

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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Crosswinds -- How to Handle Them

by James R. Davis

Sooner or later you are going to wonder about how to handle severe crosswinds - probably while fighting them.

Surprise, surprise - you don't have to do anything and the motorcycle will handle most crosswinds just fine - with only normal responses from you.

There are a couple of things that you can do to make the experience less stressful, however. For example, you can quit white-knuckling your grips. When you hold on tight you also tend to stiff arm your controls. That, as we've talked about before, merely allows front-end instability to propagate into the rest of the motorcycle. Relax your grips and droop your elbows. Allow your bike to be a bit unstable. Drive in the **CENTER OF YOUR LANE**. Lean forward and down to reduce your profile, and snug up your jacket.

What about traction? You neither gain nor lose any significant traction when the wind blows from your side unless you are in a curve. While you are leaned into the wind all of the weight of the bike remains on your tires (fancy that) and there is very little lateral force scrubbing that traction away.

How much lean do you need?

Whatever the bike dials in for you.

Should you anticipate those gusts? Should you just respond quickly to a gust in order to remain in control and traveling in a straight line? No, and no. Your bike will NOT travel in a straight line. That is, as long as you allow it to do its thing, your bike will be modestly blown off course with a gust and the result of that movement is **EXACTLY** the same as any other minor course change - you will need modest counter-steer input to correct it - the CG of your bike will then be on the side the wind came from and the result is that it will lean towards the wind.

[Anticipating wind-shear IS important under a couple of scenarios: the approach of an oncoming large vehicle suggests that severe buffeting will occur when you pass it, and entering or exiting stretches protected from the wind such as tunnels or bridges with relatively high retaining walls. In these cases you will certainly want to position the bike away from the source of the wind-shear and insure you maintain a firm grip.]

Is a heavier bike less likely to be blown around than a lighter bike? Not necessarily.

What is primarily determinant of how great the effect of a crosswind is on your bike is its profile. A garage door (GoldWing) will typically be more harshly affected by crosswinds than a lighter low profile bike.

Can you mitigate some of that instability in any way? Yes. There are cowling additions that can be designed (some are available off the shelf - called 'belly pans') that streamline the airflow under your bike and help (modestly) to reduce crosswind handling problems.

Your side profile area is what determines how your motorcycle reacts to crosswinds. Just as there is a Center of Gravity, there is also a Center of wind resistance. If that center of wind resistance is in front of your Center of Gravity then crosswinds will tend to push you off course while if it is behind your Center of Gravity the motorcycle will try to steer INTO the wind. Thus, mounting a high profile **LIGHT** object (a stuffed animal, for example) onto your trunk lid or your pillion can have a dramatically corrective effect rather than worsen

(continued on the next page)

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

- March 20 -- CRV Meeting at Cental Pizza
- March 20 -- Charter Oak Rally Meeting
- April 2 -- Cliff's BMW Open House
- April 3 -- Planning Party
- April 16 -- A Night At The Movies

the bike's steering reaction to those crosswinds.

Crosswinds can be murder if you are leaned way over in a curve. Don't, if you can avoid it.

As a result of a crosswind your bike will move off course and normal modest counter-steer will lean it into the wind. A strong gust will blow you out of track. So, correct your steering, gently, and keep going.

I admit that sometimes a gust can be ferocious! I was on the Golden gate bridge once when a crosswind blew me into the adjacent lane! But the bike was in no danger of falling down and it was easy to get back in lane. Had the gust been a sustained blast I would have been leaned over nearly 45 degrees. It was not, thankfully.

Note ... there are TWO times when a gusty crosswind changes your bike's direction of travel: when it hits, and when it stops. Both require that you allow the bike to respond and use normal modest counter-steering. (When it quits you will be leaned over and, as a result, your bike will move towards where the wind WAS coming from until you straighten it up.

If crosswinds involve huge short gusts, go park the bike. If the crosswinds are more sustained, pucker up and keep going.

