It features food, animals, vegetable contests . . . as I said it's a country fair.

We'll meet at the commuter parking lot, just south of Route 15, at the junction of Route 58 and Route 15. We'll depart this location at 11:00AM and take approximately a two hour ride to the fair. Once at the fair people may stay together or go off on their own. The fair has many activities that will be occurring and details may be found at [www.bridgewaterfair.com](http://www.bridgewaterfair.com)

If interested in this ride, please contact me by Friday, August 15. I may be reached at 203-532-9733 or email to [crvbmw@earthlink.net](mailto:crvbmw@earthlink.net). Keith

## Items For Sale or Wanted For Sale

1982 BMW R100RT, black, like new. Selling because of health. Asking \$2,500. Contact Richard at 860-346-0508 or cbjohn35@yahoo.com (ad posted 8/03)

1986 Honda Shadow Ace VT500C, 38K, 500cc, windshield, new tires, always garaged. Great starter bike, runs and looks great. Two cylinders, shaft drive, water-cooled. Contact Al at 845-454-2462 or zipname@aol.com (ad posted 7/03)

2000 R1100RS Titanium Silver. Excellent Condition, 8K miles, ABS, Heated Grips, PIAA's, Throttlemeister, cylinder protectors. BMW tankbag with elec accessory kit. Racks for saddlebags, Corbin saddle. Dealer maintained. Asking \$10,500. Contact Briant Wolfe at (203) 486-3613 or wolfeb@us.ibm.com (ad posted 6/03)

BMW K100RT/Cal I sidecar rig, black, professionally set up, drop sports bikes in twisties, Lowell Neff subframe and leading link forks, factory hard bags/tank bag/top case, new battery, extras, needs nothing, great rally mobile/club staff "car" \$5250 Contact Debbie or Jim Knowlton at 508-347-3448 (ad posted 6/03)

Moto Guzzi Cal 1100 injected '96, factory hardbags, stock hot rod runs perfect, needs nothing, from AJ's, only cruiser you can take to track day (and Harley riders wave!), special order red/maroon, \$4550 Contact Debbie or Jim Knowlton at 508-347-3448 (ad posted 6/03)

Bike Trailer, 3-rail with 4rth offset for airheads, 15 in wheels, spares with Cragar mags, perfect balance-push around by hand with two bikes loaded, \$375 Contact Debbie or Jim Knowlton at 508-347-3448 ( posted 6/03)

Aerostich Darien suit, black, men's 46 reg jacket/ 38 reg pants virtually brand new \$475 (not separate); men's XL carbon fiber/Kevlar Fr. Thomas gloves, new, \$50 Contact Debbie or Jim Knowlton at 508-347-3448 (ad posted 6/03)

1983 R100RT, Pearl White, 60th Anniversary. 92K and running great. One Owner, Have all service records, documents, Anniversary Decals, etc. Best offer over \$5K. Contact Forrest (860) 873-8712. (ad posted 6/03)

**Some additional bikes for sale, owned by non-club members, may be found on our web site. Check the "For Sale" listings located there.**

## First Ever[B]<sup>5</sup> Gathering

When?: August 15,16 ... 17<sup>th</sup>

Where?: @ Bobble's in Montrose,  
PA

Why?: Beats the hell out of me.

Details: A weekend gathering to feast, frolic and get stupid in the Endless Mountain Region of N E Pennsylvania. Friday night stew pot. Sat dinner will be a shared cost peoples choice. Plenty of tent space. Might even have a porta shower. Yuengling on draft.

Bob Naramore

RR3 Box 300

Montrose, PA 18801

(570) 553-3000

bobble@deadhorse.com

### Directions:

RTE 84 to Scranton PA.

RTE 81 North towards Binghamton,NY (or South from Binghamton.)

Exit# 223 – RTE 492 End of ramp(from either direction) go left towards New Milford, PA.

Ω Mile @ RTE 11 – Go South (left) for 1 mile to RTE 706 towards Montrose. It's a right turn onto RTE 706 West.

On the East side of Montrose you will meld in with RTE 167.

