



# New Jersey Bulletin

BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA  
NEW JERSEY CHAPTER  
P.O. BOX 2305  
WESTFIELD, NJ 07091-2305

## Whack Your Turkey on November 24th

The 2002 Whack Your Turkey Rally will be held Sunday, November 24th. The annual chapter rallies, held twice or more per year, are our most popular activities! They are often full to capacity and beyond. The style and route of the rally will be secret until the event begins. However, the rally will not require special equipment or knowledge. The rally will probably take approximately 4 hours, and end at a local restaurant. At no time will speeds greater than the posted speed limits be necessary; completion time will not be factored into a team's scores. There will be three classes of competition: Adult with only two adults (16 years and older) in the car, Junior, with one adult and one junior navigator (younger than 16), and Family/Crowd, with three or more people of any age in the car. Only the Adult class will count toward Champ Series points.

The cost will be \$20 per team/car. Registration will open at 8:00AM with a drivers' meeting at 8:30 and the first car off at 9:00AM sharp. Each team should have at least \$20 cash with them, as certain instructions may require minor purchases.

The rally will begin in the parking lot of Dr. Ross Karlin's office, at 187 Milburn Avenue in Millburn. Complete directions will be posted to the chapter website. RSVP to rallymaster David McIntyre, 908-322-0392, or email mcintyre@njbmw-cca.org. Reservations are not necessary, but if the rally fills up it will be first-come first-served.

## Pinewood Derby

The annual Pinewood Derby competition will take place at the combined Election/Pinewood Derby meeting, which will be held at the Deutscher Club of Clark on the evening of December 3rd. Directions to the Deutscher Club can be found in this issue.

The competition will take place on our own 2-lane track (built especially for the chapter by Elihu Savad) and will follow the standard Cub Scout rules.

You must start with an official Pinewood Derby kit. You must use the block, wheels and axles provided. Maximum width 2.75" and length 7". Weight must not be over 5 ounces. There must be at least 3/8" clearance under the car, between the wheels. Bearings, washers and bushings prohibited. Dry graphite is the only allowed lubricant. Details and design are free, as long as these rules are followed. No springs or starting devices. No moving parts other than the wheels on the axles. Cars will be inspected when they are checked in.

Once cars have been checked in their owners will not be able to touch them. The weight and clearance guidelines are checked especially carefully.

Contact your local Cub Scout supplier for an inexpensive (around \$2) Pinewood kit. Many hobby



**Off to the Races:** The Club Racers of Bob Beyer, Dave McIntyre and Ross Karlin on the haul to NHIS for the October Club Race.

stores now carry Pinewood kits, but make sure you start with an official kit. The wheels included in aftermarket kits may not be legal (but you may modify official wheels).

This year a computerized heat-tracking system (will be used to make sure the contest is fair and uniform. Contact Dave McIntyre or any other board member with any questions. We hope to see you at the races!

This is the last event in the 2002 Championship Series chapter-wide competition, and will mostly likely determine the outcome of this closely-fought season. Come on out and cheer for your favorite car!

**NJ BULLETIN STAFF**

**EDITOR**                    **DAVID McINTYRE**  
214 Paterson Rd                    908-  
Fanwood, NJ 07023                    322-0392  
mcintyre@race-stuff.com                    fax: 322-0874

**CLASSIFIEDS EDITOR**    **CHET MARFATIA**  
260 West 52nd Ave., Apt 28B                    212-  
New York, NY 10019                    977-4334  
cmarfatia@hotmail.com

**TECH EDITOR**                    **Vic LUCARIELLO**  
592 Cokesbury Road                    908-  
Lebanon, NJ 08833                    236-2016  
vic.sr@njbmwcca.org

**BUSINESS MANAGER**    **DAVID McINTYRE**

**2002 CHAPTER OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**                    **HENRY FARBER**  
40 Lake Lane                    609-  
Princeton, NJ 08540                    688-0169  
hfarber@njbmwcca.org

**VICE PRESIDENT**                    **NAFI COKER**  
1193 Woodside Rd                    908-  
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076                    654-0265  
naficoker@troytech.com

**DRIVING EVENTS**                    **TRIP LEE**  
98 N Maple Ave                    908-  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920                    953-9314  
tlmach@idt.net

**SOCIAL EVENTS**                    **STEPHANIE MASON**  
1207 Pond Road                    732-  
Spring Lake Heights, NJ 07762                    974-3710  
mason@njbmwcca.org

**TREASURER**  
2 Nelson St  
Morganville, NJ 07751  
whbrown1@optonline.net

**SECRETARY**  
1119 Roelofs Road  
Yardley, PA 19067  
bmor001@aol.com

**MEMBER AT LARGE**  
59 Gull Rd  
Middletown, NJ 07470  
csuri@njbmwcca.org

**MEMBER AT LARGE**  
747 McCoy Rd  
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417  
rkkarlin@cs.com

**MEMBER AT LARGE**  
**MEMBER AT LARGE**  
739 County Rte 625  
Hampton, NJ 08827  
neilix@earthlink.net

**CHAPTER TOOL BOX**  
22 William Street  
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
rodrscott@aol.com

**MEMBERSHIP**  
74 Butler Rd  
Asbury, NJ 08802  
optilight@mindspring.com

**CHAPTER LIBRARY**

**WARREN BROWN**

Vic Lucariello

**BRIAN MORGAN**  
215-  
295-3166

**JOHN CSURI**

**ROSS KARLIN**  
201-  
337-1787

**VIC LUCARIELLO**

**NEIL GAMBONY**  
908  
735-0244

**ROD SCOTT**  
908-  
766-7995

**DAVID FINCH**  
908-  
387-8888

**VIC LUCARIELLO**

**TECH TIPS**

908-236-2016

**HOTLINE**

**908-322-2758**

**WEBSITE**

<http://www.njbmwcca.org>

**DRIVING SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Chairman                    John Csuri  
Registrars                    Deborah Kolar  
   Speedy Swain  
Co-Registrar                    Dave Allaway  
Chief Instructor                    Blake Smith  
Chief Instructor Emeritus                    Carter Fratt  
Chief Tech Advisor                    Vic Lucariello  
Asst to the Chair                    Warren Brown

