

CRVBMW NEWS

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

AMA #05636
BMW MOA #164
BMWRA #45

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53 Richland Road
Greenwich, CT, 06830

From the President (Not Bush or Aristide)

On Saturday, March 13; Brian Fisk hosted a productive Charter Oak Rally planning meeting. Biker snacks and beverages were consumed by all. The 18th annual rally requires a lot of work from a group of reliable volunteers. If you have not stepped forward yet there are a lot of tasks to be assigned Contact Brian, our rally chairman, at Brainfish@deadhorse.com

Todd Gagnon hosted Bobble's annual ride planning gathering and supper. Food and beverage were good and plenty. There are only a couple weekends in the 2004 riding season that have no specific destinations available for planned events. Those weekends will be filled by CRVBMW club destination rides to northerly destinations with overnight options. Anyone want to offer ideas?

MDA Ride Update, From the Ofise of the Cat

The MDA ride is taking shape. We now have lots of music. Joe Lopez of New Sound Systems will again donate time and tunes from 10:00 ? 3:00.

Larry Friedman

Marty Brennan of the band Broke and Hungry donated the bands time, tunes, humor, and more! He will set up an "Open Mike". Bring your talents, instruments and tell your musical friends. This should be a lot of fun for all. Tom Varhol of The Goods has been contacted and several musicians will be soon. Spread the word.

Ralph at Canton Cycles has offered his crew and space to coordinate much of the door prize work, pre-registration logistics, and much of the advertising. If you know any other places we could get prizes, gift certificates or ideas please contact them. The more, and the more varied, the more interesting. I have made up a preliminary pre-reg. Form. Please pass it around! It can act as an advertising flyer and as a source of donation and interest.

Next on the agenda will be to contact the MDA office for solicitation notices, ad contacts, and support. If anyone has information of places to advertise lets work together to get word out and people in. Cable access, newspapers, magazines, other clubs, flyers handed out at riding events are all good places? Anyone have any ideas,

suggestions, comments, information or even offers of help?

Route, road, scenic areas, points of interest are needed. I would like to see two routes again. One paved and one "Adventure" as Richard Stoddard put it. There are a lot of dual sport bikes and adventurous people who enjoy getting dirty.

We will need volunteers. Everyone will be asked to spread the word. Take some pre-reg. forms around. Talk it up on your travels. Some will be needed to plan, set up advertising, and preliminary work. If you want to be in some of the committee meetings or work on the preliminaries, please contact me. We also need some folks for set up the week before, day before, and morning of the ride. Clean up folks will be needed at the close of the day. There are eight tables which need to be staffed. They include Registration, Mileage Pool, 50/50 raffle through out the day in shifts, selling premium door prize tickets, handing out pre-tagged door prizes, doing poker hands, serving coffee "and", cooking and serving food.

At this point we are

(continued on the next page)

Upcoming CRV and Local Activities (see details in the calendar)

April 4 -- Borrella's Annual Spring Pizza Ride

April 25 -- CRV Meeting

April 25 -- Miracle Ride - to benefit the Connecticut Children's Hospital

April 25 -- Miracle Ride @ Canton Cycles - Call for details

April 30- May 1 -- Frosty Nutz Campout

starting with the same type of menu from the local supermarket. I would like to see things stay simple and manageable. It would be fun to expand the menu a bit. If you have some ideas, please let me know. Things like BBQ pork or chicken would be fun and tasty. They take a bit more work to set up and cost a bit more unless we are blessed with some donations.

Please contact me at john.badeen@snet.net or call 860-496-7074. When we have some more volunteers we will get the best meeting time to work on things. Thanks.

Minutes of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc.

(Minutes are unofficial until accepted at the next scheduled business meeting)

The March monthly meeting of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. was called to order @ 3:03 PM on March 21, 2004, Larry Friedman presiding. Approximately 45 members and guests were in attendance at The Masters Collection, Scitico Road in Somers, CT

Officers in attendance:

President	Larry Friedman	Present
Vice-President	Lenny LaRose	Present
Secretary	Tracy Smith	Present
Treasurer	Forrest Anderson	Present
Co-Road Captain	Brian Fisk	Absent
Member-At-Large	Michael Vinette	Absent

Our host, John Leo explained the history of the print donated to the club for the 50/50 raffle and the process as to how it was made. The club is grateful for the very generous donation and John was thanked by Prez Larry.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer Forrest Anderson reported the current checkbook balance.

