

We had a great meeting at Steve Garrett's home in Brunswick. There were about 27 bikes in the driveway last time I counted. We were also very glad to see Howard Feller at the meeting with his foot in a sneaker instead of a cast. We discussed the MOA rally as well as the Curtis BBQ ride in Putney VT, which was the following day. Photos of both events are on the website... check them out if you haven't already. We didn't have any official ride after the meeting due to the big ride the next day, but a few members went in various directions for a ride after the meeting.

Curtis BBQ - Tri-state ride - 7/7/02

This first of its kind event was the result of Ted Hall, Larry Budreau, Jim Salisbury and myself emailing back and forth early in the year. We had a pretty good day for the ride and about 15 from BMWRSM rode over. Bikes were coming and going the whole time we were there, but I think by the time we left, close to 100 bikes had pulled into the parking lot at Curtis BBQ. As well as the ME, NH, & VT clubs, there were a few Yankee Beemers, as well as plates from CT, NJ, & RI! Thanks to Ted Hall for finding a great spot, which was easy to find. We will repeat this event next year. As we drove over near the VT border, we thought we were about to get rained on, but come to find out, it was smoke from some forest fires in Quebec which was creating the overcast sky.

MOA Rally - Trenton Ontario - 7/10-7/14/02

PERFECT WEATHER was the best feature of this years MOA rally. We never saw a drop of rain and had nice cool sleeping nights with clear skies. I want to thank the many BMWRSM members who volunteered their time to help in the registration tent as well as other areas. The MOA was rather unorganized as far as volunteers go so most of us never got anything for our efforts, but I don't think that's why most of us volunteered anyway. Vendors were noticeably absent at the rally... Many didn't want to deal with the hassles of dragging stuff over the border and dragging back what didn't sell. Bob's BMW and Cycle Gadgets were the shining light in the vendor arena. Many of us visited the RCAF air museum which was very interesting. And there were lots of great roads to explore. Many of the Maine contingent setup camp near a huge old willow tree, which seemed to become the gathering spot for the Maniacs. My big excitement came at 1:58AM Friday morning when two drunken riders from Ontario drove into the vestibule of my brand new tent. They burnt a nice hole in it and pretty much ruined it, then weaseled out of settling up as they promised to. I got my fill of Ontario hospitality sooner than I thought! Many great seminars were held, and I took advantage of the oil change pit hosted by the Chicago Region BMW riders to do my 12K service. They did an awesome job... thanks guys! Steve Garrett and I also went to the club Presidents meeting, which was a little unorganized as the guy who was supposed to run it wasn't at the rally. The biggest outcome of the meeting was Don Hamblin said there would soon be an email forum for club officers to exchange ideas. The mention of club insurance for rallies and other events was a hot topic, but Hamblin seemed to tap dance around it without any

definitive message that the MOA would try to help organize any insurance effort. We had a great ride back Sunday via Montreal (7 of us) and had no problem at either border crossing. I think there were between 20-25 BMWRSM members at the rally!

August meeting reminder: 8/3/02

A reminder to all that the August 3 meeting WILL BE at the American Red Cross on Forest Avenue. Riders can arrive anytime after 7AM to the regular 9AM. If you can arrive early and give blood it would help as they can handle 4 people every 15 minutes. Lisa Parker, who spoke at our June meeting reminds us that the day to day need for blood is very real, and after the big surge to give blood you all heard about following 9/11, the donations have dropped off to very low levels and they need your help badly. Even if you can't join us for the ride to the Euro Rally after the blood drive, please come and give blood and help the BMWRSM support this important effort. A free pancake breakfast will be served to those donating blood as well as a free T-shirt! Now how can you beat that??? Bring your friends, bring your relatives! See the link on our website and send a note to Lisa Parker via that link to tell her if you're coming. After the blood drive, we'll leave as a group (around 10:30) for the Sunday River Euro Bike Rally and after stopping there, we'll proceed to Dave Percival's infamous BMW museum. You don't want to miss this! Bring your camera. I've also learned that Bill & Fred Parker spent two days with Dave recently, and Fred shot ton's of video in hopes of making a documentary about the museum and Dave. Can't wait to see it Fred... Christmas Party.....?

Regards,

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