

CRVBMW NEWS

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

Thoughts from a Motocrat

AMA #05636
BMW MOA #164
BMWRA #45

President
Larry Friedman
413-562-3164
lfrdmn@comcast.net

Vice President
Lenny LaRose
860-635-2032
lennel@snet.net

Secretary
Bill Drachenberg
860-632-0235
wdrachenberg@snet.net

Treasurer
Mark Altschwager
860-693-6460
maltschwager@comcast.net

Road Captain
Brian Fisk
860-635-1173
brainfish@deadhorse.com

Co-Road Captain
Chris Jennings
203-368-9281

Member-At-Large
Keith Olsen
203-531-6447
crvbmw@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor
Keith Olsen
This newsletter is published monthly by the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. solely for the use of its members. Any copying and/or duplication of the contents without prior permission is prohibited. Classified ads are free to members.

Send newsletter articles, ads, flyers, events, etc. before the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month. Preferred method is to email an attachment to:

crvbmw@earthlink.net
or mail to:
Keith Olsen
53 Richland Road
Greenwich, CT, 06830-6012

Thank you to Mark Altschwager for arranging the April 23 CRV meeting.

The area along Route 44 between Canton and Winsted is where our club originally gathered for Sunday breakfast and rides.

Riders are encouraged to put on some miles before and after the meeting..

The roads to the north, south and west will provide the lowest traffic and least populated territory.

You are always welcome to bring surplus cycle stuff to club meetings to swap or sell.

Ride in on that spare cycle or bring photos of them to entice prospective buyers.

It's spring breakup on many roads here in the north (of Connecticut) country. Potholes, frost heaves and crumbling surfaces are commonplace in Massachusetts where tight budgets have been impacted by decades of the Boston Big Dig project.

The new tunnel there comes with a free car wash due to the many leaks.

The last days of March offered

by Larry Friedman

a spring tease with sunny and mild days sandwiched between gully washing storms.

A dinged rim could result in a painful expense, or worse, if a motorcyclist forgets to ride with caution while winter sand and road damage are lurking along the trail.

You must make a serious effort to ride more this year. You know that's what you have been saying every year. Mark your calendar with the many destinations that are on our www.crvbmw.org site and the other sources in magazines or on the Internet. Pick up the phone or email another rider to plan a ride or to meet up somewhere.

Check your motorcycles' tire pressures and lubricants. A pre-ride check is always wise.

A camera can be a good addition to your gadget bag during this year's rides. Don't arrive home with regrets that you neglected to photograph that great view, odd sign, friend's shiny machine or back road bridge.

Save your cerebral memory bank

for those springtime scents and the friendly words from friends you've met.

Share your travel experiences with fellow motorcyclists at club gatherings and rallies. That's where you converse with other people who speak of the same sensory perceptions and emotional impressions we share on our separate rides.

Minutes of the March CRVBMW Meeting

Meeting was called to order at approximately 2:00 pm 26 members present.

Officers in attendance

President, Larry Friedman

Vice president, Lenny LaRose

absent

Secretary, Bill Drachenberg

Treasurer, Mark Altschwager

Road Captain, Brian Fisk

Co-road captain, Chris Jennings

Member at large, Keith Olsen

(continued on the next page)

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

April 2 -- Cliff's BMW Open House

April 3 -- Planning Party

April 16 -- A Night At The Movies

April 23 -- CRV April Meeting

April 24 -- BBQ Ride

April 24 -- 10th Annual Connecticut Miracle Ride

Old Business;

Pres. Larry thanked Keith for his assistance with February's meeting

New Business;

Rides and other future events;

Brian Fisk; is tweaking the details for the following;

A club Movie night on April 16th to see 'Faster' a movie about the Moto GP scene. Further information to follow.

A combined CRV monthly meeting and spring cleanup at the Hartford county 4-H camp. Further information to follow.

Pres. Larry proposed a planned club trip to Vermont on July 29th through the 31st. this will be a ride with camping and hotel accommodations and excursions to some of Vermont's local attractions. Further information to follow.

Chris Jennings presented a ride to Uncle Willies BBQ in Waterbury. The starting point is exit 44 off the Merritt parkway on April 23rd at 3pm.

Treasurer's report; read and accepted.

Secretary's report; Renewals going out soon via mail.

New Members; Todd O'Keefe, Jack Williams, Thom McKinlay, Gary Czarnecki

New member introductions at the meeting

Thom Mckinlay, Gary Czarnecki

George Noewatne Spoke about the experienced rider class available to CRV members on a first-come first-served basis. Reservations are open only to CRV BMW Club members until April 1, 2005 the class is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2005 in Stratford, CT and will go from 8:00 AM to approximately 4:00 PM. There are 12 slots available.