Tracy Smith reported a record renewal season in progress. Membership lists will be distributed to MEMBERS ONLY via the newsletter distribution of their choice. Members who receive a download notification will be asked to send an email to

crvsecretary@aol.com (New Address) and they will get a copy via return email. I will try to make a Word and an Excel version available if there is sufficient demand.

Announcements:

Prez Larry announced a Club Cabin will be available
(continued on the next column)

at the Charter Oak Rally for members and associate members at no charge – first come first served till full. Contact Brian Fisk if you're a member and you are attending the rally and want cabin space.

See Larry to volunteer at the club booth at "Super Sunday" at the Hartford Expo Center on Sunday, May 9. We need help promoting the club.

The May meeting is tentatively set as the Camp Clean-up day at the 4-H Center. Watch the newsletter for details.

Larry reviewed the club calendar. This promises to be a very busy riding season. There are opportunities to organize day rides for the non-rally crowd. Read the ride calendar and join in !!

Mark Altaschlager won the print donated by The Masters Collection. Chris Jennings won the 50/50.

The next monthly meeting will be on Sunday, April 25, 2004 at Central Pizza, Berlin, CT.

A motion to adjourn was made @ 3:31 PM. Motion was passed, meeting closed by Larry Friedman, President.

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

April CRV Meeting

The April Meeting, on April 25, will take place at Central Pizza in Berlin, CT. Central Pizza is located at 96 Mill Street, west of Route 9 and the Berlin Turnpike, at the junction of Mill St. and Webster Square St. in Berlin, CT (adjacent to route 9.) Telephone: 860-828-0133. The meeting will begin at 2:00P.M. Come and share in the discussion about 2004 activities including our Charter Oak Rally, other rallies, rides, and events.

May Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, April 25, is the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter.

The Great White North Grand Tour -- Official Rules

The Connecticut River Valley Riders would like to thank you for joining us in the 2004 Great White North Grand Tour.

1. You are allowed a maximum of seven months, from April 1st to October 31st, 2004, to ride to as many towns as you can. You will have until the end of August 2004 to enter but the sooner you sign up, the sooner you can start.
2. Towns must have North in the name. For example, North Granby or North Haven are acceptable, as are Northville, Northfield, and Northford.
3. A photo will be used as proof of your visit to a town. Required in each photo will be (1) your bike (or any portion of your bike), (2) your Grand Tour flag and (3) an official town sign such as a town limit, post office, police or fire station, school, library, or town hall. Quasi-government signs (such as train stations, water towers, community service organizations i.e. Lions Club, VFW) indicating the name of the town will be accepted if the name of the town is very clearly indicated. Signs should indicate that you are at the town, not just headed there, so signs with an arrow giving the direction to a town or the distance to a town are not acceptable. Signs on businesses are not acceptable. Digital cameras are permitted, but only printed photographs should be submitted.
4. The word "town" is used generically so townships, villages, hamlets, cities, etc. are acceptable. Counties are not acceptable. States are not acceptable (a variation for this year.) Naturally, signs for non-town place names like North Avenue or North Street Station are not allowed.
5. A town name cannot be used more than once (another variation for this year due to the large number of towns that fit the profile). Of course, this means the state is not required on the signs.
6. The town name must be as legible as reasonably possible in the photographs. The judges believe that the challenge of the tour is to identify and ride to towns, and then find an acceptable sign, so they will be somewhat forgiving with respect to photographic quality. If a photo is not perfectly clear to a viewer who might be rapidly reviewing a large number of photographs, please write helpful information on the back to guide the judge. These special notes should be written in pencil as ink can bleed into photo solution.
7. Riders may ride outside the U.S. borders to get their pictures, especially into the Great White North (beware of ice.) Photo rules still apply.
8. If entered as rider and passenger, the passenger should be visible in about half of the photos. Although not mandatory, try to get at least one photo with both of you in the photograph. Likewise, it is suggested that single riders try to be in at least one scene as well.
10. Do not lose your Grand Tour flag, as it may not be replaced. (Not that anyone loses their flag intentionally.