Stay on RTE 706 & 167 into Montrose. As you leave Montrose, RTE 167 makes a VERY SHARP Right turn to go North. Take RTE 167 North for 7 miles. Look for the intersection that has signs for E. Wilkes Barre Tpk. on your right and W. Wilkes Barre Tpk. on your left. GO LEFT for 100 feet, across a bridge, and turn Right onto Kane Road ( T810).

Go 1 mile to the first set of mail boxes ( on your right)

RT into a shared driveway. My house is the first on the left

### Directions from Binghamton, NY

RTE 81 South from Binghamton,NY

Exit# 1 Kirkwood, NY – Go right on Cedarhurst Rd towards RTE 7 Left turn onto RTE 7 (South) Follow RTE 7 until it becomes RTE 29 when you get into PA. (DO NOT take RTE 7A) Approx. 6 miles into PA on RTE 29 you will come to Franklin Forks. Right turn onto Silver Creek Rd. (Just past the boat dealer) Go to the end of Silver Creek Rd. (4 miles) Right turn on RTE 167. Go Ω mile to the cross road of E. Wilkes Barre Tpk. & W. Wilkes Barre Tpk. Left Turn on W. Wilkes Barre Tpk. Go 100 feet across the bridge and Turn Right on Kane Road. (Dirt road) Go 1 mile to the first group of mail boxes ( on your right)

RightTurn into a shared driveway. My house is the first on the left. (Light gray ranch)

## 2003 Calendar of Events

Every Sunday -- Coffee Break. Meet in Guilford at the commuter parking lot at the intersection of Route 77 and Route 95. Meet at 9:00, go to breakfast, then decide on your ride for the day.

### August

- August 1-3 -- Damn Yankees Rally, Heath, MA
- August 10 -- (CRV) Vermont Ride -- **Cancelled**
- August 13 -- (CRV) BBQ Food Ride. Details below.
- August 15-17 -- (CRV) First Ever [B]<sup>5</sup> Gathering.  
Camp out at Bobble's in Montrose, PA. Details on page 4.
- August 16 -- (CRV) Country Fair Ride. Details on page 3.
- August 21 -- (CRV) German Food Ride. Details on page 2.
- August 24 -- 21st Annual Michael Bristol Memorial Motorcycle Ride to Benefit MDA- Jerry's Kids. Details on page 3.
- August 29-Sept. 1 -- Finger Lakes Rally, Watkins Glen, NY

### September

- September 7 -- (CRV) Ride to the CRVBMW Club Picnic. Details on page 6.
- September 7 -- (CRV) CRVBMW Club Picnic
- September 12-14 -- Penguin's Perpetual Rally, RI
- September 12-14 -- MOV Rally, Brandon, VT
- September 26-28 -- NEMG Rally, Munson, MA

### October

- October 3-5 -- Buzzard Crest VI. Details to follow.
- October 2-5 -- the "RA's Triple B in 2003 - Beemers, Barber in Birmingham" Rally.
- October 5 -- Marcus Dairy Super Sunday
- October 26 -- (CRV) Best of the West Ride. Details to follow.

### November

- November 16-23 -- (CRV) November Cruise. See details on page 6.

## BBQ Food Ride

My plan this year was to drop the German food ride and change the menu. Well, by popular demand I decided to have two dinner rides. So on Wednesday, August 13, I am doing an American dinner ride. That's right a good old fashion BBQ. Little Mark's Big BBQ in Vernon on Route 83 heading North about a mile from Route I-84. This place has good remarks from food reviewers. It is also full service! Good ribs!

Okay! My plan is to meet there at 6:00 PM. Any questions or to let me know that you will attend, call 860-635-1173 or e-mail [brainfish@deadhorse.com](mailto:brainfish@deadhorse.com)

## JOIN THE 21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL RIDE FOR MDA In Memory of Michael Bristol

**When:** Sunday, August 24, 2003

**Where:** Canton Cycles at its new location in Winsted, CT.

**Activities** all day long . . . including a Poker Run, Picnic, Door Prizes. Live Music by *Broke and Hungry* and DJ by *New Sound Systems*. Scenic charity run through NW CT.

