

# 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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Keith Olsen  
53 Richland Road  
Greenwich, CT, 06830-6012

## Beemerville USA- or My trip to the National

You all ride- and you all have riding stories. Mine are no better. As a matter of fact, this was not one of my top 10 motorcycle adventures. It was hot and most of it was flat, but here it is- written down and documented.

**Tuesday, July 19, 2005**

Up at 5:15 am rolling at 6:45. Voyle, me, Lee, and Stassa.

Voyle on the 1995 R1100R, me on the 1983 R100, and Lee and Stassa on his 1993 R1100RS.

Route 28 thru Kingston is pretty quiet at this time of morning. Cruising along slightly above the speed limit, watching out for the radar traps. Route 30 west along the reservoir is always a fun road. The surface is relatively new and free of pot holes or tar snakes. Stop in Downsville for gas and a bite at the diner. It is 10 am and the heat is starting to come on. We fill our neck coolers with ice and continue on Route 30 to 17. Route 17 is a quick blast west- then down I 81 for one exit to Route 7 in Conklin. Hang a right on 29 and we're heading for the endless mountains of Pennsylvania. Pick up 706 in Montrose and enjoy the gentle twisties thru Rushville, Steenville and Camptown. Veer off on 409 and pop out on

by Siouzzanne Harris

Route 6 where we spend the remainder of the day buzzing along and taking in the vistas. Stop at Sammy's in Towanda for an Iced Tea. Every time I ride Route 6 I am taken in by its beauty. The river running along next to us- the mountains on either side. A truly beautiful area of the US. Stop in Wellsboro for lunch. We are running in temps in the low 90's. With all the gear on it is brutal. When we are moving it is not too bad, but stopping- even for a 2 minute traffic stop is exhausting. The Wellsboro diner is nice and cool with air conditioning so we take our time to eat a leisurely lunch. Outside in the parking lot we run into the first (of many) BMW riders heading to the same destination. They are spending the night in Wellsboro. We had agreed to move on- to reach at least Smethport, if not Kane before calling it a day. Lee calls the 2 motels I scoped out in Kane to see if they have pools or air-conditioning. One has no vacancy, the other, no air- but we reserve a room anyway not wanting to be left without a place to stay. By Coudersport we are sweltering and Lee tries to grab us a room in a fancy complex with air-conditioning

and all the amenities- no luck- full up. So- we press on- wilting underneath our suits and helmets.

We get to Kane and see the Kane View Motel. It is pretty much a brick box with windows, but we sign in- 60 bucks for 4 people. No air. The thought of getting back on the bikes to look for food is not inviting. We all shower and walk the mile+ to town, passing the Kane Motel (where we had a reservation) on the way. Oh well. Having a parade of 3 bikes is never easy. When it's hot and everyone has to stop go turn around etc. it makes for short dispositions. 360 miles or so and we're done for the day. Anyways, we walk to town and check out several local eateries before deciding on one. The Black Cherry restaurant (Kane is the Black Cherry capital of the east!) is closed on Tuesdays. The Cowboy Pub is a tad sleazy, so we settle in to Texas Lunch which is run by Greeks. The food is good and the beer is cold. What else could you ask for? The walk back is a tad cooler and we all pretty much settle in for a good nights sleep- hoping to get moving by 7 or so the next morning.

