

# 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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## Minutes from the March CRV Meeting

by Jim Montstream

The March monthly meeting of the Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc. was called to order @ 1:15 PM on March 20, 2010, Larry Friedman presiding. 26 members and guests were in attendance at The Log House in Barkhamsted, CT.

### Officers in attendance:

President: Larry Friedman  
Vice President: Lenny LaRose  
Secretary: Jim Montstream  
Treasurer: Mark Altschwager  
Road Co-Captain: Chris Jennings  
Road Co-Captain: Carl Dye  
Member-At-Large: Paul Clifford

**New members:** New members Rob Horton and Holly Marek were welcomed.

**Guest Speaker:** Larry introduced guest Don Garneau who gave an overview of the motorcycle industry economies. Don will be returning to Cliff's at the end of March.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mark Altschwager reported on the status of the Club treasury.

**Secretary's Report:** Jim Montstream reported that of

the 169 current members, 124 have are current for 2010. A second notice "tickler" will go out to the remainder this week. Also, the 2010 AMA charter renewal has been submitted and accepted. The Charter Oak Rally sanctioning and insurance applications have also been submitted.

**Charter Oak Rally:** Rally Chair. Chris Jennings reported on the status of the Charter Oak Rally with a plea for ride leaders and volunteers for soliciting donors for door prizes. A rider's meeting will be held the evening before each planned ride. Lenny LaRose reported that arrangements for the band are about 90% complete.

Larry announced that the 4H camp has a new director Bill Bradley. Apparently, Dave Potter is no longer with 4H. The primary camp clean-up day is earlier this year and scheduled for April 24th - starting at 9am. There will be a smaller clean-up on May 15th to close out odds and ends. Larry reaffirmed that April 24th is the day the bulk of camp preparation chores must be accomplished and encouraged

all to be there. The Club will use the May 15th date to hold our monthly meeting at noon after wrapping up the remaining camp odds-and-ends starting at 9am.

Larry also reported that the contract with the 4H has been finalized at the same terms as last year. He has been working with 4H's Elsie Woolam

Keith Olsen reported that the new web site is up and running. He requests members to submit images for the new page dedicated to members for sharing their images. Officer photos were taken and will be posted on the web page this week. Event schedules should be forwarded to Keith by email.

**Grand Tour:** Nothing established as yet.

### Announcements

- Club Store: Matt Strus made a quick commercial for the Club Store.
- Cruise to Alaska - July 24th-31st. Matt Strus

(continued on the next page)

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

April 18 -- April CRV Meeting  
April 23 -- Dinner Ride  
April 24 -- Clean-up Day at the 4-H Camp  
May 15 -- May CRV Meeting  
May 28-31 -- Charter Oak Rally

## Minutes from the February CRV Meeting (continued)

reported that 14 have signed up. Unfortunately, the prior NCL discounts have expired so Geoff Morell at NCL should be contacted for any new bookings. Also, Matt suggests that air fares be shopped/booked yourself as NCL fares are not the lowest available.

- Mike Snowden gave an overview of the upcoming Connecticut Motorcycle Riders Education seminars that are available. Go to [ride4ever.org](http://ride4ever.org) for details.
- Larry reported that he receives many requests for the club to provide escort services at marathons, parades, etc. which he declines due to liability concerns.

### Tentative schedule of the next regular club meetings:

Sunday, April 18 at 1 p.m.  
Antonio's Restaurant  
1185 Hopmeadow St ( Rt. 10-202)  
Simsbury, Ct.

Saturday, May 15th at noon  
Hartford County 4H Camp  
247 South Road  
Marlborough, CT 06447

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM by Larry Friedman, President.

Respectfully submitted,  
James N. Montstream  
Secretary, Connecticut River Valley BMW Riders, Inc.

### April CRV Meeting

The April CRV Club Meeting, on April 18, will be held at *Antonio's Restaurant* in Simsbury, CT. The meeting will begin at 1:00pm. *Antonio's* is located on Route 10/202 at 1185 Hopmeadow Street.

### Annual 4-H Clean-up Day

On April 24th, beginning at 9:00AM, come to the Hartford County 4-H Camp and join other CRV members and 4-H Camp volunteers in preparing the camp and grounds for this year. Whether you come for a few hours or the full day, any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated. Our volunteering at this event helps maintain our strong relationship with the camp for our rally.

## 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 18 -- April CRV Meeting. Details to the left.

April 23 -- Dinner Ride. Details on this page..

April 24 -- Clean-up Day at the 4-H Camp. Details below.

### May

May 15 -- May CRV Meeting.

May 28-31 -- Charter Oak Rally. Details on page 5.

**Additional activities and details may be on the calendar found at our CRVBMW Web Site**

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## Items For Sale or Wanted

### For Sale

**Oil Filters Spin-on BMW OEM, Mahle OC91 OEM** oil filter BMW# 11-42-1-460-845. Fits K and Oilhead R bikes. \$10 each or 5 for \$40. Plus shipping. Contact Frank at [mrmrsp191@aol.com](mailto:mrmrsp191@aol.com) (Ad reposted 2/10)

**2002 HONDA VTX 1800 C Motorcycle**, Black, 11890 miles. Price Reduction!!!!!! New Price = \$4,250.00. This bike needs to go to a rider ASAP.