Replacements will depend on availability.) If you find someone else's flag, please leave it, as the owner may return for it. Please note its location and number and notify the judges ASAP and we will contact the rider.

11. To complete the tour and reach the Bronze achievement level, riders must ride to a minimum of 30 towns. Riders that visit at least 60 towns will move up to the Silver level. The Gold tier of achievement starts at 90 towns. Bronze finishers will receive a Bronze Presidents' Grand Tour of the Americas patch plus an entry into the door prize drawings. Silver finishers receive a silver Presidents' Grand Tour of the Americas patch and two entries toward the door prizes. Gold finishers receive a gold Presidents' Grand Tour of the Americas patch and three entries toward the door prizes. Additionally, there may be special awards for the top ten riders as special recognition of their accomplishment.

12. For ease of tabulation, please keep your photos together until you are finished with the Grand Tour and submit the photos in a single group. Also, please submit your photos in alphabetical order. If you would also like to submit your mileage from the Grand Tour, you are encouraged to do so, as well as any information you think the judges may find interesting. Grand Tour results, awards and door prizes (if you win) will be sent to Grand Tour finishers as soon as all photos are reviewed and the data compiled.

13. All proof-of-visit photos must be postmarked no later than October 31st. Send them to: CRV, John Stiefel, 35 Saw Mill Road, Burlington, CT 06013. Photos will not be returned unless prior arrangements are made (i.e. a note indicating your desire to have them returned ... postage when they are sent for judging). Connecticut River Valley reserves the right to use any of the photos submitted for our review, blah, blah, blah. (We may post some of the more interesting ones on our web site.)

14. Please provide the judges your email address, if you have one. Email will be used instead of USPS whenever possible to reduce costs. (Postage is one of the largest costs for the Grand Tour.)

15. The judges prefer that any questions or clarification be directed to the judges through the Yahoo Groups email list (Grand_Tour@yahoogroups.com) so that other participants may benefit from the answers. The list includes an archive of past emails, as well as a "Files" section that includes relevant documents. If you choose to email questions directly to the judges, they may copy the question and the answer to the Yahoo Groups list if others may benefit from the question.

16. Judges' decisions are final.

...and remember, have fun, ride safe and enjoy your summer!

CRV Web Site Address

Visit our CRVBMW Web Site at

<http://www.crvbmw.org>

Murphy's Laws of Motorcycling (cont.)

The more riders around, the more likely you will: a) Forget the kill switch is in the off position while trying to start your bike; b) Ride off with the sidestand down; c) Ride off with the petcock closed; d) ride along for miles with the turn signal on; e) get stung by a bee and do a roadside crazy dance shedding your riding gear.

The scarcity of motels and camping spots depends on how late in the day it is.

Your first successful multi-gear wheelie will be past a heretofore unobserved police officer who dislikes motorcycles.

How long it takes to receive any back ordered part is proportional to how badly it is needed.

When your throttle cable snaps, you will always coast to a halt in front of a crack-house bust in progress.

The patch-wearing guy named Tiny really DOES want to know what you are looking at.

Your battery will die at the exact same time something else on the bike breaks and you will think they are related.

The cute girl is probably talking to you despite the fact you own a bike.

The chance of rain depends on how accessible your rain gear is.

A bad day of riding is better than a good day at work.

