

CRVBMWR NEWS

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

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If We Had Been Driving A Plymouth Voyager . . .

by Mike McGlamery

The Fall season, to a retired, motorcycle-riding teacher, is like foie gras to a foodie. While students and teachers are grinding out a new school year, I am free to go on adventures. This year I went on two Fall trips.

The first was a ride to Maine with my friend John Leo. The plan was that we would ride to and spend two nights with fellow BMW riding friend, Larry Murray at his home in Appleton, Maine. The three of us would also spend a day hiking around Monhegan Island, a lobstering and artist colony, about 10 miles off the coast of Maine.

The ride to Larry's was uneventful, with the exception of a coffee stop in Portsmouth, NH. Monday evening we ate dinner at a wharf-side restaurant in Camden and bedded at a reasonable hour to be fresh for the 5am wakeup, as we had an early morning drive to Port Clyde where we would catch a 7am boat to Monhegan. The weather was gray with rain forecasted later in the day and we were warned that we were in for a windy, rocky boat trip with ocean waves seven feet or more. The "Laura B", a wooden boat built in the '40s would take

an hour and 10 minutes to make the trip with the boat thrashing in all directions on the open water. Arriving at Monhegan was a relief, to say the least and no barf-bags were utilized.

With the given forecast, we commenced our hike and walked for about 4 hours on the rugged coastal trail with magnificent views, finishing in a drizzling rain. After a bite to eat, we decided to catch an earlier boat back to the mainland and spent the remainder of the day strolling the main drag of Rockland, talking and poking into art galleries. We finished the day off with some good basic food at Moody's Diner, a Maine institution in Waldoboro.

Wednesday morning, John and I got an early start for home, making a slight detour to visit "Olson House" the stark and dreary dwelling in Andrew Wyeth's famous painting, "Christina's World". Our stop at the general store in Friendship, Maine proved memorable. While relaxing over eggs and English muffins, we got into a chat with one of the locals, a fisherman and builder with a heavy Maine accent and accompanying sense of humor

who made lots of comments about "out-of-stators". Checking out, we were told that our breakfast had been paid for by our "new friend" who was now long gone. "Wow", we pondered, "this sort of thing in all likelihood wouldn't have happened if we'd been driving a Plymouth Voyager!" The bikes are like "people magnets" and usually the ensuing conversations are filled with fun. I got into a conversation with the check out lady about a book I recently read by Desmond Tutu, who in describing the concept of "Ubuntu", talked about how his humanity is bound up in my humanity and how my humanity was now bound up in the fisherman's humanity. She acted like I was a genius, a guru, or something. But this "random act of kindness" certainly was a good lesson about "Ubuntu" and how people can reach out and be nice and kind to others.

Part two of my Fall travel was a two-week "Tour de Midwest". I had an agenda and planned to meet my friend Steve Quindry in Bardstown,

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

October 23 -- October CRVBMWR Nominating Meeting

November 13 -- November CRVBMWR Annual Election Meeting

November 20 -- Covered Bridge Attack Ride

January 21 -- 2012 CRVBMW Riders Winter Banquet

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 (Ad reposted 9/11)

1992 BMW seat for R100RT. Call Rick Arnold at 203-417-0771 for additional information. (Ad posted 7/11)

1976 GL 1000. Spare carbs -motor-rear end-tires & wheels. Call Rick Arnold at 203-417-0771 for additional information. (Ad posted 7/11)

2002 R 1150 RT. Very nice condition, 21000+ miles, Loaded with Radio/cassette, Garmin Mount, Russel Seats, Top Box and side cases, new Odessey battery, Highway pegs, Two windshields. Price flexible. If interested contact Don Rich at 860-460-3282 or don_rich@sbcglobal.net (Ad posted 7/11)

Item Needed

BMW R50/2, R60/2, R69/2 or any airheads. Project/runner/boxes/banded. Please let me take over your unwanted airheads. Contact Ching at chiang6600@hotmail.com or 860-634-0248 (Posted 7/11)

For Free

Motorcycle Lift. I have a motorcycle lift (no name I can see) for anyone who wants it. It is a freebee. Contact Dave Findley 860-805-2030 Farmington, CT. Originally used with a Harley Ultra Electric Glide. (Ad posted 10/11)

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• *Visit our club web site and see the new* •
• *images, videos and files submitted by* •
• *members. These may be found at:* •
•
• **<http://www.crvbmw.org/images.html>** •
•

November Newsletter Deadline
October 25, is the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter.

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.

October

October 23 -- October CRVBMWR Nominating Meeting. See details below.