This cruiser is in excellent condition and has more than \$1,600.00 in accessories on it. It has always been garaged. It has the following accessories on it: Boss leather saddle bags. RIVCO solo luggage rack and passenger seat. Rifle windshield and lowers. Throttlemeister cruise control. MC 1000-19 engine guards. Powerlet 12 VDC outlet on handle bars. I'm asking \$6,250.00 and am willing to negotiate. If interested contact: Pat McGinley: [rpatrickmc@comcast.net](mailto:rpatrickmc@comcast.net) or (860)747-8653 Photos on request. (Ad posted 1/10)

### Dinner Ride

On April 23rd at 7:00PM, meet at Lenny and Joe's Fish Tales in Madison. Either show up or call Chris at 203-368-9281.

### Our CRVBMW Web Site

is located at:

<http://www.crvbmw.org/>

## 2010 CRVBMW Membership Renewals

The members listed below **have renewed** their membership for 2010 as of April 12. **If you have not renewed your membership for 2010 this will be the last newsletter you will receive from us and you are not included in our 2010 club roster.** You may still renew your membership and we look forward to hearing from you.

Eder Alencar	Ron Faibusch	Mary Lamke	John Raymond
John Allen	Jim Faucher	Lenny LaRose	Judi Raymond
Deborah Lee Altschwager	Shirley Faucher	John Leo	Jim Reinhart
Mark Altschwager	Dave Findley	Terry Letellier	Joani Reinhart
Bruce Anderson	Larry Friedman	Bob Ljungquist	Debi Reynolds
April Arnold	Linda Friedman	Holly Marek	Rock Rookey
Rick Arnold	Todd Gagnon	Pat McGinley	Fred Rosenbaum
Josh Ascher	Joe Goneau	Michael McGlamery	John Ruggirello
John Badeen	Suzane Goneau	Ray McKenna	Bob Samuelson
Bill Barber	Jon Gorman	Freda Mitchell	Ric Sawyer
Bruce Bellmore	Barb Greenlaw	Mitch Mitchell	Rod Schlosser
Andrew Bilukha	Jack Greenlaw, Jr.	Ed Mix	Teri Schlosser
Nicola Bjork	Jim Haggerty	Jim Montstream	Laura Secular
Rolf Bjork	Susan Hamilton	Pamela Moore	Tom Seymour
Fred Bjorkland	Siouxy Guzzi Harris	Pat Moore	Amber Shepherd
David Bobalki	Art Hechler	Bobbie Naramore	Bob Smith
Bin Bova	Patricia Hechler	Tom Neaverson	Dale Smith
Kat Bravo	John Helming	Joseph Niewinski	David Smith
Jeffrey Brown	Kathy Hemenway	George Noewatne, Jr.	Pat Smith
Rob Cadieux	David Hemenway	Charles Olsen	Mike Snowden
Dan Carnevale	Guillermo Herrera	Gail Olsen	Richard Stoddard
Jeanine Christensen	Steven Heyman	Keith Olsen	John Stratton
Nord Christensen	Greta Horton	Elaine Palach	Matt Strus
Mr. "JC" Claxton	Rob Horton	Henry Palach	Janet Temple
Paul Clifford	Dominique Jaouen	Tim Parola	Roy Temple
Jay Combe	Chris Jennings	Violet Pastorkova	Paul Vicamini
Linda Combe	Carole Johnson	Jack Patton	Stella Vicamini
Gary Czarniecki	Dick Johnson	Joani Patton	Daniel Walton
Joani Dahlstrom	Tom Johnson	Barb Phelps	Vern Wulle
Wayne Douglas	John Joy	Marc Phelps	Jim Zagryn
Don Dupuis	Joe Kearns	Felix Planas	Rick Zwiebel
Jane Dupuis	Dennis Kelly	Frank Podgwaite	Sheree Zwiebel
Carl Dye	Jay Koonz	Penny Podgwaite	
Michael Dzen	Lewis Kuester	Meg Posey	
Kathryn Eberlein	Bruce Lamke	Jim Prabulos	

### New Members

New members Holly Marek and Rob Horton arrived from different directions, but attended their first CRV event at our March meeting. Welcome to the club.



### Inland Passage Cruise to Alaska

It's not too late to join the group and reserve your spot on the cruise. For the current rates check the Norwegian Cruise Line web site ([www.ncl.com](http://www.ncl.com)). The ship is the Norwegian Star sailing from Seattle, WA, on July 24th, and returning on July 31st.

There are 12 CRV members already booked on the trip. Any single or married women want to go on the cruise? I have a woman whose husband has no desire to go who is looking for a roommate. Room rates are based on double occupancy.

If you have any questions please see the full trip details in the March Newsletter or call me at 860-584-5760.

