

New Jersey Bulletin

BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA NEW JERSEY CHAPTER June 2006 http://www.njbmwcca.org

Volume 37 Number 6

Street Survival School a Great Success

By Thom Rossi

As the parent of a newly minted teen aged driver I can't say enough positive things about the Street Survival School conducted by our chapter on May 21st. The school provides a very well designed program giving students a basic theoretical understanding of car control principles combined with practical driving experience to probe the limits of adhesion in a safe and instructive environment.

The day began with a quick check and adjustment of tire pressures and general car condition. It is highly recommended that students use the car they will most often be driving on the street. This was followed by class room instruction during which students were exposed to theoretical considerations and practical driving techniques to maintain vehicle control at the limits of adhesion. Having volunteered to teach this part of the school, I had fun meeting the students and I was quite impressed with their readiness to learn more about driving techniques.

After that the real fun began with some skid pad experience in the parking lot of the Raritan Expo Center. The students started with a circular skid pad, and then moved on to a large oval and a figure eight. You could see the students probe their limits and improve as the morning progressed. Each student had in-car instruction thanks to the volunteer efforts of a group of NJ chapter DS instructors and advanced autocrossers. The morning runs were concluded with some straight line and curve threshold braking exercis-

es. Want a recipe for a good time? 24 teen aged drivers in great cars plus a little soap and 10,000 gallons of water in a parking lot!

Dave Finch and "Big Al" were chefs for the day and provided a great lunch spread for students, parents and instructors. The chili was awesome! Thanks, guys.

After lunch, another class room session gave students a chance to share their experiences and relate their on track sessions to some of the theory we covered in the morning. Then it was back to even more fun as the students returned to a parking lot with a new configuration of cones to challenge them. This time they worked on navigating through a slalom and an obstacle avoidance maneuver. Finally, everyone had the chance to take several runs through an autocross course laid out just for this occasion. By this time the meter was pegged for "smiles per gallon"!

Like me, the other parents expressed a very high level of appreciation for the volunteers from our club who made this event happen. David Ngo had this organized wonderfully. The instructors were fantastic, and so were the rest of the chapter regulars who seem to show up whenever a helping hand is needed. What a great way to give something back to the community. We also appreciate the sponsorship of Open Road BMW of Edison, Morristown, Denville and Morristown Mini.

Missed this one? Keep your eyes open for another this Fall.

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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: \$40.00.

New Jersey Chapter Dues and Bulletin Subscription ("dual citizenship" for primary members of other chapters): \$15.30.

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 \$15.30 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 fbr2002@optonline.net.

President's Column

Recently I've been lying around with an ice pack on my knee as the result of a minor injury to myself. If there can be anything good about it, it's given me the opportunity to catch up on reading the newsletters from around the country I receive, one of the "perks" of being President. The one thing I can say from reading them is that the enthusiasm in the club runs high from Seattle to Puerto Rico, Hawaii to Maine. I only wish I was closer to some of the chapters; they seem to do interesting things. Anyone for taking a drive to get pancakes on Sunday? Also, I get to check out the classifieds for unusual parts (maybe rust free) that may not be available in this area.

I can't believe it's almost the end of May. The club's been busy this month. It started with an autocross that drew 97 vehicles on a warm and sunny Sunday. It could be attributed to the autocross committee that has been working together the last few years like a well-oiled machine. Yes, there were a few glitches, that what inspires them to make improvements.

May also saw the Street Survival School for teenage drivers, this year sponsored by Open Road BMW of Edison, Morristown, Denville and Morristown Mini. Now before I go on about the school, I have to say this about Open Road. Not only did they help the club financially, they had associates who were there on their time own volunteering to help wherever they could. They even gave each student a nice gift bag at the end of the day.

This year I need to thank the Middlesex Water Company for sending us one of their employees who had opened the hydrant for our use. We consumed over 10,000 gallons of water, although no car left any cleaner.

Something happened at the Street Survival School that was a first for me. It was my "4 Seconds of Fame". Club member Keith Silverman had alerted local Channel 12 about the event and they sent a crew over to film the activities. Yes I was nervous, at least I was in front of the camera for a good reason.

Now the most important thanks go the club members who volunteered their time to put this event together. I am going

to start with the "Daves". Dave Hirschhorn, who handled the registration of students and was go-between for the club and the BMWCCA Foundation. Dave Ngo, who has been the chief instructor for all three of our schools we have done, and is already working on how to improve them for the future. Dave Finch, who once again brought his trailer full of enough goodies to put on a lunch for close to 100 people. Thanks for bringing the coffee pot.

Did I mention the instructors? Yes I did on TV. Our instructors are from the autocross and driving school programs. They're a great bunch of people; they go at each other at every autocross, yet when asked to instruct the teen drivers, they rallied to the occasion. Our driving school instructors are also very experienced in car control techniques, and even had their own teens in the school.