Borella's Spring Pizza Ride

It's almost time for the Borella's annual Spring Pizza Ride when thousands of motorcyclists descend on the sleepy little 'burg of Danielson, Ct. to check out the eclectic mix of exotic machinery ... feast at the world famous Pizza King. The date to remember is April 4 with a rain/snow date of April 18. Arrive 10:00AM-12:00PM for coffee ... home made snacks with a noonish departure for the nearby Pizza King. For more info/directions send an email to: borella_ent@hotmail.com

Vanson's Open House

Spring is here again and the riding season is underway. This is your personal invitation to you and your friends to attend our April open house beginning on April 22nd thru April 25th 2004 at Vanson Leathers. This is a great time to check out all the new spring products and fantastic savings. Lots of fun, lots of free food, live music, live extreme riding/stunt shows, factory tours and what we all been waiting for lots of BIKES!!! If you have any questions please give me a call here @ 508-678-2000 ext 145 Lynn Harrison, Vanson Leathers

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

On June 25-27, kick back and enjoy rural New York at the Ninth 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.

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

1984 BMW R65, 11,000 miles, excellent condition, Corbin seat, Luftmeister exhaust, runs great, black, (repainted)\$2750.00, Marshall Robinson 1-203-271-2378 or mkrobinson@cox.net (ad posted 4/04)

2002 BMW R1150GS Adventure, Black, Jesse Side Cases, PIAA 520 Lights, Ohlins Shocks, Many Extras, Excellent Condition, 9K miles, \$12,750. Call Ken White at (860) 267-1427 or email at flyer850@att.net (ad posted 4/04)

1994 BMW R100 Mystic, BMW hard bags 28K miles asking \$6k. Contact Clyde Pratt 607-725-7011 or E-mail qwak@juno.com (ad posted 1/04)

69/2 conversion, '79 R100 motor and Ural sidecar, asking \$8k Contact Clyde Pratt 607-725-7011 or E-mail qwak@juno.com (ad posted 1/04)

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

2004 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.

April

- April 3-10 Polaris National House at Canton Cycles
- April 4 -- Borrella's Annual Spring Pizza Ride. Details on page 4
- April 15 -- Cliff's BMW of Danbury, the official unveiling of the much anticipated R1200GS @6:30pm
- April 15 -17 Canton Cycles BMW National Open House Promotion - Come see the New 2005 R1200GS, K1200LT, F650CS Check our event page at www.cantoncycles.com
- April 17 -- Cliff's BMW 3rd Technical Event, "BMW RIDERS APPAREL TECH DAY" with special guests from W.L. Gore (maker of Gore-tex) and BMW North America's product development manager. Held at Cliff's BMW Motorcycles of Danbury. Visit: <http://www.danburybmw.com>
- April 18 Hillclimb Monson MA
- April 22-25 -- Vanson's Open House. Details on page 4
- April 25 -- CRV Meeting. Details on page 2.
- April 25 -- Miracle Ride - to benefit the Connecticut Children's Hospital For details go to www.miracleride.com
- April 25 -- Miracle Ride @ Canton Cycles - Call for details
- April 30- May 1 -- Frosty Nutz Campout

May

- May 9 -- Super Sunday, at the Connecticut Expo Center in Hartford, CT
- May 15 -- Canton Cycles Annual Open House. The Big One! Food, Band ... DJ , Prizes, Fun!
- May 21-23 -- Pennsylvania Tent Floating Contest, East Berlin (PA)
- May 20-23 Spring Bash. Waylusing PA
- May 21&22 -- Triumph Day at Canton Cycles. The Triumph Factory Demo Fleet Truck will be here loaded with bikes that you can test ride. We have an excellent demo route. This is your chance to ride lots of different Triumph Motor-

cycle models.

May 28-31 -- (CRV)18th Charter Oak Rally. Current details are on page 7.