Matt Struss

## **S.A.E. BMW Motorrad Executive's Talk on the S1000RR**

by John Leo

When I heard that the Connecticut Society of Automotive Engineers was having Pieter de Waal, VP of BMW Motorrad USA, as its speaker at its April meeting in the Gengras BMW East Hartford showroom, I was surprised that BMW didn't let its customer base or owner clubs know about the talk as well. Perhaps the audience was chosen to create a buzz about the S1000RR's outstanding technology outside the BMW owner cliques since the S1000RR is definitely designed for a new type of BMW rider.

De Waal is a South African trained as a civil engineer who decided to switch to mechanical engineering while working for Mercedes in South Africa. Later employed by the BMW car division, he was offered a position with the bike division when he was in his 40's and now handles marketing in the US. I thought his talk was interesting because of his explanation of the company's marketing decisions and the technical explanation of the bike. The motorcycle industry, like most manufacturing operations, is a volume game; high fixed costs mean profitability is greatest for the last few made. BMW currently sells 90,000 bikes a year and would be really profitable, according to de Waal, if they could sell 150,000 per year. Challenged to increase volume, the marketing department tried to imagine what bikes will look like 5 years ahead and where that growth will come from. The countries that BMW thinks will lead in car sales growth are China, Russia and India, but BMW also thinks those countries are clearly not growth markets for motorcycles because motorcycles in those countries are seen as cheap commuter vehicles, owned by those who cannot afford a car. Much like Europe after WWII, it is the goal of every family in China, Russia and India to get out of the rain and buy a four-wheeled vehicle. I can't imagine many customers for a bike like the S1000RR in those countries anyway, given the condition of their roads, although I understand the roads of China have been greatly improved lately.

Seventy percent of BMW bike production is sold in Europe, but the BMW in the US remains a niche product with plenty of room to gain market share from other manufacturers. BMW believes it will make it or not based upon its growth in the US. The company looked at every segment in the US market and, surprisingly to me, it sees the growth to be in the superbike market since superbike riders are much younger than the average BMW rider, by almost twenty years, and more superbikes are sold than any type of BMW bike in the US. BMW views its image as a car manufacturer with state of the art technology that translates into excitement and it wanted to carry that image over into the bike world. With all this in mind, the company decided four years ago to take on the Big Four Japanese bikes and build a bike that clearly said that from almost every standard of measurement "BMW is

the boss of this market." BMW clearly succeeded in this goal!

Eighty-eight percent of BMW superbike buyers will be "conquest" buyers coming from other brands. The buyers are not brand loyal and they will shop around. Since they are not brand loyal, BMW tried to engineer out the BMW quirkiness that we are accustomed to. De Waal said buying decisions are typically based on performance, styling, price and financial assistance. Performance is one of perception because, according to de Waal, 99% of riders can't ride the S1000RR to use its full potential. I would add that, except perhaps for the I-84 stretch to the Mass. line, no roads in CT would allow wide-open riding either. Motorsport success, lap times and power-to-weight ratio will determine what the perception is. On all counts, BMW expects to win. The challenge to the engineers was also to make the bike inexpensive. At about \$13,800 it's clearly a bargain.

The bike is smaller, lighter and has much more power than the other superbikes. The engine at 132 lbs is 14 lbs lighter than the next lightest and has the shortest stroke. Where customers had gotten used to 3 or 4 HP increase per model year, the S1000RR has an astounding 38 more HP than the others. De Waal says that "form was to follow function" hence the asymmetrical nature of the styling. The design was for a safe bike that can be ridden fast. The arrowhead, tail up, nose down look was designed to be perceived as fast and distinctive, and actually does incur less drag and results in a higher top speed. With a horsepower rating actually in excess of the stated 193 HP and an unbelievable 14,000 RPM. Out of-the-box the bike can exceed 190 MPH and do the quarter mile in less than 9.6 seconds. De Waal gave an interesting technical talk on how the engine can spin that fast without valve float. The secret is in extremely light valves and cam followers, less than half an ounce. The SAE members must have been impressed. The ride-by-wire throttle is electronic, no more cable connection - again borrowed from car technology.

Phil Beers of Gengras is an experienced bike drag racer and says the bike will be spectacular at the strip, particularly when after-market drag specialty products are developed. I was amazed to learn that the bike is designed to be shifted under full throttle without using the clutch...just snick the lever up to the next gear and the engine lets up for 15 milliseconds to make it possible. When I told Phil I nearly won (clutch shear pin failure on last run) the fastest bike of the day at the Winnipeg Dragway back in 1965 on my BSA Spitfire at 14.1 and 88 MPH trap speed, I certainly got a quizzical look!

De Waal went through the other features of the bike including lean angle sensors, dynamic traction control, ABS and the ride mode control system. De Waal closed by saying that at the press launch on a track in Portugal he had the bike up to 170 mph using his "average" skills as a rider. I am not likely to be buying this bike but from a business strategy and technology point of view, it is pretty amazing.



Twenty-fourth Annual

# Charter Oak Rally

May 28-31, 2010

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

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

**Registration:** \$55 preregistration (received prior to May 19), \$65 at the Gate.

Children 6-15 \$30 preregistration, \$37 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](mailto: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 # \_\_\_\_\_

April 2010  
NEWS  
CRVBMWR

CRVBMWR  
c/o Keith Olsen  
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Plenty of activities are coming up, be sure to check our calendar.