Unfilled slots will be open to the general public. After April 1, 2005. Contact George Email: gnoewatne@mindspring.com or telephone (203) 645-4709

Meeting Adjourned 2:35

May Newsletter Deadline

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

BBQ Run

It has been a long, cold, mushy, windy, finger creaking winter and the mailman is not pleased. Yet I have seen crocuses, robins, and rumors of spring abound . . . either that or I got some bad mushrooms on my pizza. But it is not pizza for which I have come to speak. It is BBQ; or rather "Real Down Home Pit BBQ."

Friends, rider, countrymen lend me your ears. We have not come to praise BBQ, but to eat it. On Sunday, April 24th, we shall do just that. Gather at 3:00PM at the commuter parking lot just south of the Merritt Parkway at Exit 44 (Black Rock Turnpike in Fairfield, near the Hi Ho Motel.) I will lead a scenic ride of two hours, give or take, to Uncle Willie's BBQ which is just off Route 8, Exit 36, in Waterbury.

Uncle Willies is like a little southern BBQ joint that got picked up from Alabama or North Carolina and dropped in Connecticut. You don't pay extra for ambiance, but the food is great. I believe they also have an all you can eat special during the beginning of the week, including Sunday, which is a steal. I will probably cancel or reschedule if it is raining so call at 203-368-4281. If it snows I will be swinging from the rafters of my house, but leave a message so the police will be able to figure out what happened.

I hope to see you there . . . at the ride, not at my hanging.

Chris Jennings

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

On June 24-26, kick back and enjoy rural New York at the Tenth 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 1-607-725-7011 (work). If no answer leave a message.

The Animal Magnetism Grand Tour

2005 Official Rules

The Connecticut River Valley Riders would like to thank you for joining us in the 2005 Animal Magnetism Grand Tour.

1. You are allowed a maximum of seven months, from April 1st to October 31st, 2005, to ride to as many sites as you can.
2. Sites must have a statue of an animal. For purposes of the Grand Tour, a statue is a 3 dimensional representation or a two dimensional representation (i.e. silhouette) in the shape of an animal. (Rectangular signs with animals painted on them are *not* acceptable.) For example, statues of a rider on horseback or of a seal with a ball balanced on it's nose are acceptable, while a rider on an actual horse or a stuffed moose are not.
3. A photo will be used as proof of your visit to a Statue. Required in each photo will be (1) your bike (or any portion of your bike or riding gear), (2) your Grand Tour flag (if you choose to make one) and (3) the Statue. Digital cameras *are* permitted and even encouraged.
4. 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.
5. Each animal can only be used once as a statue. The exception to this rule is riders on horseback, where it is said that the number of feet that the horse has on the ground indicates the fate of the rider: For these mounted riders, sites with each number of feet (i.e 2, 3, or 4) on the ground is allowed.
6. A maximum of two statues per site is allowed. If a site has multiple statues (for example, a manufacturer of statues with hundreds of statues on display), only two may be used from that site.
7. Participants are encouraged to upload a photo of themselves and their bike at a site to the Photos section of Grand Tour web site.
8. Participants can apply to the Grand Tour Organizer for a participant number. Requests should include name, passenger's name, address, phone number and email address. (Contact information will not be abused by the Grand Tour Organizer.) Flags will not be provided, however participants are welcome to make their own flags. Fabric stores sell iron-on media that can be printed from a standard computer printer and then used to make a flag.
9. Participants will judge their own photos (we are all adults, aren't we?) and self-report their results to the Grand Tour email list prior to October 31, the end of the Grand Tour. Participants are encouraged to create an album at one of the many photo sharing web sites to display their photos for peer review. A link to the album should be provided in the participants self-report of their results.
10. Photos should also be available for verification and inspection by the Grand Tour Organizer, upon request.