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day of the event. More information will follow.

Larry gave a Treasurer's report. The club treasury subsidized our two main social events with the Picnic/Barbecue receiving \$1,850 and the Winter Banquet/Awards evening receiving \$842. Renewal of charters and other club requirements will be taking place soon with the assistance of Tracy Smith. The possibility of changing our bank of business was mentioned.

The club received the Farthest Charter Club with 5 or More Members Present Award from attendance at the MOA National Rally this past summer in Spokane, Washington.



Brian discussed information on some rides and activities he and Chris are currently considering. An April Ride to Willy's Barbecue in Waterbury. A Museum Ride to the Newgate Prison and the Trolley Museum. A ride to Ted's for steamed hamburgers. The Planning party on April 3. A meeting at the 4H Camp in April. The Spring Camp Out on May 14. Frosty Nutz Camp Out the weekend of May 6. Registration at Lima for the MOA National and a midpoint meeting and camping area for the ride to Lima.

Larry spoke about the Co-Road Captain elections and asked if Fred Rosenbaum and George Noewatne Jr. would be ride leaders and made them "Official Presidential Appointees."

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Minutes of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc.

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

The February monthly meeting of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. was called to order @ 2:09 PM on February 27, 2005, Larry Friedman presiding. Approximately 35 members and guests were in attendance at Cental Pizza in Berlin, CT

Officers in attendance:

President	Larry Friedman	Present
Vice-President	Lenny LaRose	Present
Secretary	Bill Drachenberg	Absent
Treasurer	Mark Altschwager	Absent
Road Captain	Brian Fisk	Present
Co-Road Captain	Chris Jennings	Present
Member-At-Large	Keith Olsen	Present

Larry shared information and flyers were passed out about the Ride for Kids sponsored by the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation.

MDA Ride -- John Badeen spoke about current plans. He has had discussions with Ralph of Canton Cycles. Rides may start from different parts of the state and meet at Canton Cycles. The MDA hopes to have increased pledges this year in place of donations made only at the

Some discussion was held as to the exact location of the 2006 MOA National and its exact location in Vermont, whether it is in Burlington or Essex Junction.

George Noewatne Jr. spoke for he and his father in thanking the club and club members for the support they received with the recent passing away of his mother. The flowers and cards they received helped them with the shared sympathy and support.

The next CRV Meeting will be held at Central Pizza on March 20.

Matt Strus is looking for any copies or computer files of past club logos to use for items at the club store.

The 10th Annual Club Camp Out in Kirkwood, NY held by Clyde and Diane Pratt is planned for June 24-26.

Lenny discussed a ride on the weekend of June 17 to watch the Laconia 1/2 mile flat track races and the Springfield Mile.

John Shields spoke of the support we've given to the Greater Hartford Marathon .

Early plans for the September Picnic/Barbecue were discussed.

Brian shared information about this year's Charter Oak Rally. A Rally Meeting will be held after the next CRV Meeting on March 20.

Fred Toush (spelling?) passed away. He regularly attended our Charter Oak Rally and would often be found sitting and talking outside the Dining Hall. He had over 600,00 miles on his BMW.

Vern reminded everyone that Vanson's Open House will be held from March 10-13 at their Fall River, Mass. location.

A motion to adjourn was made @ 2:58 PM. Motion was passed, meeting closed by Larry Friedman, President.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Olsen

Member-At-Large,
Connecticut River BMW Riders, Inc.

What Your Bike Might Say About You

Ducati 916 SPS Monoposto: My wife is having an affair with her tennis coach

Honda ST1100: I really do understand the stock market.

1967 Triumph T120 Bonneville: If I'd had this bike instead of a Cushman Eagle when I lived at the fraternity house in 1965, I might now be married to a former cheerleader named Veronica.

April Newsletter Deadline

Friday, March 25, is the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter.

Harley-Davidson XR1000: All my left shoes are made of steel, and all my motorcycle boots have laces.

