

## **Greetings to all BMWRSM members and friends!**

As I look ahead to the coming year, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to serve as President of the BMW Riders of Southern Maine for 2002. We have a great club, which has enjoyed steady growth for the past few years under the leadership of Steve Garrett, President, and Bob Collin, Vice President, as well as the efforts of Sandy Bliss, our treasurer. These folks, along with many of you who help throughout the year in many various ways, are what make our organization great. We had a fantastic rally in 2001, which sold out in 7 days after opening to the public. Bob Collin our rally chair in 2001 and 2002 is already well under way for the coming rally. Registration will open for non-members on 3/1/02. I want to formally recognize the efforts of our club leadership in 2001 and hope other members will take a minute to thank them via email or your next meeting for all their efforts. A lot of behind the scenes coordination goes on and it's often a thankless job. We have realized a steady growth of membership the past few years and also have some very active new members. So thank you Steve, Bob, Sandy and all of you who pitched in for various events through the year! 2001 was a very good year for the club!

I'm sending this to everyone on our email list, which includes other clubs and friends of BMWRSM. I would encourage those of you "from away" to keep in touch! Let us know what your clubs are up to. Maybe we can setup some rides to meet "halfway" for lunch, or if any of you are planning rides to Southern Maine, please let us know. Our events are always posted on our website at [WWW.BMWRSM.ORG](http://WWW.BMWRSM.ORG). We invite anyone reading this, and any of your friends to join us for any of our meetings should you be in the area on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of a month. And we hope to see many of you at our rally in May!

For BMWRSM members, I want to highlight some of the things we'll be discussing Saturday at our monthly meeting at DownEast Restaurant at 9AM. I met last Friday for breakfast with Steve Garrett, Bob & Sharon Collin, Mike Cocks, and John Reimann to discuss plans for the coming year. Here are some of the items we discussed:

### **Membership**

Membership (new and renewal) will be handled by the Vice President (Steve Garrett for 2002)

New and renewal membership will create notification email to all officers and webmaster. We're looking into online (WWW) registration and renewal process with VISA/MC (not for rally).

I will be emailing or postal mailing all new members with a welcome letter.

We hope to start a membership recognition program with awards for various years of membership.

We will try to tighten up the "new BMW owner" free 1 yr membership at Street Cycles program.

### **Club History**

The history of club is important! Last year Steve Garrett started a process of gathering info on past membership in events etc. I'd like to have a committee of people assist Steve in pushing this forward, and also establishing criteria for record keeping from hereon in. We're thinking about collecting old photos and scanning them in to create a digital scrapbook CD to be made available to those interested.

## **Monthly Meetings**

Develop Charter/Bylaws (very basic) to denote club office positions, club mission statement.

Potential location change to Cole Farms in February, 2002 (vote at Jan meeting).

Try to get some guest speakers for a few of our meetings.

Develop a post meeting ride schedule further in advance so members can plan on rides.

Possibility of monthly raffle or door prize drawing for attendees.

## **Ride Calendar**

More advance planning of rides. (e.g. after work rides, dinner rides, couples rides etc)

Fall foliage tour (possibly with neighboring clubs?).

Advance planning of annual rides such as Dave Percival's, Larz Anderson, Owls Head.

Try to get more members to post rides on the ride board.

Get together with Northern Maine group? (Steve looking into this)

Ride/cookout for MOA mileage signups?

## **Club Website**

How's the new site working for everyone?

Discussed online store to sell rally leftovers etc.

Encourage more members to submit photos for web, but also for saving in electronic scrapbook CD.

## **Miscellaneous**

Create/take comprehensive survey of members. Post anonymous statistics on Web, but perhaps create a member's only non-anonymous book for emergency assistance etc similar to MOA anonymous book.

In order to give my role as President more time, I have asked Mike Cocks, my assistant Webmaster to assume the role of Webmaster and he has accepted. I will now be Mike's assistant. Thanks Mike!

If you would like to assist in any of the committees or tasks motioned above, please see me or any of the officers. There's plenty listed here, so the more the merrier! I look forward to fun times ahead in the coming year and promise to work hard to help grow the club and move forward on many of the projects mentioned above. I appreciate the opportunity to serve in this capacity and want to make sure you all know you can contact me at any time to discuss any ideas, comments, problems, or concerns. Thanks for taking the time to read this. Here's wishing you and all your families health, happiness, and lots of quality riding time in 2002!

Regards,  
Don Lockhart  
BMWRSM President 2002