November

November 13 -- November CRVBMWR Annual Election Meeting. See details below.

November 20 -- Covered Bridge Attack Ride. See details on the next page.

January

January 21 -- 2012 CRVBMW Riders Winter Banquet. See details on the next page.

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

October CRVBMWR Nominating Meeting
On Sunday, October 23rd, our October nominating meeting will be held at the Log House Restaurant in the back dining area beginning at 1 pm. The Log House Restaurant is located on Rt. 44 in Barkhamstead, Ct. Plan to enjoy lunch there. We have enjoyed their hospitality for years.
All club offices are open annually for the November election. Road Captain Chris Jennings and Treasurer Mark Altschwager gave notice a year ago that they would not be running for 2012 office. We are seeking candidates.

November CRVBMW Riders Annual Election Meeting
On November 13th, our election meeting will be held at the Cypress Restaurant on Route 17 in Middletown, CT (near the Durham line). You may want to order your lunch when you arrive.

If We Had Been Driving A Plymouth Voyager . . .
(continued)

KY, with hopes of seeing many sights along the way. Steve, from St. Charles, MO and I met at Motorrad, the BMW Motorcycle dealership in St. Louis in 1998. We have ridden somewhere together practically every summer since then. This year, Steve wanted to show me his territory and planned a route through Kentucky and southern Indiana, Illinois and Missouri. The week's ride would culminate at the BMW Falling Leaf Rally in Potosi, MO.

First day out, sunny and dry, I made what has become a frequent run to Lancaster, PA, to spend a night with one of my sisters and her husband. The next day brought rain all day, but undeterred I rode the 250+ miles to the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA. The cold rain gave the somber park and even more bleak feeling and I was amazed how many people had made the trek to this out-of-the-way place to pay their respects. A motel was found in Donegal, PA, southeast of Pittsburgh, where the talk was all about the snow which was to come in the night. I had a 10am reservation to tour Frank Lloyd Wright's "Falling Water" the next day and was determined to be there, no matter what.

When you travel by motorcycle, interesting encounters with people along the way often make a trip special and my first such encounter came at this cold and wet motel stop. The clerk's boyfriend, who was hanging around the lobby, followed me to the bike as I was getting what I would need for the overnight stay. We talked about the rigors of riding, especially in the rain and the cold and when I asked where I might find some place to eat within walking distance, he pulled out his keys and offered me his truck! "Go ahead, take my truck. You'll be dry and I'll be right here when you get back". Once again, the "Plymouth Voyager" adage comes to mind. I thanked him profusely and opted for a Subway sandwich in my warm room.

Indeed, the next morning brought mostly rain, mixed with a little snow, but by the time of my departure, it had for-the-most-part stopped, which made the tour of Falling Water that much more enjoyable. This well-visited destination turned out to be well beyond my expectation and amazing. Completed in 1936 as a vacation home for a wealthy Pittsburgh family, FLW used a rock ledge and waterfall as elements of this magnificent home, beautiful in its complex simplicity with every room having an "inside & outside" interaction with Nature. In addition to the structure, he also designed all of the built-ins and furniture and exerted authority over the lighting and paint colors. This "modern" masterpiece is still modern, illustrating how far ahead of his time he was. The place has the feeling of a "sacred space" and I understand why people return.

*The conclusion to this article will appear
in the November Newsletter.*

Have you considered becoming an officer in our club? Get involved and bring your special skills and enthusiasm to other club members. Officer nominations will take place on October 23rd at our October Nomination Meeting.

Covered Bridge Attack.

Ladies and Gentlemen, clear up your calendar on November 20th!!

There are 8 known covered bridges in Litchfield area. The goal is having group pictures taken in front of each bridge by end of the ride. It's going to be airhead pace, and open for non-members. RSVP recommended, if you don't let me know you are coming, I won't be able to let you know if it's canceled.

When: on Sunday, 11/20/2011

Leaving: at 8 am

Starting: Dunking Donuts in Terryville, intersection of RT-6 and RT-8

Lunch location: TBA

Who: Anyone.

Dress code: Helmet, jacket, gloves, jeans, minimum.
(You might need more than that in November)

Contact: Ching at chiang6600@hotmail.com or 860-634-0248

Weather Permitted and come gassed up.

2012 CRVBMW Riders Winter Banquet

On Saturday, January 21, our Winter Banquet will be held at the Polish National Home in Hartford, Ct. This event has been a very enjoyable Winter gathering throughout the 25 years of our club's history. Mark your calendar. More details to follow.

October 2011
NEWS
CRVBMWR

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Our October Nomination Meeting will be held on October 23.