**CLUB RACING COMMITTEE**

Chairman                    Ross Karlin  
   973-258-9700 (days)  
   201-337-1787 (7-10pm)  
   rkkarlin@cs.com

**AUTOCROSS COMMITTEE**

Elihu Savad                    drautox@comcast.net  
Bob Steele                    steele@whafh.com  
Ed Walters                    teamdfle28@go.com



**This newsletter is a publication of the New Jersey Chapter of the BMW CCA, Inc. and it remains its property. All information furnished herein is provided by the membership for members only. The Club is not associated with BMW of North America or BMW A.G. and non of the information contained herein bears "Factory Approval" unless so noted. Ideas, suggestions, and all technical opinions are solely those of the authors, without authentication by nor liability to the Editors or the Officers of the Club. Modifications within the warranty period may void your warranty.**

Contributions are both welcome and encouraged. Contact the *Bulletin* staff by phone, mail or email. Permission is hereby granted to copy any and all material contained herein for non-profitable applications **provided that proper credit is given to the author and to The New Jersey Bulletin.** Copyright 2001, New Jersey Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc. All rights reserved.

**ADVERTISEMENT POLICIES**

Advertising Rates Per Issue

Full Page.....\$300                    Half Page.....\$160  
Quarter Page...\$80                    Business Card...\$55

For information on advertising, or for an advertising contract, please contact the Bulletin's business manager, David McIntyre. Send advertising artwork to the *Bulletin's* PO Box. Send classified advertisements to Chet Marfatia, Classifieds Editor. Please do not send membership renewals or address changes to the Chapter.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING INFORMATION and LOCATION**

The New Jersey Chapter's monthly membership meetings begin at 8pm and are usually held on the third Wednesday of the month at the Deutscher Club of Clark. However, special topics often force a different date; please check the calendar of upcoming events (or the website) carefully.

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

All membership applications, renewals and address changes should be sent to:

**BMW CCA National Office, 640 South Main Street, Suite 201, Greenville, SC 29601  
800-878-9292 (Mastercard or Visa)**

**Annual BMW CCA and New Jersey Chapter dues: \$35.00.**

**New Jersey Chapter Dues and Bulletin Subscription (for members of other chapters): \$12.50.**

Please do not send applications, renewals and address changes to the newsletter, the PO Box or any of the club's officers; contact the national office! Members of other BMW CCA local chapters may additionally join the NJ Chapter by sending \$12.50 to the National BMW CCA Office.

**NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS**

The *Bulletin* eagerly accepts contributions from its subscribers. Please send your articles, photos, artwork and ideas to:  
**NJ Chapter Newsletter, BMW CCA, PO BOX 2305, Westfield, NJ 07091-2305**  
or email your contribution to the Editor at [mcintyre@race-stuff.com](mailto:mcintyre@race-stuff.com).

# Upcoming Monthly Meetings & Other Events

**Sunday, November 3** at the Bridgewater CommerceBank Stadium

## Autocross Number 7

Fifth autocross of this difficult (to find locations) season at Bridgewater Stadium. Directions to the Stadium on the website. Join us for this fun and safe way to exercise your car and try out your car-handling abilities in a safe environment. Contact Autocross Chair Elihu Savad if you have questions.

**Sunday, November 24** starting in Millburn, NJ

## Whack Your Turkey Rally

The annual running of our fun, family oriented rally. Read the article on page 1 for all the details. The rally will start at the Fanwood, NJ train station. Be there at 8am, driver meeting at 8:30am, first car off at 9am. \$20 per car, and the rally will last approximately 4 hours, ending at a local restaurant. Contact Dave McIntyre for more information.

**Tuesday, December 3** at the Deutscher Club of Clark

## Pinewood and Election Meeting

The most important meeting of the year! Elect your officers for 2003. Ask them difficult questions about chapter issues (it will be fun because they're not expecting it). Then watch the annual running of the Pinewood Derby. Buy a Pinewood kit at your local hobby shop or Boy Scout supplier and build it to the rules. We run a serious tech, so no cheating. The meeting starts at 8pm, and directions to the DCC are below. As always, free German food will be served. We encourage all new members to attend!

Please note that this meeting is on a Tuesday instead of the normal Wednesday. This allows us to use the main downstairs area for the Pinewood track.



**NO SMOKING**  
at New Jersey Chapter  
**Monthly Membership Meetings**  
*Smoldering Permitted in Designated  
Areas Only!*

## Index

Rally Information .....1  
 Pinewood Derby .....1  
 Upcoming Events .....3  
 DCC Directions .....3  
 Random Firings .....4  
 Philes' Forum .....5  
 Autocross Information .....8  
 Board Meeting Minutes .....9  
 Calendar .....12

On-Line Catalog!  
www.turnermotorsport.com

## ULTRA HIGH-PERFORMANCE BMW SPECIALISTS

**CONFORTI/TMS Performance Chips**  
Experience what hundreds of drivers already have... Dyno Tuned Performance Chips are easy to install and offer more average horsepower and torque than our competitors chips. Top speed limiter removed. FREE 2-day shipping. Lifetime warranty and 30-day satisfaction guarantee. Trade your old, obsolete performance chip in for up to \$100 credit.

**ONLY \$249**

Application	Stock Power/Gain	TMS Gain	New Rev-Limit
90-95 318	120/2500	160/2500	7000
84-87 325e/528e	260/4700	290/4900	5300
87-91 325i/525i	180/3000	150/3200	6500
92 325i/525i	180/3000	200/4000	7000
93-95 325i/525i	220/6000	200/4000	7000
88-91 M3	240/6100	190/6000	7800
95 M3	190/6000	160/3500	7200
85-88 525i/625i/725i	240/4500	290/2000	6500
87-88 M5/M6	460/6000	320/5000	7200
91-93 M5	300/7000	360/3500	7200
88-92 535i/735i	410/6200	270/2000	6800

**CONFORTI/TMS OBDII Performance Software**  
For 1996-99 M3/328i/323i M & 2.0  
• HP and Torque Increase • Increased Rev Limit • Removes Top Speed Limiter  
**SPECIAL \$399**

