

CRVBMW NEWS

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

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

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

Secretary
Linda Combe
860-257-4285
lincombe@cox.net

Road Captain
Chris Jennings
203-368-9281

Co-Road Captain
Marshall Robinson
203-271-2378
mkrobinson@cox.net

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

Minutes from the April CRV Meeting

by Linda Combe

The April monthly meeting of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. was called to order @ 2:10 PM on April 25, 2009 Larry Friedman presiding. 27 members and guests were in attendance at Antonio's in Simsbury, CT. No members were attending their first meeting.

Officers in attendance:

President: Larry Friedman
Vice-President: Lenny LaRose
Secretary: Linda Combe
Treasurer: Mark Altschwager
Co-Road Captain: Chris Jennings
Member-At-Large: Keith Olsen

Treasurer reported the amount of money in our treasury.

Secretary: There are currently 158 member paid for the 2009 season. Larry requested a list of the unpaid members so he can reach out to them.

Guest: Dan Smith, general manager of Gengras- gave out tickets for a door prize; Mike Dzen won a BMW motorcycle cover. Dan talked about the importance of retaining his employees. He talked about the consolidation of all

brands into one building and the importance of increasing customer satisfaction. His plan is to have at least 2 experienced technicians for each brand, and then increase the number of techs until the turn-around-time for services is within reasonable limits. He informed the group that the parts catalogue fiche is online at Gengras.com.

Club members were asked to vote:

- Whether we should donate \$500 this year in honor of the Labor Day Muscular Dystrophy Association Telethon; our goal is to donate \$500 for two decades straight. Vote= approved.
- Whether we should donate \$100 to the New History and Industry Museum. Vote= approved.

BMW Annual Mileage Contest – send in MOA form to get credit for your high mileage

Alaska Cruise – July 25, 2010 – contact Jim Haggerty or Matt Strus for prices and /or details.

May 31 – Larry is planning a tour of the New History and Industry Museum in Springfield from 2-4 PM. See details in newsletter or on website.

Larry plans to organize a day ride on a weekend to Southern Berkshires for a “fine arts” ride... glass-blowing, sculpture, etc. with a BBQ following.

MEME (the Maine European Motorcycle Enthusiasts) 10th annual rally the last weekend in July will include the Ducati and KTM demo trucks. See details at <http://www.eurobikemaine.org/mememeet.html> or contact Linda Combe at lincombe@cox.net.

A late August ride to northern VT is still a possibility.

We had a discussion of club member gear and accessory preferences.

The AMA buckle now resides with Chris Jennings.

(continued on the next page)

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

May 13 -- After Work Picnic

May 16 -- 4-H Camp Clean-up Day and May CRV Meeting

May 22-25 -- Charter Oak Rally

May 31 -- Private preview tour of the Springfield Museum of Industry

June 25 -- Bill's Seafood Ride

June 26-28 -- 14th Annual "airheads at teh Aerodrome" Campout

CRV business cards will be made by a company from FL who will get the colors right. Also, the BMW Logo Police have informed us that our logo infringes on BMW logo copyright laws, and that we will have to develop a new logo.

Charter Oak Rally – we have our contract (needs to be signed), pins, band; we are getting T-shirts, cups, programs. We need volunteers for registration and kitchen work. The volunteer sheet was passed around at the meeting. It will also be available at the rally registration table. We will also be offering day passes for \$30 as long as the person signs up by 12 noon due to meal planning needs. We now have a Port-A-Potti committee: Chris Jennings and Ed Mix. 4-H rally site clean-up day is Saturday May 16th.

Larry gave out Magic Beans (Scarlett Runners) to anyone who wanted them.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 PM by Larry Friedman, President.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda S. Combe
Secretary, Connecticut River
BMW Riders, Inc.
4/25/2009

June Newsletter Deadline

May 25, is the deadline for submitting articles
for the next newsletter.

Help Keep Us Current

If there is any change in your contact information (address, email, telephone) please let us know so that we may remain in contact with you. Send any changes to our club Secretary, Linda Combe, by either email or telephone. Thank you.

Our CRVBMW Web Site

is located 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.

May

May 13 -- After Work Picnic. Details on page 3.

May 15-17 -- Down East Rally.

May 16 -- 4-H Camp Clean-up Day. Details on page 3.

May 16 -- May CRV Meeting. Details on page 3.

May 22-25 -- Charter Oak Rally. Details on page 5.

May 31 -- Private preview tour of the Springfield Museum of Industry. Details on page 4.

June

June 25 -- Bill's Seafood Ride. Details on page 3.

June 26-28 -- 14th Annual "Airdheads at the Aeodrome" Campout.

June 27 -- CRT's Second Annual Capital City Bike Night.

July

July 18&19 -- Ramapo 500, begins in Suffern, NY.

July 23-26 -- 10th Annual MEME Rally.