Yamaha TZ250: My other bike is a van.

Brough Superior SS100: My mother was an Episcopalian.

Moto Guzzi Eldorado: If I'd wanted a Harley, I'd have bought a Harley. But I didn't, and I didn't.

Honda GL1500 Gold Wing Aspencade: The wife and I both feel that donuts are an unfairly maligned and under-appreciated source of protein and minerals.

BMW R1100RT: The sound system on my bike is permanently tuned to Public Radio, but when I play it too loud I can't hear the cell phone.

Velocette Thruxton: I have a professional-quality dartboard in our basement rec room, next to the real ale tapper on the wet bar.

Yamaha V-Max: I am the only mechanical engineer in our office with a mohawk.

Ural Tourist: My Yugo is waiting for parts.

India Enfield Bullet: My 1965 short-wheelbase Land Rover is waiting for parts.

Triumph Speed Triple: I'm not waiting for any parts. Ever again.

Honda Elite 80: My mom is knitting a warmer scarf for going to class.

Vincent Series C Black Shadow: If you need to borrow any books or videos on the Battle of Britain, the life of Winston Churchill or Gordon's defense of Khartoum, I have an extensive library.

Honda CBX: I can pronounce "Soichiro" and "Irimagiri" correctly. Also, I own many valve shims.

Suzuki TL1000R: Desmo Schmezmoo; I just wanna ride.

MV Agusta 750S: Our firstborn son is the only Ago Shmiddlekopf in the Milwaukee phone book.

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March CRV Meeting

The March Meeting, on March 20, 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.

* * Charter Oak Rally Meeting * *

A planning meeting for this year's Charter Oak Rally will be held immediately after the March 20 CRV Meeting at Central Pizza.

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 at Wood'n'Taps. So if you are interested save the date now. We will try to have the specifics in the April Newsletter. 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.

The Club Store Needs Yor Help !!!

Does anyone, past club officers, past club store operators or members have ANY ARTWORK OF CRVBMW LOGOS????

This would include hard artwork mechanicals and/or digital files of logos or designs used for club supplies in the past. I would prefer to use an old original rather than try and recreate the artwork. contact Matt Strus club store operator 860.584.5760

Kawasaki ZX-11: I am on my way to our insurance agent's office for a personal conference, during which I will explain everything.

Honda 400F: My husband thinks I believe he bought this bike just for me.

Suzuki GSX-1300R Hayabusa: The Honda CBR1100XX was making me late for work.

Triumph Trophy TR6-C: I have seen The Great Escape, starring Steve McQueen, 27 times. So have my two remaining friends.

Munch Mammoth: I have been fighting a lifelong, losing battle with the Dark Side.

Honda CBR600F2: My older brother is in the Air Force.

Pope 998 V-Twin: I am on my way to the annual stationary steam engine and vintage farm implement meet.

Norton 750 Atlas: I tried smooth and found it overrated.

Harley-Davidson WLA 45 Flathead: I am saving for a Stearman.

1942 BMW R75: I show the Luger collection only to a few close friends who know how to handle them without leaving acidic or salty fingerprints.

Honda Pacific Coast: I am among that very small minority of human beings who honestly don't care what anybody else thinks. If I did, I'd probably own a bike just like yours.

Harley FX Super Glide "Night Train": There are only six things in my refrigerator, and they are all beer.

Henderson Four: My grandson thinks these computers are quite the coming thing, apparently.

Yamaha R1: My hair is not actually on fire, it's just a figure of speech.

Maico 360 X4: Since the bypass surgery, my dirt riding and energy level have improved tremendously.

Bimota DB3 Mantra: Ducatis are all very well, but I don't find them quite Italian enough.

Moto Guzzi Centauro: Sometimes I misspell the word "eccentric" on purpose, just to be different.

Whizzer/Schwinn Phantom: I still own my first baseball glove, Warren Spahn-autograph model.