**Help Jerry's Kids, please** any donation for the **Muscular Dystrophy Association** accepted

Bring your friends and family, all brands and modes of transportation welcomed, rain or shine.

Registration Starts at 9:00 on Sunday, August 24

Activities all day long at:

**CANTON CYCLES**

Routes 44 and 8

70 South Main St.

Winsted, CT 06098

**(860)-738-1818** [CANCYCLES@aol.com](mailto:CANCYCLES@aol.com)

### Open departure on self guided tours

Sponsored by *Canton Cycles* and the CRV BMW Riders with help from Victory Charter Club #1

**Pre-registration: PLEASE PRINT** Send check made out to "MDA" and completed form to *Canton Cycles; PO box 462; Canton, CT 06098*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Passenger's  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: adults \$20.00; ages 6-12 \$5.00; under 6 free.

Must be received by August 15, 2003

Donations accepted year round for MDA

check [www.cantencycles.com](http://www.cantencycles.com) for the latest information

**Don't miss the CRV Barbecue  
Sunday, Sept. 7 at 1 P.M.  
Free! Free! Free!  
Send your check today!**

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, including sliced filet mignon. 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, Forrest Anderson. By attending the barbecue, members and auxiliary members will receive a full refund. If you don't show up we are still required to pay the caterer for the food prepared for you, so you will not receive a refund.

Last year, many club members found it to their advantage to apply their refund to the following year's club dues (members-\$20, auxiliary members \$10 and a \$10 refund). This year you will again have the opportunity to apply your refund to next year's club dues.

If you do not wish to apply your refund to next year's club dues and would prefer to receive a refund you will receive a full cash refund at the barbecue. **To receive a cash refund at the picnic, please include a note requesting a refund at the picnic and mail it along with the payment check that you send in.** Your refund will be given to you when you check-in at the barbecue.

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 to:

Forrest Anderson  
CRVBMW Treasurer  
95 Boardman Road  
East Haddam, CT 06423

**All payments must be received by Saturday, August 30.**

**Group Ride to the Barbecue**

If you are interested in taking a leisurely ride to the barbecue, this ride may be for you. I will be leading a ride from Prospect, CT, to the barbecue. The ride will begin at 10:30AM and arrive at the barbecue in one and one-half to two hours.

More details and a specific route will be posted on our web site in the calendar listings, prior to August 31. This should be a fun ride to a great event.

If interested in this ride, please contact me by Thursday, September 4. I may be reached at 203-532-9733 or email to [crvbmw@earthlink.net](mailto:crvbmw@earthlink.net).

Keith

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**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

# President's Grand Tour of the Americas



## Official Entry Form

This Tour is **AMA** Sanctioned and **CRVBMWR** Approved

The entry fee of \$22 (\$27 with passengers) can be mailed to CRV, care of Mark Altschwager, 12 Gildersleeve Ave., Canton, CT 06019. Please make checks or money orders payable to — Connecticut River Valley —. Your tour packet (i.e. the Grand Tour pin and flag, official list of towns and rules) will be mailed immediately after receipt of your entry. Registration is open until September 30<sup>th</sup>; Tour ends October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**please print**

RIDER \_\_\_\_\_

(if applicable)

PASSENGER \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ AMA# \_\_\_\_\_

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

I understand that the President's Grand Tour of the Americas 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 President's Grand Tour of the Americas, I will be subjecting myself to any and all hazards associated with motorcycling. 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 President's Grand Tour of the Americas and hereby waive any and all claims I may have against the President's Grand Tour of the Americas, its organizers, agents and sponsors as a result of my participation in the President's Grand Tour of the Americas. I further agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the President's Grand Tour of the Americas, its organizers, agents and sponsors any claims against them by third parties as a result of my conduct of actions during the President's Grand Tour of the Americas. 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.

Rider's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Passenger's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

August 2003

# CRVBMWR NEWS

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

**Registration information for the CRV Barbecue and the MDA Ride are inside.**