(continued on next column)

11. If participants would like to submit their mileage from the Grand Tour with their results, they are encouraged to do so, as well as any other information they think other participants may find interesting. Overall Grand Tour results will be compiled after the end of the Grand Tour.
12. Participants are strongly encouraged to join the Grand Tour email list so that they may communicate with other participants and keep up with Grand Tour news. The web site for the Grand Tour email list is located at http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/Grand_Tour. In addition to email Messages, the site contains a Files section and a Photos section, as well as archives of past Messages. To register, either go to the web site or send an email to Grand_Tour-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Upon registering, participants can and select an option where they do not receive any mail, but can still view past messages, files and photos. There may be a short initial delay when initially registering to verify the participant's identity and prevent junk email.
13. There is no fee to participate in the Grand Tour.
14. The Grand Tour ends on October 31. Please report your results prior to that time. Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders reserves the right to use any of the photos submitted however we like, yada, yada, yada. (We may post some on our web site or in our newsletter.)
15. To complete the tour and reach the Bronze achievement level, riders must ride to a minimum of 25 statues. Riders that visit at least 50 statues will move up to the Silver level. The Gold tier of achievement starts at 75 statues.
16. If you are interested in joining the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, information is available at: www.crvbmw.org. The CRVBMW organizes many great activities, of which the Grand Tour is only one. (Club membership is *not* limited to BMW riders.)
17. The Grand Tour Organizers prefer that any questions or clarification be directed to the organizers through the Yahoo Groups email list (Grand_Tour@yahoogroups.com) so that other participants may benefit from the answers. The email 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 Grand Tour Organizer, they may copy the question and the answer to the email list if they think others may benefit from the answer.

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

Your Grand Tour Organizer,

John Stiefel
john_stiefel@yahoo.com

A Night At The Movies

Faster

Hey CRV'ers, on Saturday, April 16, there is a moving playing in Hartford, Connecticut, called *Faster*. We plan to go as a group. Either before or after (preferable) those interested will go for some Nosh, possibly at Wood'n'Taps. So if you are interested save the date now. The time for the movie is not yet available. I'll post it to CRV bulletin board at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CRVBMW>

I'll have the times that week. If anyone is interested call or email me and I'll let you know what is happening. brainfish@deadhorse.com 860-635-1173. Don't call or email on Saturday the 16th I WILL NOT respond. I will show up at the theater or at Wood'n'Taps. My guess is that one or the other will start at 5:30. The cost seems like it will be \$8.50 each. This should be a good time, hope to see you there.

The movie *Faster* is narrated by Ewan McGregor. It was filmed around the world during the 2001 and 2002 seasons, *Faster* asks this question: How do you go faster than the rest, how do you win at this glamorous, dangerous game? The movie could be subtitled: How do you beat Valentino Rossi? The 24 year old Italian, world champion in 2001 and 2002, currently dominates MotoGP. He is the biggest star the sport has ever seen and the charismatic centre of the film.

In addition to Rossi, *Faster* focuses on three other MotoGP riders: Rossi's bitter rival Max Biaggi; the brilliant but injury-prone Garry McCoy; and the rising teenage star John Hopkins. Their stories reveal both the ecstasy and the terror of life in the insanely fast lane, as do the tales told by a supporting cast of former world champions including Mick Doohan, Kevin Schwantz, Wayne Rainey, Kenny Roberts and Barry Sheene.

All of this makes *Faster* much more than a film about the current MotoGP scene. It is the definitive story of motorcycle racing at the highest level, and of the handful of men who have what it takes to win.

CRV Web Site Address

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

Items For Sale or Wanted For Sale

Various Items:

Saddlebag liners for "system" bags as used on '92 K100, and many other BMWs. \$120.

BMW tankbag, liner, and rain cover from '92 K bike. (may fit others). \$100.

BMW battery charger. \$50.

Bridgestone Battleax radial tire 160/60 ZR18...('92 K100RS rear) tubeless radial. Lots of tread. One tiny puncture professionally patched. \$85.

Corbin canyon seat for '92 K100RS, quite used...quite comfortable, for taller rider. MAKE OFFER

E-pics available. Contact Steve Varhol at 860-583-9893 or packardsix@yahoo.com (ad posted 4/05)

1999 BMW R1100 RA 26,000 miles (Original Mother) Silver/Black (A Beauty) Loaded: Anti Lock Brakes, Windshield, Heated Hand Grips, Hyper Lights (rear), Modulator Headlight, Engine Guards, New Tires, New Brakes, Dealer Maintained. Recently received its Annual Service and 24,000 mile Service. Call or email for more details. Hard Bags Not Included! I Need Them! Make me an offer. The garage is crowded! Contact Bev Perry at perrybeverly@msn.com or 203-445-0676 (ad posted 3/05)

1994 BMW K75RT, Red, bought new in 95. 37k miles and excellent condition. With Mustang Tank Cover, Reynolds Back Rest, s.s. brake lines, temp and fuel gauges, heated grips. New front brake pads. One owner. Asking \$4700.00 b.o. Call John 860-589-6815 or email at ljallen2@msn.com (ad posted 3/05)