**BILSTEIN Shocks**  
PRICES WAY-TOO-LOW TO PUBLISH — CALL US!

**PERFORMANCE SPECIALS**

**OUR BEST SELLER... 90 M3**  
Euro Intake Kit (+30 hp) \$889  
E36 E46 M3 325 RAM Air Filter \$37  
E36 325i/328i/M3 Lightweight Flywheel \$649  
E36 Lower X-Bores \$159  
E36 Group M Suspension \$2095

**Borla** M-Unit Dials  
E36 M3, 325, 328 \$549  
E30 M3 \$499

**SPECIAL**

**FIKSE \$495**  
Wheels Most 17"

Knowledgeable Staff • Fast Service • Lowest Prices • Daily Shipping • Roasted Nuts

**800-280-6966**  
FAX: 978-388-4202  
207 Elm Street  
Amesbury, MA 01913

# TURNER

motorsport

### Directions to the Deutscher Club

787 Featherbed Lane, Clark, NJ 732-574-8600

Take the Garden State Parkway to exit 135. Take Central Avenue towards Westfield. Turn left at first light onto Raritan Road. Turn right at the second light onto Westfield Ave. Follow the "L" shape of this road (do not turn off to the right). After 300 yards turn left at the big yellow "DC" sign.

### Autocross Schedule

November 3    Bridgewater Commerce Bank Stadium

**Keep watching the website for event news!**

**Always check the web or hotline before any event!**



# Random Firings

...Hank Farber

My son, Ben, likes to play the game "What car would you buy if you won the lottery?". I always have a very hard time with this game since I do not lust after expensive cars. Indeed, I have very little desire for a brand-new car of any description. Suppose I were to buy a new E46 M3, currently the object of lust of many Club members. I would have to pay a fortune in insurance to say nothing of the potential for further increases in insurance if I could not keep the 300+ horsepower in check. Additionally, I would worry obsessively (that is my nature, after all) about where I parked the car. Surely you all remember what happened to the Ferrari that the boys "borrowed" in the film "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" and then left with the valet. Here is a glimpse into my parking obsession.

I am living in New York City this year in very nice area on the East Side, and I have chosen not to bring a car with me to the City. I do visit them on the weekend, however. Parking in my building in the City is \$400 per month, and, aside from the expense, it is valet parking. And no one really needs a car in the City. A car in the City is best used for escape. With escape in mind, I did bring my 1972 2002ii to the City in early September because I was heading to Lime Rock for our Drivers School. I left it with the valet with very specific instructions. They would not be able to start the car from cold. Only I could do that because of a problem with the cold-start injector. Additionally, the electric

cooling fan needed to be turned off manually. So I asked them to park the car where it would not be moved until I came back for it several days (and many parking dollars) hence. When I came back for the car, I went to start it, and I found that it was shoe-horned between two giant concrete posts, cheek-by-jowl with all manner of vehicles. The battery was run down so the car would not start. Must have been the fan that was left on. We jump started it, and I watched the valet move six other cars in order to free mine and then work it out from between the posts. Let's just say that I won't be using that garage again for a car I care about. And I care about all of them, even if they are old.

As I write this in NYC, I am about to leave to watch Brian Morgan race his MGA twin-cam coupe in a vintage race at Lime Rock. In anticipation of this trip and Perhaps against my better judgment, I brought my daily driver, an E30 325ix, (manufactured in September 1987), to the City. It is parked in the Port Authority Bus Terminal Garage, which is self-park and seems reasonably secure. Remember that this car is 15 years old and not particularly a collector's item. Still, I am not sleeping as well as I would if the car were safe in Princeton. I will know in an hour or two if things are "all good."

con't on page 10

**Buy your BMW parts online.**

Introducing the smartest BMW store on the worldwide web. Simply enter your Bimmer's year and model; we'll show you only those parts that fit your car (plus universal stuff such as Zymöll). You'll get exactly what you need, even if you don't know the BMW part number. Log on and give it a try. It's just like driving your BMW – fast, safe and fun.

**bavauto.com**  
Same-day Shipping • Best Price Guarantee

**BAVARIAN**  
autosport

Phone 800.535.2002 • Fax 800.507.2002

**Wheel Collision Center**  
Excellence in Wheel Repair/Sales  
BATH, PA – COLUMBUS, OH

**PATENT ASSURES 100% WHEEL INTEGRITY**  
**STOCKING THOUSANDS OF REFINISHED WHEELS**

- From \$75/wheel
- Sales/Exchange

**Straighten, Weld, Polish, & Refinish**



**INSURANCE QUALITY OEM ALLOY WHEELS –**  
Repair/Sales/Exchange. Restore damaged wheels to OEM Specifications & Finish.....**GUARANTEED!**

7286 PENN DRIVE      600 SHOEMAKER AVE, STE.4  
BATH, PA 18014      COLUMBUS, OH 43201  
1-800-292-RIMS (7467)      1-800-825-5795

INTERNET – <http://www.wheelcollision.com>



# Philes' Forum

...Vic Lucariello

Hello, Bimmerphiles! This time out I have some hopefully timely information on batteries and battery maintenance.

I still wish to receive copies of your DMV emissions inspection reports. You can either mail a photocopy of your report [preferred], or simply e-mail the test data. If you e-mail, please include both the test results and the pass/fail criteria for each pollutant along with your model and year, transmission type, and mileage. [Include your name, too, if you want to be famous and get mentioned in Philes' Forum!] If you know at what mileage your oxygen sensor was last replaced, include that as well. Please indicate what, if any, modifications have been made to your motor [aftermarket chip, intake, exhaust, etc.] and your exact model number [eg: 328i, not 3-Series]. Some folks have sent in results from non-Bimmers, and these are welcomed. Most folks have been passing the so-called enhanced, or dynamometer, test with no problem. Most of the failures for Oxides of Nitrogen [NOx] have required new catalytic converters. Some folks are reporting that they have received the Low Mileage Exception, which provides for a 2500 rpm unloaded test in lieu of the dynamometer test, with no hassles.

Bimmerphiles recently sending inspection data are Walt Baliko, Ladislav Bashtarz, Bill Beam, Rick Cambron, Bob Gibbons, Tim Laverick, Driving Events Director Trip Lee, Art Neufeld, our inveterate Dr. of Autocrossing, Elihu Savad, and Instructor Walt Selva. Thanks, Guys!