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

November 5-6 -- Frost on Pumpkin Camp Out, Somerset, VT

November 12-13 -- Last Round Up Camp Out, TBA

November 27 -- CRV Election Meeting

### Wednesday July 20th

After a refreshing nights sleep, we are ready for Route 666. After fueling up, we find ourselves settling into the 3 bike parade across Pa. Route 666 is a narrow, winding road that heads southwest through the Allegheny National Forest. It is shaded by trees and has some great curves. Not a fast ride- but a nice way to start the day. We pop out onto Route 62 in Tionesta and shoot south to Route 8. Route 8 is a four lane full of trucks but they are all moving. At Barkeyville we jump on I 80 to get through Youngstown. Just west of there, we go south on Route 11 and get off at Route 30 in Lisbon. Ohio. We chance upon the Lisbon Diner and what a treat! It is an old silver bullet diner built in the 50's. It is absolutely beautiful. The history is written on the menu. Apparently, it has been moved several times, but has always been taken care of. The food is great. Far better than the Wellsboro Diner. There, we run into two motorcyclists who are headed to the superbike races in Lexington. Lee chats with them for awhile and gets more information. Finally, we're back in the heat heading west towards Lima. We take Route 30 to Kensington and then catch Route 9 down to Carrollton. There we get on Route 39 west and start exploring the Amish country of Ohio. Route 39 is an interesting road- slowing down in towns and all but this really is old time America. Rolling farms, Amish horse drawn carts, bicycles with baskets full of groceries ridden by women in long dark dresses- all in 90 degree heat. The sides of the road have hand crafts for sale- things made of wood and fabric. Holmes county Ohio is really a sight from another era. We stay on Route 39 to Perrysville and then take Route 95 south of Mansfield. Between the heat and the small towns, everyone is getting hot and cranky. We stop for a cold drink at a truck stop in Mt. Gilead and Lee goes to scope out the surroundings. He books a room at the Best Western. There is air-conditioning and a pool- at the price of 80 bucks. I had hoped to make it to the rally by Wednesday night, but the consensus was that it was time to stop. We ate at the truck stop then head over to the hotel where we cooled off in the pool. Then, Lee and I walked over to the gas station and bought big Fosters as a nightcap. Rain came in over night, temporarily cooling things down.

### Thursday, July 21st

We head out early for the last leg of our adventure. We took Route 95 to Marion and then found Route 309 which would lead us to "Beemerville". Several railroads cut through Marion, and we had to wait for 2 separate trains. At least it was early in the day and we were not melting yet.

Route 309 was flatter than Route 39, and we made good time, arriving at the rally sight at 10 am. It was already near 90 degrees and everyone was happy to be off the bikes. The Allen County Fairgrounds were huge- and already there were tents springing up everywhere. We rode around to where we thought we would find some

CRV friends and set up in the shade. It was dusty and the ground was rock hard. I was using a boot heel to drive the stakes in the ground when the first of many "new friends" introduced themselves to us. Tim arrived carrying a hammer. He let us use it all the while telling us of his adventure setting up the night before. Ah rallies! Everyone has a story to tell. Where else can you go and have conversations with people you've never met before? Everyone is there on a bike from someplace in US. This gathering of people with some things in common makes for some interesting experiences. Thousands of people strap tents and personal items to their motorcycles, travel through heat and rain, and sleep on the hard ground in a tent for several days to do this. Everyone says hello and is willing to lend a hand if needed. People put out their chairs and belongings and walk around- no one bothers anything. Most bikes have the keys in them and there is no fear.

It's hot. It's been hot for days now. I am glad to be stopped and off the bike for a while. I had the bike parked where I could easily ride it out to explore the area, but I was not in a hurry.

Once set up, we walked around to get the lay of the land a little bit. I wanted to scope out where the bathrooms, showers, vendors were. I also knew that I would see some amazing bikes from all over and meet people from many places.

We picked up our rally mugs and pins at the country store and turned in our door prize tickets. I also got talked into signing up for a volunteer shift at the sewing booth.

Time sure flies when you are having fun. Next thing I knew it was afternoon and I was starving, Voyle and I had signed up to work registration with the CRV Club from 4-8 so we had a time frame, The thought of putting on gear and getting back on the bike was not appealing. We talked to few people and found out that there was a Wal-Mart right across the street. We walked over and bought a cooler and filled it with food and beverages.

Sitting in our Kermit chairs back by the tents eating sandwiches and drinking beer, watching streams of people still arriving gave us a preview of what to expect at registration.

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I went and did some time at the sewing booth. The building the sewing booth was in had some huge fans set up so it was somewhat cooler than outside. This was also another opportunity to see people walking around. Some familiar faces pass by- people that I have seen at other rallies, and conversations are easy to start. "When did you get in? Have a good ride? Hot enough for you?" This community of people is easy to be with. A simple hi and a nod is all it takes to make a new friend.