Additional activities and details are on the calendar found at our CRVBMW Web Site

Items For Sale or Wanted

For Sale

1996 Triumph Trophy 1200, 42000 miles, Well maintained, very clean, \$4,500. Call Roy at 508-476-3962, Leave Message. (ad posted 5/09)

2004 BMW 1200C. This was the end of the 1200C run and the bike came with fog lights, the flip-up back rest-pillion and wire wheels. I added a BMW windshield and "Touring" bags which are larger than the leather-covered bags usually found on 1200Cs. Black ABS Center stand. Excellent condition, 30,000 miles with all maintenance up to date. Asking \$7000. If interested contact Bob at 860-491-9703 or rljungquist@optimum.net (ad posted 4/09)

2003 Subaru WRX Turbo, standard 5 speed, Silver. 6 CD changer, excellent shape. All new brakes and rotors. One owner, always garaged. 118,000 miles. \$8500.00 If interested contact Sioux at 518-398-5436 or Sioux@fairpoint.net (ad posted 3/09)

After Work Picnic

On Wednesday, May 13, at Hurd Park in Haddam, CT. I'll be there rain or shine. If it is nice I would like to be down by the pond, if not I'll be at the Pavilion. I'll bring the fire, you bring what you eat and drink. I should be there around 5 pm. Questions, contact Brian at 1-860-635-1173 or brainfish@juno.com

Brian

Clean-up Day at the 4-H Camp in Marlborough

The Clean-up Day at the 4-H Camp is scheduled for **Saturday, May 16**. This is our chance to do some goodwill volunteering in the name of our club. We will be there from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

As usual, we will do a wide range of jobs, many of which will benefit us since our rally will be held there the following week.

Please contact Chris Jennings (203-368-9281) if you are planning to volunteer. This will help in our planning process.

Even if you can only come for a few hours, please come and volunteer at this clean-up.

May CRV Meeting

The CRV May Meeting will take place on Saturday, May 16 at the 4-H Camp in Marlborough, CT. We will meet at 2:00pm in the Main Lodge.

Annual Bill's Seafood Ride

Ride to Bill's Seafood down on Route 1 at the Singing Bridge in Westbrook. The ride is on the last Thursday of June, the 25th. I'll leave from the Denny's parking lot in Middletown on Rte.17 (south end) at 5:15pm, rain or shine. But if it is raining, I may bring the tin rainsuit. I also plan to get to Bill's around 6:30pm.

Let me know if you plan to attend by contacting me at brainfish@deadhorse.com or 860-635-1173.

Brian

Gengras BMW and CRVBMW Talk Shop

A friendly April dinner meeting of five representatives from CRVBMW Riders and Yankee Beemers Motorcycle Club was hosted by Dan Smith, General Manager of Gengras Motorcycles. This discussion group was the result of an initiative proposed at the March CRVBMW meeting when dealer-club relations was the topic. Five BMW riders had an open discussion with Dan that covered many aspects of motorcycling from the viewpoints of the customer and the dealer.

Most welcome was the commitment from Gengras to greatly increase their efforts to recruit and retain staff for their motorcycle dealerships. Riders expressed their experiences and expectations with service and sales. The quality and promptness of service were very important factors to all the riders. A friendly and welcoming atmosphere are features that customers appreciate when visiting the dealer.

Gengras Motorcycles is consolidating all their motorcycle brands in the building where their Harley Davidsons are now displayed. There will be separate showrooms and a central service write-up desk. The group discussed the pros and cons of brand consolidation. It is a challenge for dealers to maintain separate buildings and staffs for each brand they carry. Gengras plans to invest in more training of their service and sales staff employees during the slow season. Dan is considering other plans as well to provide motorcycle repairs that will help to keep the workers productive and employed all year. Dan will direct his promotions person to host an event for CRVBMW riders in the near future.

At the April CRVBMW meeting on the following hot Sunday afternoon Dan attended and spoke with the members. He brought a nice BMW motorcycle cover from Gengras that he raffled off at the club meeting. Mike Dzen was the winner. There were no losers at the meeting.

Larry Friedman,
Pres. CVBMW Riders, Inc

Accident Scene Management Class

There has been interest among CRVBMW Riders in attending ASMI class programs. CRVBMW member Megan Posey will be presenting free ASMI seminars at Cliff's Cycle Revolution in Brookfield, Ct. throughout the day on June 27.

CRVBMW had a similar brief presentation during a club meeting at Cliff's last year. A full day ASMI class will be taught by Megan on July 19th at Cliff's (air conditioned) location. Sign up and pay online for this class at <http://www.accidentscene.org>, click class schedule, then Connecticut.

CRVBMW Lunch and Private Preview Tour of the new Springfield Museum of History

On Sunday, May 31, from 2-4 pm we will have the special privilege of receiving a private tour of the new Springfield Museum of History (<http://www.springfieldmuseums.org>).

This will be a great opportunity to see the Indian Motorcycle collection that was recently donated to the museum and much more great stuff. Our private tour will be in the Springfield Museum's fifth building that will open to the general public in October. Bring your friends or family to visit this wonderful collection of museums for all tastes.

We'll meet at 2 pm at the Science Museum ticket desk/gift shop on Edwards St. Group tour admission is \$6 per person. The other four museums are included if you want to see more. CRVBMW has paid for the security staff. Our guide will be Guy McLain, museum director.