I had a recent e-mail dialog with our erstwhile Chapter VP of Activities, Joe "E-Mail" Getcy. E-M had some questions on batteries, new and old, and battery maintenance. With the onset of Winter, many Bimmers are put into hibernation and those which aren't must start reliably in the cold weather. Either way, you will need to pay attention to your battery.

Before I address E-M's questions, perhaps a little background info on lead-acid automotive batteries is in order.

Although countless design details of automotive batteries have changed in the past 80 years or so, when E-M was a youngster, the basic function is exactly the same. The battery stores electrical energy by converting the water [H<sub>2</sub>O] between its plates into sulfuric acid [H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>] as charging current is passed through the battery's cell[s]. [Techies would want me to mention that the positive cell plates in a charged battery are lead dioxide while the negative plates are pure lead.], As the battery discharges, it produces electric current and converts its sulfuric acid electrolyte back to water. Sulfur and oxygen ions return to the plates, forming lead sulfate [PbSO<sub>4</sub>]. Kinda cool when you think about it. A fully charged lead-acid cell produces slightly more than 2.1 volts, so a nominal 12-volt battery, with six cells in series, will exhibit a full charge terminal voltage of about 12.7 volts. Similarly, a six-volt battery has three cells in series, while a 24-volt battery would require twelve.

The Battery Council International [BCI] categorizes batteries in a group system and quantifies their capacities with Cold-Cranking Ampere [CCA] and Reserve Capacity [RC] ratings. All batteries in a given group should be the same size and have the same terminal and hold-down arrangements and voltage. Moreover, any special features, such as provision for an external vent, should be shared by all the batteries in a given BCI group [More on venting to follow].

According to the BCI's Battery Replacement Data Book, the CCA rating of a battery is defined as the discharge load, in amperes, that a new, fully-charged 12-volt

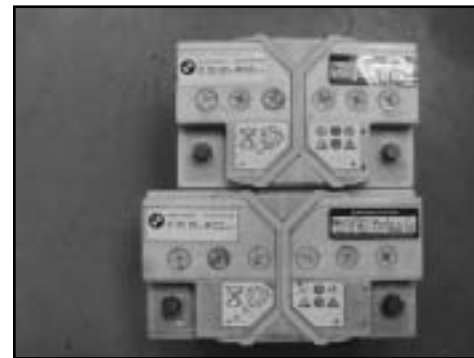


Photo 1: Group 91 and 92 OEM Batteries

Photo: Philes Forum

battery at 0 F can deliver for 30 seconds while maintaining a terminal voltage of 7.2 volts. The CCA rating is intended to quantify a given battery's performance under cold cranking conditions. The RC rating is defined as the number of minutes a new, fully-charged 12-volt battery at 80 F can deliver 25 amps continuously while maintaining a terminal voltage of at least 10.5 volts. The intent of the RC rating is to estimate how long a given battery will provide power for ignition, fuel injection and lighting in the event of a charging system failure. It is important to remember that BCI Group numbers do not translate into required CCA and RC ratings. Hence, to properly replace the battery in your Bimmer you will need to specify the group number, CCA Rating, and RC rating. [If you need help specifying the battery for your particular Bimmer, shoot me an e-mail.]

The BMW OEM batteries I have seen lately have a label which indicates this data. Photo #1 depicts two OEM batteries, one a Group 91 from an E36 318i and one a Group 92 from an E34 525i. The 91 claims 600 CCA and 120 minutes RC, while the 92 claims 650 CCA and 130 minutes RC.

Most E30s, E36s, and E34s came equipped with either a Group 91, 92, or 93 battery, depending upon the year, model and motor. Note that all three groups' batteries' dimensions differ only in length, and you can see in some Bimmers where the battery tray or well [usually in the right rear of the luggage compartment under a plastic cover] has

con't on page 6

# Philes' Forum con't

con't from page 5

provisions for batteries of more than one length. Another feature of these batteries is that they all have provisions for an external vent hose to convey battery gasses overboard.



Photo 2: E36 OEM Battery Vent Hose

Photo: Philes' Forum

Did I mention that automotive batteries produce highly explosive hydrogen gas when they are being charged? Do you think BMW would go to the trouble and expense of providing an external vent if they didn't really feel one was required?

I could write a book [Well, at least a whole column.] about the things I have found and seen in the battery compartments of BMWs. Since this is a family publication, E-Mail, I will address only a couple battery-related anomalies. Most Bimmers I see with an aftermarket replacement battery do not have the vent hose connected, even if the replacement battery is the correct group number [maybe half the time] and has provision for one. When I question the owners, I usually get a blank look and, "Vent? What vent?". Well, Photo #2 depicts an E36 battery well [plastic cover/tray removed] and OEM Group 91 battery. You can see the vent hose attached to the battery on its forward end. Photo #3 depicts the same car with a replacement Group



Photo 3: E36 Replacement Battery With Vent Hose

Photo: Philes' Forum

91 battery. Note that the replacement battery's vent con-

nection is not in the same place as the OEM's. I had to purchase a vent kit with the new battery to connect it to the OEM vent hose, which would not reach the vent port on the new battery. In the photo, the vent hose is connected to the battery right above the word "Interstate".

The second-most egregious malfeasance is the wrong battery, usually of insufficient CCA and usually not properly secured; but rather bouncing around in the battery well. Many times I find the battery hold-down [see Photo #4] to be missing, and in one recent case I found the battery 'secured' with bungee cords. OK - enough ranting. Let's return to my man E-Mail. But first...

Prior to doing ANY work on or around a battery, you should have on eye protection with side shields, long pants and sleeves, and rubber gloves. Moreover, you should be



Photo 4: Battery Hold-Down

Photo: Philes' Forum

in a well-ventilated area free of sparks, smokers, etc. I have seen two battery explosions (Remember that hydrogen gas?), neither on a Bimmer, and they ain't pretty.

E-M: What is the correct electrolyte level in the battery cells? Can I use the designer waters available in any deli to top-off the cells? How often should I check the electrolyte? Big Al [Drugos] says he uses Scotch - is he pulling my leg? [OK, I made up the last question.]