June

- June 4-6 -- 30th Square Route Rally
- June 13 -- Southwick Motocross
- June 10-13, 2004 -- 28th Iowa Rally
- June 11-13 -- The Minuteman 1000
- June 17-20 -- Pemi River Rally for Laconia Bike Week
- June 18-20 -- NEHPD's Annual Bark Curling Festival
- June 20 -- "A Taste of the Ultimate Journey" Join Chris & Erin Ratay for a presentation and discussion on their 4-year around the world adventure on two BMW motorcycles. From 11am -1 pm at Cliff's BMW Motorcycles of Danbury
- June 25-27 -- Ninth CRVBMW Club Camp Out. Details on page 4.
- June 25-27 -- 9th Annual "Airheads at the Aerodrome" Campout (NY)
- June 25-27, 2004 -- 2nd BMW Riders Campout -- Laurel Highlands BMW Riders Club #294

July

- July 2-4 -- BMW Club Qu'Èbec 2004 Rally
- July 2-5 -- Rubber Cow Rally
- July 2-5 -- Party Rider Rally
- July 9 -12 -- Top O' The Rockies Rally. Paonia, Colorado. Check out the web site for info and a registration form www.coloradobeemers.com
- July 15-18 -- MOA National
- July 16-18 -- Sweaty Boobs Leak -- Lusa's campout at Mosquito Heaven Coast
- July 17&18 -- The 28th Annual Ramapo 500
- July 30-Aug 1 -- Summer Somerset, VT

August

- August 1 -- The 22nd Annual MDA Ride in memory of Michael Bristol. Held at Canton Cycles.
- August 13-15 -- [B]⁵ Gathering in Montrose, PA. Details to follow or currently on our CRV Web Site.

The Great White North Grand Tour



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 John Stiefel, 35 Saw Mill Road, Burlington, CT 06013. Please make checks or money orders payable to —CRVBMWR—. 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 (or April 1.) Registration is open until August 30th; Tour ends October 31st.

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 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 Grand Tour, 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 Grand Tour and hereby waive any and all claims I may have against the Grand Tour, its organizers, agents and sponsors as a result of my participation Grand Tour. I further agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Grand Tour, its organizers, agents and sponsors any claims against them by third parties as a result of my conduct of actions during the Grand Tour. 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 _____



CHARTER OAK

Eighteenth Annual

Charter Oak Rally

May 28 - 31, 2004

Sponsored by CT River Valley BMW Riders, Inc.

Includes:

- * Saturday night entertainment
- * 2 Free dinners
- * Breakfasts included free, continental breakfast on Monday
- * FREE chili Friday night while it lasts!
- * FREE continuous coffee
- * Snacks available on the site
- * 3 nights camping and hot showers
- * Door prizes
- * Organized rides
- * Poker Run
- * Rally Awards
- * Modern enclosed pavilion and facilities
- * Cabins available for clubs for \$35
- * Rally pin, cup and dinners guaranteed to first 200
- * Other surprises planned

For Preregistration contact:

Tracy Smith, Charter Oak Rally
66 Morris Street, Naugatuck, CT 06770
E-mail at crvsecretary@juno.com

For cabin info contact Brian Fisk 860-635-1173
or e-mail brainfish@deadhorse.com

**Make checks payable to:
CRVBMW Riders, Inc.**

Location: Hartford County 4-H Outdoor Center,
Marlborough, Connecticut

Registration: \$40 preregistration (prior to May 18), \$45 at the Gate. Children 6-15 \$23, \$28 at the Gate, 5 and under FREE.



Directions: In Marlborough Center, at the

intersection of Routes 2 and 66, take South Main Street. (The 4-H Outdoor Center is approximately 3.5 miles from Route 66.) After that you will come to a Y, South Road bears to the right. Take South Road. At the STOP, continue straight. The Hartford County 4-H camp will be on your left. Follow the "4-H" signs.

PLEASE !!!

**No glass or pets
at the rally site**

Registration Form

A separate registration form is needed for every person, including passengers and every child.

Name: _____ Rider Male _____ Passenger Female _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Name(s) of Local Club Affiliations: _____ Send me information on cabins: Y N

Make of Motorcycle: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____ Sidecar: Y N

Waiver: I agree to hold harmless the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. the AMA, and the 4-H Hartford County Outdoor Center, for any injury, damage or loss incurred while attending or travelling to and from the rally.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Official Use Only Amount Received \$ _____ Cash or Check # _____ Received by _____

Information Verified _____ Rally # _____

April 2004
NEWS
CRVBMWR

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

Charter Oak Rally and Grand Tour Registrations are enclosed.