Please join us at 12 for the excellent German and American lunch buffet at the Hofbrauhaus Restaurant in West Springfield. The buffet is \$16 plus beverage, tax and tip.

Directions to Hofbrauhaus:

Take I-91 north to Springfield, Rt 5 exit
Cross Ct. River (on bridge!)
Pass the scenic sewage treatment and garbage incinerator
Exit to Memorial Ave / Big E.
3/4 way around rotary onto Memorial Ave,
Go one block, turn right to Hofbrauhaus.

Please contact CRV President Larry Friedman if you plan to dine at the Hofbrauhaus. lfrdman@comcast.net or 413-562-3164

You may choose to have lunch at Red Rose Pizza, on Main St, two blocks south of State St.

The museums are open from 11 to 5 if you want to see more before or after our tour. The Science museum has a fine mineral collection and three floors of exhibits. The Ct. Valley History building has a current display of miniature soldiers and battle scenes. The George Walter Vincent Smith building (Wesson's partner) has Japanese swords, armor and much more. The Fine Arts Museum has a wonderful collection on exhibit. The Dr. Seuss sculpture Garden is in the courtyard between the four museums and Springfield's Carnegie Library.

Directions to the museum from Connecticut:

I-91 north to Exit 6 in Springfield.
Right on State St.

(Continued in next column)

4th left onto Elliot St (at new Federal Courthouse)
Left on Edwards St.
Museum parking on the right

Directions from Hofbrauhaus to museum. (one mile):

Travel around half way rotary and cross the bridge when you come to it.
Straight to Dwight St.
Right on Dwight.
Left on State St.
Left on Elliot.
Left on Edwards to museum parking.

CRV Grand Tour

- I am running a club-only ride, it will be like a grand tour. The idea is to get you out and ride, or at least leave the house. I do not care how you gather the pictures (motorcycle, car, bicycle, train, plane or auto) no flags, just the picture! The theme is Animals! Statues or signs. Any where in the world is acceptable.
- You take the picture, print it or add it to a disk. That is the only way it will be review. I need them sent to me in the US mail or handed to me directly by December 1, 2009.
- Three prizes will be given out.
 - 1) Most points, based on how many photos you take. Three points for each photo that is different (i.e. 3 points for the first Horse, 1 point for each additional Horse)
 - 2) One random drawing (you only need one photo for this).
 - 3) One award for the most unusual creature (that is the only subjective photo, I'll not be considered for this prize as I am the judge. Again you only need 1 photo to win this).
- Yes, I am going to ride this . . . but like I wrote I am only involved with the most and the random. Prizes will be given out at next winter party.
- The contest starts now! I will not take any until after April 23rd. I hope to lead a ride that will have the statues theme in August. Don't wait until then. Bring your camera with you wherever you go.
- Questions . . . call, write or e-mail me.
Brian Fisk, 215 Woodland Drive, Cromwell, CT 06416
1-860-635-1173 or brainfish@juno.com



Twenty-third Annual

Charter Oak Rally

May 22-25, 2009

Sponsored by CT River Valley BMW Riders, Inc.
(<http://www.crvbmw.org>)

Location: Hartford County 4-H Camp, Marlborough, CT

Registration: \$50 preregistration (received prior to May 12), \$58 at the Gate.

Children 6-15 \$29 preregistration, \$35 at the Gate. Children 5 and under FREE.

CHARTER OAK

The rally includes:

Entertainment on Saturday and Sunday nights

4+ meals included in the registration fee:

2 full Dinners

2 full Breakfasts

Friday night chili while it lasts

Continuous coffee

3 nights camping and our famous "always hot" showers

Door prizes

Organized rides

Rally Awards

Modern enclosed pavilion and facilities

Cabins available for clubs for \$45

Rally pin and mug guaranteed to first 225

Directions: From the intersection of Route 66 and Route 2 in Marlborough, head south on old Route 2 (also called South Main Street). In about 1/2 mile, bear right onto South Road. The Hartford County 4-H Camp will be on your left after a couple of miles. (Map on our web site. GPS coordinates N41 59189 W72 42529)

For Preregistration or Cabins contact:

John Stiefel, Charter Oak Rally

35 Saw Mill Road

Burlington, CT 06013

For questions or additional information:

Rally Chair: Chris Jennings

Telephone: 203-368-9281

Email questions to Keith at crvbmw@earthlink.net

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: _____

Email Address: _____

Name(s) of Local Club Affiliations: _____

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

Waiver: I agree to hold harmless the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc., the American Motorcycle Association, and the Hartford County 4-H Camp, for any injury, damage or loss incurred while attending or traveling to and from the rally.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Official Use Only

Amount Received \$ _____ Cash or Check # _____ Received by _____

Information verified _____ Rally # _____

CRVBMWR
NEWS
May 2009

CRVBMWR
c/o Keith Olsen
53 Richland Road
Greenwich, CT 06830-6012

Are you going to attend and enjoy this year's Charter oak Rally?