The important thing regarding electrolyte level is that it be above the top of the cell plates visible when you peer into the cell. Most batteries have some kind of indicator of the manufacturer's recommended electrolyte level. Some batteries have a little 'foot', while others have a slosh tube, the lower end of which indicates the approximate fill level. Remember that too much - as well as too little- electrolyte is to be avoided. Too much may compromise the internal vent system and cause the battery to expel electrolyte, while too little will shorten the life of the cell plates.

Batteries should only be topped-up with distilled water. Not deionized water, spring water, tap water, designer water, bath water, holy water, or Scotch. You don't want to add any unwanted minerals to your electrolyte, and distilled water should be free of them. BTW, you should use distilled water in your cooling system, too. In our climate, checking the electrolyte level once a year should be sufficient, assuming a battery and charging system in good condition. A battery which requires frequent topping-up indicates a failing battery and/or a charging system problem.

E-M: How do I check the state-of-charge of my bat-

tery?

There are a couple of ways. The easiest requires a digital multimeter [DMM], available for maybe \$30 on the low end. A fully-charged automotive battery should have a terminal voltage of 12.72 volts with everything in the car shut-off for a half-hour or so. 12.5 volts indicates 75% charge, while 12.2, 12.1, and 11.9 volt readings correspond to charge levels of 50%, 25%, and 0% respectively. Keep in mind that these open-circuit voltage readings tell you nothing about the battery's condition, or anything about the individual cells' health.



Photo 5: Hydrometer In Action  
Photo: Philes' Forum

Another way, which is both more accurate and dangerous while being less expensive, requires a battery hydrometer, available at most auto stores for less than \$15. Remember I said that as the battery discharges, the sulfuric acid electrolyte changes to water? Well, sulfuric acid is more dense than water, so a hydrometer, which measures the density of a liquid relative to water, can be used to test

the state-of-charge of the individual cells of most batteries. A fully-charged lead-acid cell should have a specific gravity [test density divided by the density of water] at 80 F of about 1.27. Charge states of 75%, 50%, and 25% should yield SG readings of about 1.23, 1.20, and 1.16, respectively. Photo #5 depicts a hydrometer in action. Note that the operation requires that a sample of cell electrolyte be drawn into the hydrometer. Remember what I said about eye and hand protection?? The electrolyte should be clear. Turbidity and/or a grey caste indicate a failing cell. If the electrolyte level is very low in one cell only, that, too, indicates a failing cell.

That's all for now, Bimmerphiles. HAPPY HOLIDAYS !

Anyone wishing to contribute to Philes' Forum should contact me at vic.sr@njbmwcca.org, or by regular mail at 1008 Califon-Cokesbury Road, Lebanon, NJ 08833. Please include your membership number. Unfortunately, present circumstances preclude my answering telephone inquiries. I'm interested in tech tips, repair /maintenance questions and/or tips, dealer horror stories, emissions inspection sagas, product evaluations, etc.

Copyright 2002; V.M. Lucariello, P.E.



J M K B M W

## FIND OUT WHY SO MANY BMW ENTHUSIASTS HAVE FOUND A HOME AT JMK

Over 30 years of sales, service & commitment.

We are honored to be called JMK BMW. Being part of the heritage of these fine German automobiles is something we are very proud of, and we want you to be as proud of where you purchase your BMW. Our highly trained staff is committed to your total satisfaction and we're always ready to greet you with a smile!



# JMK



New & Used Sales • Service • Parts & Body Shop

1-800-269-7222 • 973-379-7744 • ROUTE 22 EAST, SPRINGFIELD, NJ



# 9/15 and 10/13 Autocross Results

-Elihu Savad

In one of the driest seasons in decades, some of our autocrosses have fallen on the wettest days of the year. April 28 in Bridgewater was a wet event, and September 15 almost rained out. We had exactly half a dry event, and 41 drivers got 3 runs each before the rain halted the event. While we could have continued, the later runs on a wet track were unlikely to improve on the dry runs, so we snatched up our stuff and fled.

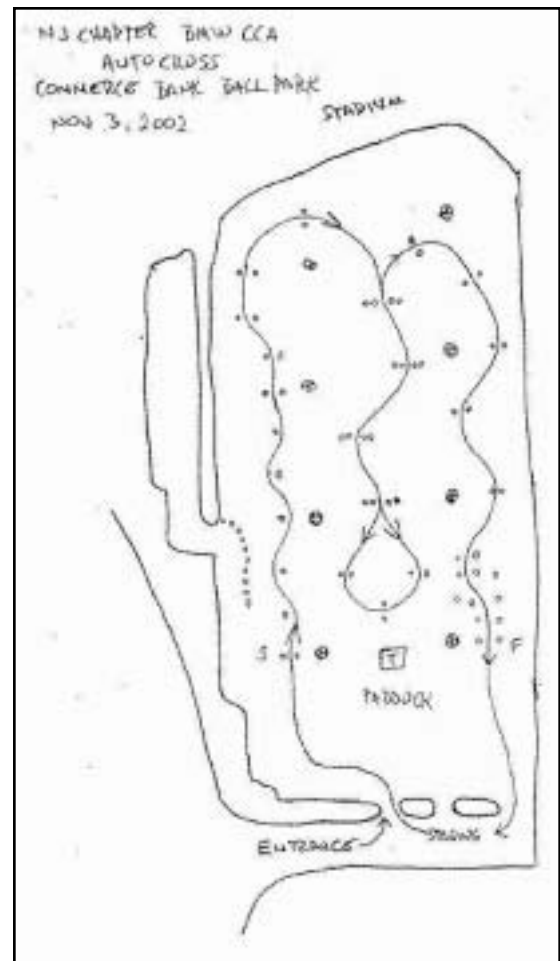
The results are on the website, and I feel the most significant results were for David Ngo who was not there, shrinking his lead in the champ series, and for Tad Kaminski, who has dominated Class C for the last 3 events. The performance of the newer model 3-series has been impressive at autocrosses, and the results show this.