After the sewing shift I have time for a short break before heading over to the volunteer tent. I meet up with Voyle and head back to the tent, After drinking a cold beer and relaxing for a spell, we head over. The registration tent is buzzing. That is the first contact point for all of the rally attendees. We go through a short orientation and start signing people in. Riders are grateful to get the info and be at their destination. The line moves slowly despite more than a dozen stations to check in. There are times that the line actually starts to slow down and I get to talk to some of the CRV members. Marlene and her crew are walking around handing out bottles of water and making sure everyone is all right. This is fun. Sitting around at a fairground with hundreds (make that thousands) of my friends. The people giving out the wristbands and programs are keeping a count, and every once in a while the new count is put on the board. At about 6 PM Marlene announces that number 5000 has signed in!!! This is looking like it could be the biggest BMW national ever; Centrally located, and with awesome entertainment planned (George Thoroughgood and the Destroyers). (continued below)

and would be here in 15-20 minutes. Volunteers took turns going back to batten down their tents and secure their bikes the best they could. About 15 minutes later she made another announcement that a tornado had been sited. Then, all of the sudden it got dark, the wind was HOWLING, it was raining sideways, and people were grabbing things off the table to stick them in the trailer, chairs were flying, volunteers were running around trying to close the sides of the big registration tent and Marlene was screaming at people to seek shelter. "Seek shelter?" I asked. "We're in TENTS!!!" We were instructed to go to a building- the bathrooms, the beer hall, whatever- so I charged for the beer hall!

The band was playing and people were streaming in. Some dry, some wet, some soaked! The view outside was not pretty. Pretty scary. I was worried about the tents and the bike, but there was nothing I could do. I just had to wait it out and see what happens. Might as well drink some beer!

After about half an hour it started to subside. I went out looking for Voyle and found him. We walked back to the tent area and everything was okay. The ground around it was total mud and it was caking up on our shoes and very slippery- but the bikes were upright and the inside of the tent was dry. Crowded, but dry. We had thrown everything inside right before the storm.

We managed to sleep dry- with more rain (but not storms) during the night, and in the morning everything started to dry out.

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Then, around 7 o'clock, Marlene made an announcement that "severe weather" was on its way-

### **December Newsletter Deadline**

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



### **November CRV Election Meeting**

The November Election Meeting, on November 27, 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. You may arrive anytime after 1:00 to eat and socialize.

## Friday, July 22nd

Clotheslines were strewn every where and the sun came out to do its thing.

I fired up the little cook stove and had coffee while sitting in my Kermit outside the tent. This is one of my favorite things to do. Just relax and watch the world go by. Soon, Voyle and Lee were awake too, and after some hot joe we started our day- walking through the vendors, checking out the bikes, and talking to people. There were tons of vendors, some new. This trip was mainly window shopping. I did end up getting some deerskin gloves. I also looked at the other straps and bags for sale to see if there was some way I could improve my products.

I had shipped a box of stuff to the rally to try to sell. I wandered over to receiving and picked it up- then brought it over to the Flea Market area to put out for sale. I also went in and out of Airhead Central all weekend to see what was happening and meet some of the gurus. I did see and talk to Oak and several others. We walked to the Mexican Restaurant- about a mile through the cemetery- and had a great meal with Lee and Stassa. Then everyone head over to the bleachers for the George Thoroughgood Show. That was really fun. The warm-up band was awesome- and George really rocked. The beer tent afterwards was fun for the rest of the evening with music and of course, cold, dark, tap beer.

## Saturday, July 23rd

Saturday was hot again. Now my bike was totally walled in by tents. Good thing I wasn't planning to go anywhere. The day was spent wandering around the fairgrounds, talking to people, shopping, and attending a seminar with Oak and Tom Cutter.

At 1 o'clock I met up with the Party Riders and we had a bike parade through the fairgrounds. I rode on JC's bike so I could take pictures of the event. That was pretty fun. We were all wearing our neon yellow shirts and got plenty of odd looks from the crowd.



More shopping and people watching with Robin, Vicki and Mary from Ohio, then another trip to the Mexican restaurant for dinner. During dinner, people were saying that they heard about another storm coming through.

We decided rather than sitting in it and packing up in the wet and mud on Sunday that we would just pack up in the cool of the evening and do 100 miles or so before dark. The awards ceremonies are typically long and boring, and you do NOT need to be present to win most of the big prizes, so after dinner we broke camp and headed out. I did not get to say good bye to some people, but oh well. They'll figure it out!

We made it Seville, Ohio just south of Akron where we stopped at a Super 8 for the night. We watched the weather station and decided that we could shoot back up to Route 6 and play in Pa.

