# New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting August 13, 2014

Board members present: Jeff Caldwell, Ron Gemeinhardt, John Gyorfy, Jeff White, Ross Karlin, Doug Feigel, Neil Gambony. Board members absent: Marc Goeller, Dave Allaway, Paul Ngai, Jerry Faber, Colin Vozeh. Others present: Brian Morgan, Jamie Kavalieros, Elihu Savad, Ron Acher, Blake Smith, Larry Engel.

Jeff Caldwell called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM at Alfonso's in Somerville. Jeff White moved to waive the reading of the July minutes and John Gyorfy seconded (carried unanimously).

#### Oktoberfest

Jeff Caldwell asked Larry Engel to offer his update/report on Oktoberfest 2015 planning. Larry informed the board that BMW CCA National would be holding their September board meeting in the Philadelphia area and would also visit New Jersey Motorsports Park (NJMP) and Stockton Seaview Hotel & Golf Club. The meeting and visits are planned for September 10<sup>th</sup>– 13<sup>th</sup>, although no specific calendar has been agreed upon. Larry plans to meet with the BMW CCA National representatives and accompany them to NJMP and Seaview. Jeff White and Ross Karlin also expressed interest in participating, should the timing work out. Larry reported that he is working to secure Bader Field in Atlantic City as the autocross site for Oktoberfest, thus freeing up paddock space at NJMP for Michelin and for other track-related activities. He is working with his contacts from South Jersey Region SCCA and attempting to contact the Bader Field reps. Larry also mentioned that he has been in contact with Frank Patek regarding organizing Yom Kippur services during Oktoberfest. Seaview has also been consulted on this and we are working to implement a plan to offer religious services for those who wish to attend. Jeff Caldwell thanked Larry on behalf of the chapter and its members for the work already done with planning Oktoberfest.

#### **President**

Jeff Caldwell brought up the need for a more organized and systematic approach to the use of email blasts to inform the membership of our upcoming events and activities. It was agreed that the chapter would like to start employing a monthly e-mail, similar to the one used by National Capital Chapter. Jeff will investigate this further and report back at the September meeting. The board also discussed the possibility of appointing a communications manager to oversee email communication and social media interactions with the membership, but for the time being this idea was tabled for later discussion. Brian Morgan reminded the board that Members-at-Large can be assigned duties by the board and suggested the delegation of responsibility for email blasts and communication to a Member-at-Large. This was received well by the board and open for further discussion in September. Everyone agreed the chapter needs to be more proactive and organized with the email communication. It was discussed that the website needs some updating with regard to back issues of the bulletin and board meeting minutes. Jeff was going to follow up with Charles Craig on this matter.

## **Vice-President**

Jeff Caldwell gave Marc Goeller's report that we will have a chapter meeting at Guten Parts & Service / Left Lane Cars in South Orange, NJ on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Shop owner Levent Erhamza has graciously invited everyone to explore the newly expanded facility, enjoy project cars, and partake in food and drink.

#### **Treasurer**

Ron Gemeinhardt reported the chapter financials and everything looks good at this time. Ron thinks he will have an end-of-year projection available in the next month, but sees no glaring differences from 2013.

#### **Business Manager**

Doug Feigel reported that Matt Baratz has been hard at work with our sponsors and processing renewals for advertising in both the bulletin and online. Doug suggested that Matt would have mid-year reports for the board at the September meeting.

## **Social Events**

John Gyorfy reported that the DelVal Chapter vintage group was attending a vintage aircraft fly-in and car show in Pittstown, NJ in early September. All NJ Chapter members are invited to attend as well. The event is open to the public.

# **Driving Events**

Neil Gambony asked the board to clarify our age requirements for autocross and it was determined that the minimum age of 18 be held going forward. Jeff White reported that the Geoff Atkinson Memorial Driver School and Club Race at Summit Point was a huge success. We had over 70 students and 43 racers. Jeff thanked the NJ Chapter instructor corps, volunteers, race stewards, and attendees for such a wonderful event. Jeff also would like to see more instructors sign up for the Shenandoah event, as we are at 36 students already.

## **Autocross**

Elihu Savad reported that the autocross at the TD Bank Ballpark - Blue Lot on August 10<sup>th</sup> was a success. The chapter is saving on the site with respect to other venues and there is a lot of space for good courses. Elihu was able to secure the lot

for an event on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Elihu brought up the need for autocross supplies for Oktoberfest, including a new laptop, display screen, and possibly software. Ron Gemeinhardt reminded the board there are still approximately \$600 in chapter funds allotted for a laptop from the 2013 budget. Elihu will look into replacement of the computer and also report on costs for upgrade of the software and display screen. Volunteers are needed for autocross!

## **New Business**

Jeff Caldwell asked the board to approve the purchase of a new wheel bearing removal/install tool and the request was approved unanimously.

The next board meeting was set for Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> [since changed to the 17<sup>th</sup>] at Alfonso's in Somerville. Jeff White moved to adjourn and John Gyorfy seconded (carried unanimously).

Respectfully submitted, Dave Allaway, Secretary, with thanks to Jeff Caldwell