The October 13 autocross was supposed to be the second half of the NJ Chapter/E30 M3 SIG weekend, but the wet weather on Saturday caused the planned SIG picnic to be rescheduled to Oct 19. Without the SIG members present at the autocross, we ran it as an open event. The rain stopped just as the event started, so the 30 drivers present got 5 wet runs, and then 5 more dry runs, as the track dried out! The course was a variation for a rectangular track with start and finish along the short side: A fast series of gates straight down the left side, a rapid curve into the inside loop, which was optional either way, then a return

to the far left of the field, a long curve to the right side return to the finish, which was a series of long side to side transitions. This minimized the hazards of a flying finish, but still provided a healthy adrenaline rush.

We plan to include Mini Coopers in BMW classes next season, once we hold a meeting to determine rules changes. These cars are growing in popularity, and would appear to be very competitive. I wonder how they are classed at British car events?

We will have one more autocross on November 3 in Bridgewater. All are welcome, so come on out!



Map of the autocross plan for November 3rd at the Bridgewater Commerce Bank Ballpark parking lot. Cars make their way through the cones as fast as possible, although usually no faster than second gear. Come join us!

**GET THE HIGHEST QUALITY PERFORMANCE FOR & FROM YOUR BMW & BENZ!!!**

**We Offer:**

- Most Original Equipment Tires Available
- Many Hard to Find Performance Tires
- Tech Inspection For Club Racing
- State of the Art Alignment Equipment With Top Alignment Mechanic to Factory or Custom Specifications
- Hunter Mounting & Balancing Equipment With 9700 Vibration Control System
- Official UUC Dealer
- 10% Off Great Rates to CCA Club Members!!!

**UUC motorwerks** **MICHELIN** **GOODRICH**  
**STRELLER** **Continental** **HANKOOK**  
**BRIDGESTONE** **GOODYEAR** **DUNLOP**

**FREEDMAN TIRE SERVICES**  
 1690 HIGHWAY 27-EDISON, NJ 08817  
 (732) 985-2211 - SINCE 1983



# August and September Board Meeting Minutes

- Secretary Brian Morgan

Minutes of the New Jersey Chapter Board Meeting: August 23, 2002

**Members Present:** Brown, Csuri, Farber, Gambony, Karlin, Lee, Mason, Morgan

**Members Absent:** Coker, Lucariello, McIntyre

**Others Present:** D. Kolar, E. Savad, B. Smith

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 PM on Friday, August 23 at the home of Hank Farber.

Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived.

## Reports From Officers:

**Vice President:** Hank Farber reported for Vice President Nafi Coker. Scheduled meetings included a tech session at Paul Miller BMW in Wayne on September 18 and a talk by Automobile Magazine writer Jamie Kitman on October 16. The November/December pinewood derby/election meeting was scheduled for December 3 pending final approval of the date by the Deutscher Club.

**Secretary:** Secretary Brian Morgan agreed to prepare an article for the newsletter inviting nominations for Chapter Officers.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Warren Brown indicated that the Chapter is doing well. The June Lime Rock race and driving school, the July Summit Point instructor training/lapping day, and the August Summit Point race and driving school were all profitable. We received a \$4,000 reimbursement from National for the instructor seminar and the Summit Point instructor training event.

**Driving Events:** An apparent drop in demand for driving schools was discussed. It was noted that many advanced students have migrated to instructing and/or racing, although novice demand remains high. Autocross Chairperson Elihu Savad reconfirmed the August 25, September 15, and October 13 dates at Bridgewater, and asked and received board approval to proceed with scheduling a November autocross.

John Csuri noted that the August Summit Point school was successful, and that no incident reports had to be filed as a result of the school.

Race chairperson Ross Karlin indicated that there was a need for a discussion with Summit Point management about the quality of flagging for the August race. He indicated that in order for the Chapter to run another race at Summit flaggers would have to use rules that conformed more closely to Club Racing standards, and that there would have to be more flaggers with more experience. John Csuri was to arrange a discussion between himself, Karlin, and track management to consider the issues.

**Newsletter:** In Dave McIntyre's absence, Hank Farber noted that the newsletter deadline was Saturday, August 24.

**Social Events:** Stephanie Mason indicated that she was reassessing the format of the annual banquet. Options were to be considered at a future meeting.

**Announcements:** Hank Farber indicated that the Chapter won \$1,000 for third place in the 2002 ZF Public Service Award Competition for its work with the Westlake School.

**Future Board Meetings:** The next Board meeting was set for September 20 at the home of Stephanie Mason.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 PM.

Minutes of the New Jersey Chapter Board Meeting: September 20, 2002

**Members Present:** Brown, Coker, Csuri, Farber, Gambony, Karlin, Mason, Morgan, McIntyre

**Members Absent:** Lee, Lucariello,

**Others Present:** M. DeRienzo, E. Savad, B. Smith

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 PM on Friday, September 20 at the home of Stephanie Mason.

Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived.

## Reports From Officers:

**President:** Hank Farber reported that candidates for Chapter office included: President, Hank Farber; Vice-President, Nafi Coker; Treasurer, Warren Brown; Secretary, Brian Morgan; Driving Events, Debbie Kolar; Social Events, Stephanie Mason; and Members at Large, John Csuri and Ross Karlin for the two elected slots.

**Vice President:** Vice President Nafi Coker reported that the tech session at Paul Miller BMW in Wayne was well attended and successful. Automobile Magazine writer Jamie Kitman was set for October 16 and the November/December pinewood derby/election meeting was scheduled for December 3, still pending final approval of the date by the Deutscher Club (since confirmed).

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Warren Brown indicated that the Chapter continues to do well financially.

**Newsletter:** Newsletter Editor Dave McIntyre reminded the members of the October deadline, and indicated that long-time NJ Chapter member Bruce Gast had said he would supply old newsletters for Dave to scan. Dave plans to publish a cd containing all NJ Bulletins early next spring.

**Driving Events:** Autocross Chairperson Elihu Savad noted that there were 40 cars for the September 15 autocross at Bridgewater, where it rained on the second half of the event. He also noted that our October autocross was to have been run in conjunction with the E30 M3 Special Interest Group. (Weather eventually changed these plans). Savad was also considering a November 3 event at Bridgewater (later confirmed), and was beginning to look at sites for 2003.

John Csuri noted that he had not yet been able to schedule a discussion with Summit Point management regarding the quality of flaggers, but that he had identified a possible alternate source of flaggers for our Summit events.

He also noted that our Lime Rock race dates might be moved to later in June (later confirmed as June 16-17).