## Sunday, July 24th

I really like Route 6 and see new things each time I ride it. We stopped here and there for munchies and cold drinks and ended up at the Potato City Inn on the eastern edge of Coudersport for the night. They had a restaurant and a clean room and plenty of space. We took a nice walk through the campground across the street and picked up some pamphlets about other attractions in the area. We had a great meal and a cool, comfortable sleep.

## Monday, July 25th

The weather report said that there would be rain showers chasing up from the west and the south. We got out mid-morning and headed east on Route 6. I always enjoy Route 6- even through the small towns. We keep ahead of the rain, but with the heat, I almost wish it would pour! We fall into a steady rhythm- very little traffic- easily passing anything we come upon. Head north on Route 4098 and stop in Montrose for a cold drink. As I sit on the curb enjoying an icy cold ice tea, a family wanders by and sees all the gear strapped to the bike. Soon, a conversation is in full swing- as they ask questions like "you carry a tent and cooking gear on the bike?" "what about when it rains?" I never mind answering questions like this- people are curious and usually don't ask- so I figure let them know- especially with an 8 or 9 year old who is taking it all in! Pretty soon, it's back on the bikes- in the heat- for the last leg of the trip home. The sun is bright and hot- without a sign of the rain the weatherman talked about. We stop in Delhi for a needed caffeine break. Delhi is a great little college town with fun places to eat and shop. We like to stop at the Quarter Moon Caf  when we are passing through. On this visit we had iced coffee and a dessert. Caffeine and sugar are necessary fuels to keep us going for the last 100 miles. We run into some construction on Route 10 that puts us on a detour through the way back. Tiny one-lane roads with no markings and incredible views. We are not in a hurry and thoroughly enjoy not knowing where we are- knowing that eventually we will pop out on Route 10 again- which we do- then Route 3 is also under construction between Lexington and Hunter. IT seems like they have been working on that stretch of road all summer. This time, there is no scenic detour. We have to ride it out on scarified pavement, dirt, gravel, holes, and

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dust. It is slow going and I am melting in my Aerostich. Eventually the surface becomes smooth again and we cruise over the Rip Van Winkle Bridge- and finally, up the driveway. Home is best!

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## Items For Sale or Wanted For Sale

1979/81 Ducati Darmah 900 "SS Special", which has been awarded numerous prizes since I finished restoring it in 1993. Featured in Old Bike Journal and ESPN. 3979 km (2472 miles) since 1993. Please contact me at: yolph.nikki@worldnet.att.net Rolf Bjork (ad posted 10/05)

2002 Ducati MH900e (No.1513 of 2000 units built). Many aftermarket parts by Ducati Performance, such as an all-titanium exhaust system. 229 km (143 miles). Please contact me at: yolph.nikki@worldnet.att.net Rolf Bjork (ad posted 10/05)

2000 R1100R, 41K miles, Silver/Black, uncommon Gimble fairing, BMW Saddlebags, BMW Top Case, Bill Mayer seat, \$5100. Selling bike for friend currently overseas in military. Photos available. Located in Latham, NY. Contact Josh Ascher at either jascher@nycap.rr.com or 518-785-4671. (ad posted 10/05)

2001 MV Agusta 750 F4S (No.227), with carbon fiber exhaust system and other aftermarket features. 1045 miles. Please contact me at: yolph.nikki@worldnet.att.net Rolf Bjork (ad posted 10/05)

1995 BMW K75, Arctic Silver, 18K, BMW RT Fairing, saddle bags, trunk, electric windshield, engine guards, 2 electric plugs, wp cover, new tires, garaged, dealer maintained, very clean. Asking \$5,500. Contact Walter Wutsch at 860-563-7108 (ad posted 7/05)

BMW Safety Stand for an R1200 Cruiser. Used one year. Part # 90886001550. \$100 or B.O. Contact Walter Wutsch at 860-563-7108 (ad re-posted 7/05)

## Wanted

Nothing currently listed

## CRV Web Site Address

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

## 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.

### November

November 5-6 -- Frost on Pumpkin Camp Out, Somerset, VT

November 12-13 -- Last Round Up Camp Out, TBA

November 27 -- CRV Election Meeting. Details on page 3.

### January

January 21 -- CRVBMW Winter Banquet. Details below.