Boss Hoss V8: I can curl more weight with one arm than you can move on a refrigerator dolly.

MV Agusta F4 Oro: My wife is spending exactly \$37,000 on our kitchen, just as soon as she can find a contractor.

Honda Valkyrie: I tried vibration and lassitude and found them overrated:

Harley-Davidson 883 Sportster: I am on my way to the Harley shop to purchase a larger set of pistons.

Buell Thunderbolt: This big air-cleaner housing is coming right off, just as soon as I can get home to my toolbox.

Honda CL77 305 Scrambler: My high school letter jacket still fits. More or less.

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.

March

March 20 -- CRV Meeting at Cental Pizza. Details on page 3

March 20 -- Charter Oak Rally Meeting. Immediately following the CRV Meeting.

April

April 2 -- Cliff's BMW Open House..

April 3 -- Planning Party Details to the right.

April 16 -- A Night At The Movies. Details on page 4.

April 24 -- 10th Annual Connecticut Miracle Ride. Visit www.miracleride.com for details.

May

May 14 -- Spring Camp Out. Details to the right.

May 21 -- An Experienced Rider Course will be available to CRV members on a first-come first-served basis. Details below.

May 27-30 -- Charter Oak Rally. Registration form on page 7.

June

June 24-26 -- Tenth Annual CRVBMW Club Camp Out. Details on page 6.

Experienced Rider Course for CRV Members

This is the last month that the Experienced Rider Course (ERC) will be held for reservations only by our club members. 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 and signups will be open only to CRV BMW Club members until April 1, 2005. If slots are unfilled after that date, they will be open to the general public. People passing the ERC are eligible for discounts with most insurance companies.

For registration information, please contact me at:

George Noewatne
110 Bradley Road
Madison, CT 06443

Email: gnoewatne@mindspring.com or telephone (203) 645-4709

Thank you,
George Noewatne

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

Planning Party

For the past ten years or so, in various locations, some members of the CRV have gotten together to have a Events Planning Party. Well, keeping the tradition going we will again have one. But a slight new twist, this one will be on a Sunday afternoon. April 3rd to be exact. At 1:00PM, right here at 409 Main St. Cromwell, CT. Hopefully, it will be a nice day and you can ride! Snacks and some beverages will be waiting for you. But you are welcome to bring what you wish.

Hopefully you will also bring any information you concerning rides, camp outs and rallies. This will give us a broad base so as to write a calendar of events. I ask you for a heads up if you are going to attend, that way I'll have a chance to find seats and have enough treats for everyone. E-mail brainfish@deadhorse.com or call 860-635-1173.

Thanks,
Brian

Items For Sale or Wanted For Sale

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 bad, 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

The Relaxed Campers Way To Attend The MOA Rally in Lima

If you're planning on going to the 2005 BMW 33rd Annual International Rally in Lima, Ohio on July 21-24 this may be of interest to you. If you like to camp, but don't enjoy the hassles of bringing all your equipment, setting up and breaking down of camp, and would like to camp with less effort on your part, then Mayberry's Sherpa Service may be of special interest to you. They will supply and set-up the following for you: a dome tent 7' x 7' (single) or 9' x 7' (double), air mattress, sleeping bag (single), 2 sleeping bags (double), chair, pillow, and a clean towel each day. Your Sherpa Camp includes: a uniform arrangement of the Sherpa camp, when possible, the best camping sites, shade canopies and hot coffee in the early morning.

If this sounds of interest to you, visit <http://www.sherpamayberry.com/> For any further questions, call Ted at (703) 963-2521 (primary) or -2524 (secondary). You can also email Ted at Ted@sherpamayberry.com. Mayberry's Sherpa service is limited to 50 single and 25 double tents for this event, so book early!

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.

CRV Web Site Address

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



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 _____ Date of Birth: _____
 _____ Passenger Female _____

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 March 2005

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

Many events are being planned . . . check the calendar for upcoming activities.