1995 BMW K75A. Mystic red metallic, ABS braking, 9K miles, BMW hard cases, Parabellum scout fairing color matched to bike with sport windscreen and new Interstate battery. Bike is in like new condition, always been garaged and covered and includes Dow canvas cover. Asking \$5,000 obo. Contact Paul Shadic at pshadic@sbcglobal.net or (860) 657-4804. (ad posted 3/05)

1995 K1100 LT, 45K miles, great shape. Good rubber. Throttlemeister, BMW tank bag, Kathy's liners, Corbin and original seats, wired for Garmin GPS V (unit available if wanted). Asking \$5,800. Contact Bill Porter @ 203-315-1160 or wporter@snet.net (ad posted 3/05)

BMW Safety Stand for an R1200 Cruiser. Used one year. Part # 90886001550. \$100 or B.O. Contact Walter Wutsch at 860-563-7108 (ad posted 3/05)

Wanted

No items currently listed.

If Interested

Free -- Twelve years of BMW MOA Magazines in magazine holders. Contact Walter Wutsch at 860-563-7108

2005 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 2 -- Cliff's BMW Open House.
- April 3 -- Planning Party
- April 16 -- A Night At The Movies. Details on page 4.
- April 23 -- CRV April Meeting. Details to the right.
- April 24 -- BBQ Ride. Details on page 2.
- April 24 -- 10th Annual Connecticut Miracle Ride. Visit www.miracleride.com for details.

May

- May 14 -- Hartford County 4-H Camp Clean-up. Details below.
- May 14 -- Spring Camp Out. Details to the right.
- May 18 -- After work picnic. Details below.
- May 21 -- An Experienced Rider Course will be available to CRV members on a first-come first-served basis. See the March Newsletter for details.
- May 27-30 -- Charter Oak Rally. Registration form on page 7.

June

- June 24-26 -- Tenth Annual CRVBMW Club Camp Out. Details on page 2.

After Work Picnic

Come to an after work picnic on Wednesday, May 18th, at Watrous Park, Geer St. Cromwell, CT. We'll be starting at approximately 5 PM in the Pavilion. This is rain or shine, as we have a roof over our heads. Hope to see you there!

Hartford County 4-H Camp Clean-up

CRV will participate in the Hartford County 4-H Camp clean-up on May 14th. We should be there in force at or before 9AM. Please let this be a good showing. I know that many things are going on that Day/Weekend. But please at least drop by to lighten the load, so that we all can have fun on the day.

Spring Camp Out

Time for a Spring Camp Out, well almost. Saturday May 14, just a small gathering of whoever wants to show up. A little feast, a good campfire and good friends. We will put an end to the winter blues and get a start on summertime fun. Even if it rains!

Be prepared to sleep on the ground or on an air mattress and sleeping bag.

You could sleep under the stars, but I would suggest a tent. If you sit, you may want a chair. If you eat, you may want a bowl, spoon, etc. If you drink, bring your own whatever. Yes, it is as it sounds, bring your own. The site is slightly more than primitive, we will have an outhouse. Please bring something for the stew. And a good attitude, we are there to have fun!

We may even camp on Friday night as well. But that will be desired that week. The camp out is planned for Windsor, CT. But it is getting late in the year, the venue may change at the last instant.

Don't forget let me know if you want to attend.

For directions, call Brian Fisk at 860-635-1173 or e-mail brainfish@deadhorse.com

April CRV Meeting

The April Meeting, on April 23, will take place at the Log Cabin in Winsted, CT. The Log Cabin is located on Route 44 on the Winsted/New Hartford line. The meeting will begin at 12:00P.M. We'll be in the "back room" for the meeting. Enjoy your ride to the meeting, hear what's new, then plan the rest of your day's riding.



Nineteenth Annual Charter Oak Rally

May 27 - 30, 2005

Sponsored by CT River Valley BMW Riders, Inc.

Includes:

- * Saturday and Sunday night entertainment
- * 8 meals included in registration fee
- * 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
- * Rally Awards
- * Modern enclosed pavilion and facilities
- * Cabins available for clubs for \$35
- * Rally pin and mug guaranteed to first 200

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.

For Preregistration contact:
 Brian Fisk, Charter Oak Rally
 409 Main Street, Cromwell, CT 06416
 E-mail at brainfish@deadhorse.com

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

Make checks payable to:
CRVBMW Riders, Inc.

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 # _____

CRVBMWR NEWS April 2005

CRVBMWR
c/o Bill Drachenberg
31 Cambridge Court
Middletown, CT 06457

Details on the Animal Magnetism Grand Tour are on page 3.