## CRVBMW Winter Banquet

**When:** Saturday, January 21, 2006

**Where:** Polish National Home  
60 Charter Oak Avenue  
Hartford

**Social Hour:** 6-7 p.m.

**Dinner:** Buffet dinner with dessert,  
beginning at 7p.m.

**Activities:** Music, Awards, Prizes

This will be a very enjoyable evening in a European style club atmosphere. Good food, good drinks, good friends. If you've been there, you will surely return. All members, family and friends are welcome.

**Cost:** \$25 per person payable to CRVBMW

**Reservations:** Send to:

Larry Friedman  
900 Granville Rd.  
Westfield, Ma. 01085

**Reservation Deadline:** Monday, January 16

## **Buzzard Crest Bash VIII a.k.a. rain rally**

by Siouxzanne Harris

This year's Buzzard Crest Campout was different.

First of all, I changed the dates to accommodate the Diamond Beemers first Rally in the Poconos. They had excellent weather for their rally and it was a big success! So- the Buzzard Crest Camp Out was the following weekend- which was also the weekend of the RA National in Shelbyville, Tn. Early October is a great time to ride to and in Tennessee- so I don't blame any one for going there. All of that, on top of the wettest October on record!! When Buzzard Crest VIII came around, it had already been raining for a week. The forecast was wet and dreary.



We still had a great time. NO tents were set up- as attendees found floor space, couch space, and even SUV space. Despite the rain, 3 brave souls showed up on motorcycles- the rest by car. A grand time was had by all! Mark your calendars for next year's Buzzard Crest Bash scheduled for Columbus Day weekend 2006.

# **Special Election Note**

## **Your Help Is Needed**

When you are looking at this year's election ballot you will notice that there is not a candidate for the position of Secretary. If you have any interest in filling this necessary position, please contact me (contact information is found on page 1). Our club is only as strong as the volunteers who step forward to fill the needed officer positions in our club. Please consider filling this important position in our club.

Keith Olsen -- Election Coordinator

November 2005

# Voting Instructions for Officer Elections for 2006

In an attempt to make it easier for you to vote, there are three ways you may vote for CRV Officers for 2006.

## Option 1: Attend the CRV Meeting on November 27, receive a ballot, and cast your vote.

To vote by Option 1, attend the CRV Meeting on November 27. Details of the meeting are on page 2.

## Option 2: Mail a printed copy of your ballot.

To vote by Option 2, use a printed copy of the ballot found below.

For each position, **circle** the **one** candidate you wish to cast a vote for.

If you choose to have a "Write-in Vote", on the available line for the position, print the person's name you are voting for, then circle the name.

Cut the ballot at the marked line and mail your

----- Cut Here ----- Cut Here ----- Cut Here -----

completed ballot to:

Keith Olsen  
53 Richland Road  
Greenwich, CT 06830-6012

Ballots must be received by Saturday, November 26.

## Option 3: Cast your vote by email.

To vote by Option 3, go to the URL:

<http://www.crvbmw.org/Election/CRVElection05.html>

The above link will be available on the CRV Web Site. When you get to the Election Web Site, follow the instructions printed at this site. Ballots must be received by Saturday, November 26.

## Important Details

Anyone voting by Option 2 or Option 3 will lose the privilege of voting during the CRV Meeting on November 27. This includes the right to vote for any candidates nominated for a position at that meeting.

In the event that you submit two ballots, only the first ballot received will be accepted, processed, and recorded.

# Election Ballot for 2006 CRV Officers

## Please follow the voting instructions found above.

| <u>Position</u>            | <u>Candidates</u>             | <u>Write-in Votes</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>President:</b>          | <b>Larry Friedman</b>         | _____                 |
| <b>Vice President:</b>     | <b>Lenny LaRose</b>           | _____                 |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>          | <b>Mark Altschwager</b>       | _____                 |
| <b>Secretary:</b>          | <b>No nominated candidate</b> | _____                 |
| <b>Road Captain:</b>       | <b>Brian Fisk</b>             | _____                 |
| <b>Assist. Road Capt.:</b> | <b>Chris Jennings</b>         | _____                 |
| <b>Member At Large:</b>    | <b>Keith Olsen</b>            | _____                 |

**Print Member's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member's Home Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

# CRVBMWR NEWS November 2005

CRVBMWR  
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**Details on the 2006 CRV Officer Elections are on page 7**