Ross Karlin indicated that he wanted the chapter to purchase good quality headsets for use with our radios. The board asked him to come back with information on pricing.

**Social Events:** Stephanie Mason shared her preliminary thoughts regarding next year's banquet. The board discussed the format for the event.

**New Business:** The Board voted to donate \$250 to the Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation in memory of Greta Schoenemann. Brian Morgan agreed to make the arrangements.

Some members expressed an interest in purchasing subframe bushing and front-end tools. The issue will be discussed at next month's board meeting

**Future Board Meetings:** The next Board meeting was set for October 25 at the home of Dave McIntyre. Another meeting was set for November 22 with no location determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.

# Random Firings con't

con't from page 4

out of date. At first, I thought I would like a K75, but I rode Trip Lee's beautiful K75s with an eye toward buying it. It was a wonderful bike, but it did not sing to me. Then I thought I would like an R1100RT, the spiritual successor to my /7. So I found one for sale and took it for a ride. Neither did it sing to me. This is particularly surprising since my /7 was awaiting repair after an accident (a story for another column). All the R1100 did for me was make me run home and complete repairs on the /7.

My newest car is an E30 M3 that was manufactured in February 1988. This is a very special car, as are all E30 M3's. It is modified to roughly J-Stock condition (with a roll bar rather than a cage), and this car sings to me. You would think that one would be enough, but about six months ago, as I was walking through the Princeton campus, an immaculate E30 M3 parked. Since these cars are almost never spotted on the street, it caught my eye, and I introduced myself to the driver/owner. The car was in absolutely pristine condition. All stock. Never tracked. Obsessively detailed. Only 41,000 miles. I mentioned to the owner that I had one of these and that if he were ever interested in selling the car, he should call me as I am sure I could find someone who would buy it. I saw the car again a few months later, and I left my card.

Last month, the guy called, and, much to my surprise (although not to the surprise of those who know me well), I realized that I was interested. I called around to folks who might know in order to get an idea of what the car was worth. When Gary Bossert, who has an E30 M3 (which he has never driven) with 13,000 miles on it stored in a humidity controlled tent, asked me where the car was, I knew I should pursue it. And I did not tell Gary where the car was. I decided I really wanted the car. I had absolutely no use for it, but I convinced myself that it was an investment. After all, BMW will never make a car remotely like this again.

Now I am the happy owner of a second E30 M3. This is a very early car, manufactured in March 1987, and it is the first E30 M3 that Morristown BMW received. My new purchase would hardly make a dent in a serious lottery prize, but it is enough to satisfy my lust.



So what do I lust after? Well, for years I have thought that a more modern BMW motorcycle would be great. My 1978 R100/7 is more than a bit

**Friends of the Somerset Hills YMCA  
will hold a drawing for a**

**Brand New BMW Z3 Roadster  
GRAND PRIZE!**

*1st Prize* One Year Family Membership to the Somerset Hills Y  
*2nd Prize* Ten Personal Training Sessions at the Somerset Hills Y  
*3rd Prize* Ten Massages at the Somerset Hills Y

**Tickets available now at the Somerset Hills YMCA Front Desk  
Only 1,200 tickets will be sold. Ticket: \$75**

**Drawing will be held on Thursday, Nov. 14, 9:00p.m.  
Olde Mill Inn, Rte 202, Basking Ridge, NJ**

Proceeds benefit YCARES,  
Somerset Hills YMCA's Financial Assistance Program.

Kenvil Midas Route 46 East Kenvil, NJ 07847 973-584-5050	Hal Glasser Owner / Operator BMW Club Member
 <b>Custom Exhaust</b>  <b>Custom Alignments</b>	
On or off the track, we can handle all your needs, Foreign & Domestic.	Over 16 years of experience in the industry.



# Classified Ads

Classified Editor Chet Marfatia

## BMW's For Sale:

**1986 BMW 325e** 161k mi, delphin gray, tan leather, 5 spd. Very, very good exterior, excellent interior, strong engine and mechanicals. 2nd owner, owned since 1997/110k mi. Meticulously maintained, all records since new. New in the last 12 months: cat, fuel pump, 4 Dunlop SportA2 tires, clutch. Just passed NJ inspection. Recent alternator, radiator, shocks. \$2,950/obo. Move to 5er forces sale. Murari 732-271-0491(h), murari\_srinivasan@yahoo.com (10/2002)

**1985 BMW 524td** Black/tan, 245k miles, excellent condition, no rust, recent state inspection, all service records, \$2,500 obo, contact Amy 610-496-5942 amy88@prodigy.net (10/2002)

**1987 BMW L6** VIN: WBAEC 840XH 0614908 Cirrus blue/white leather, auto, 126k miles, always garaged, very good condition, in storage last 6 yrs; \$11,500; for pic go to <http://www.bmwtrader.com>. 201-332-8729 vedra50848@aol.com (10/2002)

**1973 BMW 2002** VIN: 2587784 Amazonas/tan interior 4 speed, all receipts since new. Weber 32/36, Behr A/C components, needs brakes. Interior in very good condition, asking \$2,500. Call Dan at 201-264-3966. (10/2002)

**1997 BMW 328i** Black Exterior/Gray Interior. Excellent condition, garage kept, non-smoker. 5-speed with Sports package and sunroof. 65,000 miles. All service maintenance done at dealer and have all records. 12 CD disc changer mounted in trunk. 2 brand new tires on back. All 4 tires match and are Turanza's. Asking \$16,500 obo. Kathy 201-755-3490 or kathleenmarchese@yahoo.com (12/2002)

**1999 BMW 328ia E46**, dark green/sand, auto, premium and sport packages, plus HK sound, CD, xenon, park distance. Listed over \$41k, garaged, with window sticker, 39k miles, well pampered beautiful car, \$25,300. Tom 732-560-0337 evenings or e-mail at tom.tsai@expresspersonnel.com (12/2002)

**1993 BMW 525i** VIN: WBAHD 6318P BJ83240 White/gray leather interior, 80k miles, ABS, auto, sunroof, power windows/locks, pwr/heated seats, 6-cd in trunk, many new parts, recent tune-up. Car is stock, everything works. Great commuter car. No rust, accidents, or damage. Good condition. Asking \$10,800 obo; Mario 973-460-3805 or Styckybung@aol.com (12/2002)

**1974 BMW 2002tii** #1928 of 2900 made. rare black exterior tan interior, sun roof, foglights, built in radar, 128k miles. new clutch, guibo, center bearings, front and rear brakes with wheel cylinders, limited slip rear, redline synthetic fluids trans/rear, rebuilt shifter. Original English mini lite mags + extra set of auto cross mags and tires. Runs very strong \$4,800. Call Don at 201-615-0483. (12/2002)

**1995 BMW 540i** Excellent condition, dark blue, light gray leather, 6sp, 17" M5 wheels, front/rear sway bars, Dinan chip, stainless exhaust, 10 disk CD, 2 set extra wheels, snows, garaged, no track, accidents or driving schools, non smoker; 78k miles. \$19,500 obo. Tom at 732-758-0585 or riz-zobike@aol.com. (12/2002)

**1988 BMW M5** 288HP, Black, Beige leather interior, 2nd owner maintained by Motor Works West, 125k, Current inspection thru 12/03, New AC, Brakes Rotors, Cat Back Exhaust, Very Clean Inside & Out. Stored in Garage w/cover \$9k obo. Tom 201-960-7806 or tfastert@hotmail.com. (12/2002)

**2000 BMW M Roadster** VIN: WBSC6 9348Y LC93937 Silver/black, 14.9k miles, in-dash cd, keyless entry/alarm, non-smoker, zymol, excellent condition. \$30,500 includes 4 Dunlop H rated snow tires. Bob 973-759-5914. (12/2002)

## Parts For Sale:

**Winter Tires For Sale** Set of 4 mounted Michelin Arctic Alpin snows 205/65-R15 on 7Jx15 steel rims (fits e34 525i and e39 528i/525i) with 4 plastic BMW wheel covers. Used 6,000 mi. FREE to first person who picks them up in Park Ridge, NJ. Call Doug at 973-644-3707 office or 201-417-6539 cell. Or email at dbadaszewski@yahoo.com (10/2002)

**Motor For Sale Big Six** Cly. head rebuilt, never used \$650. Comes with complete motor and all acc. including computer and engine stand! Many e-28 parts interior, seats, trunk lid, all four doors, steering box, ac comp. etc. All parts cheap, I need the room back! Tim 973-257-9490 masters3@optonline.net (10/2002)

**Wheels for Sale** 4 BBS RZ (cross spoke) 16x7.5 with roundel cap fits E-34 & E-38 \$450. 4 Original BMW 20 spoke (style 33) 16x7 fits E-39 \$400. Both sets in excellent condition. Contact Pete or Vicki at 609-921-2333 prudy@alpinecapital.com (12/2002)

**Winter Tires For Sale** Winter wheels / tires

- Set of 4 mounted new Pirelli Winter 210 P snows 235/60 R by 16 on BMW original factory 8J x 16 light alloy wheels. Fits E-38/39. \$1,000 Call Tony @ 908-464-1276. (12/2002)

## Parts or Cars Wanted:

**CCA Historical Items Wanted** Preserving the CCA history The Club Archive is looking for Oktoberfest or Chapter events trophies, shirts, pins, posters, wine glasses, dash plaques, grill badges, programs, or anything else. Anything from the club's past for the Archive/Museum. Do you have extra items you would consider donating? Michael 864-250-0022 or e-mail at mmitchell@roundel.org

**Tires Wanted** Set of four almost new/new 225/50-R16 tires for 98 Z3 for spring lease return. Reasonable price. Contact Marty at 973-948-4009 or morrisonnj@aol.com. (12/2002)

## Other Cars For Sale:

**1995 Ferrari 355** Ser#100586 berlinetta red w/tan, 8k mi, no accidents, paint work or dings all original and perfect with perfect leather interior. Factory car & seat covers, pZeros and wheels as new, new red speed-line bra, all tools & case, records, manual & 355 repair manual, in dash cd, alarm, 2 sets of keys, never tracked, many extra parts. \$106,000 serious inquiries only. Len 973-912-0471. (12/2002)

**2000 Dodge Durango 4x4 SLT+** Black with tan leather. 43k miles on 100k mile ext. warranty thru 7/2004. 5.9l engine. Tow package with electric brake controller. Fresh tune up. Excellent condition. Asking \$20,000. Bill Zick 609-466-5338 or bozicks@aol.com (12/2002)

To Place a Classified Ad: Any current BMW CCA member may place a non-commercial classified in The New Jersey Bulletin. There is no charge. Send legible copy of reasonable length to Classifieds Editor Chet Marfatia (street and email addresses listed on the masthead). Please include a dollar amount for automobiles or automobile parts listed. Classifieds will run for two issues unless renewed or canceled.

# NJ Chapter Calendar

## November, 2002

### **Sunday, November 3**

Autocross number 7 at the Bridgewater Commerce Bank Ballpark. Directions to the park inside, and full autocross information on our website.

### **Sunday, November 24**

Whack your Turkey Rally! Join us for a fun drive through the countryside (or maybe the inner city?) designed to challenge your skills. Answer questions and win prizes. Arrive at 9am for registration. Starting on Millburn Ave in Millburn. Read the article on page 1 for all the details.

## December, 2002

### **Tuesday, December 3**

Annual combined Nov/Dec Pinewood Derby and Elections membership meeting at the DCC. Pick up your PWD kit at your local Boy Scout supplier. Free food, lots of fun. Meeting will start at 8pm.

## January, 2003

### **Wednesday, January 15**

Monthly membership meeting at the Deutscher Club of Clark. Probable speaker will be a representative from Hella, speaking on automotive lighting and other automotive electric topics. Meeting starts at 8pm with free food. Please join us.

## February, 2003

### **Wednesday, February 19**

Monthly membership meeting at the Deutscher Club of Clark. Speaker: Tony Salloum of VAC Motorsports will speak on automotive performance enhancements and the spectre of the law of diminishing returns. Meeting starts at 8pm with free food.

NJ Chapter Online: <http://www.njbmwcca.org>  
Hotline: 908-322-2758

Newletter of the NJ Chapter  
BMW Car Club of America  
PO Box 2305  
Westfield, NJ 07091-2305