June is very big month for the Driving School crowd. June 12-13 will once again be at Lime Rock Park in Connecticut for the 11th Annual Club Race and Driving School that will benefit the Westlake School in Westfield. The 19-20 will be at the big track at Summit Point for the Advanced Driving School and Instructor Training School. Information for either of these events is available on the website. Our membership meeting will be at the BMW NA headquarters in Woodcliff Lakes on the 9th.

I'm saving the best for last. July 16 will be the date of the picnic. Dave and Peggy Finch will once again be our hosts for this event. Social Chairman Al Drugos is in charge of the picnic, and if it's anything like the Banquet was, it should be very exciting. Jon Trudel will be the Rallymaster for the rally preceding the picnic. It's always an interesting adventure.

Please don't forget that the National BMWCCA membership drive is coming to an end on July 15th. There are many great prizes with the big one being the chance to go to BMW's M-Performance Driving Center in Greenville for a weekend. This may be good incentive for you to sign up those who may want to participate in the Autocross program to become a member. I hope to see you at BMW's head-quarters on June 9th.

Neil Gambony

Summit Point Advance ITS School

There still is lots of room available for this driver school. This is the premier Driver School for the NJ Chapter; there is plenty, and I mean **plenty**, of track time. Two run groups + ITS. Contact David Finch at Optilight@mindspring.com. Dates: June 19-20.

Club Picnic July 16th

The Club picnic will be held at the Finch farm in beautiful Hunterdon county. Big Al has promised a picnic to remember. Great food, entertainment, and friends to be had. Save the date. Note: the Summer Road Rally's finish point is at the picnic.

Record Crowd for May 7 Autocross

We had 97 drivers on May 7, an all-time record for the NJ Chapter. Everyone got 5 runs, in spite of equipment problems and difficulties in administering the record crowd.

For the June 4 event, we plan to limit the size of the event to 80 participants, with CCA members guaranteed a place. Non-CCA members will be first-come first-served. This should increase the number of runs. The autocross committee is at work planning to use a laptop and software to run our events in the near future.

The May 7 event gives us the following class leaders: T.J. Pierson in AA, Joshua Ho-Miller in A, James Kavalieros in B, Mike Marvuglio in C, Brian Henry in D, Brent Jerolomic in E, and Ken Herskovitz in F.

Please refer to our registration procedures on the website, and plan to come to an autocross soon. Our upcoming schedule is:

June 4 at the PNC Bank Arts Center, south lot June 25 at the Commerce Bank Ballpark, blue lot. July 23 at the PNC Bank Arts Center south lot Aug 20 at the PNC Bank Arts Center south lot

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NJ Chapter BMW CCA Board Meeting

May 10, 2006

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Warren Brown, Ross Karlin, Brian Morgan, John Csuri, Al Drugos, Bob Isbitski. Others present: Elihu Savad, Dave Hirschhorn, David Finch, Paul Ngai, Joe Murray, Dave Allaway. Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM at Alphonso's Somerville.

Program/Secretary

Brian Morgan distributed the prior meeting's minutes, and reading was waived. Brian reported that the meeting programs for the remainder of the year are booked.

Treasure

Warren Brown reported that we are losing money due to low drivers school attendance. We lost approximately \$3000 at Lime Rock and \$4000 at Shenandoah. The autocross program is making money or will break even. The ITS/Advanced Driving School may not make money. The year-to-date Profit & Loss statement was distributed.

Newsletter

It was noted that for those submitting newsletter articles, the next deadline is 5/27.

Social Events

Al Drugos reported that David and Peggy Finch have offered to host the picnic this year. July 16th was set as a tentative date, with the rally the same date if possible. The board agreed to cater the event rather than rely on the usual overworked volunteers.

Driving Events

Bob Isbitski reported that we have a registrar (Dave Hirschhorn), and water, for the Teen Street Survival School on 5/21. The school and waiting list are full. Tom Rossi will be the classroom instructor. The event will be sponsored by Open Road BMW, in addition to the BMW Foundation. Bob also reported that new member letters have gone out, and that the mentor program is in place for Lime Rock (June).

Driver Schools

John Csuri reported that Jeff White has been working to get the new online registration system operational, and managed to handle the (April) Lime Rock school using both the old and new systems. The Lime Rock picnic is set, with soft drinks included and a cash bar. The Mr. B barbeque is set for Summit Point.

David Finch noted that we have only one candidate, so far, for the Instructor Training School, but will contact Patty Perkins at Genesee Valley Chapter for possible additions

Brian mentioned a recent Sports Car Market article on a Ferrari club incident in California, which underscored the need for tight controls on driver schools.

Flagging costs and alternatives were discussed, as were the cost of car numbers and alternatives. Further discussion was referred to the Driver School committee.

Club Race

Ross Karlin is working on sponsorship for the Lime Rock Race/School. Getting commitments and ad copy, and meeting printing deadlines is difficult. Paul Miller and Di Feo have made commitments, and Park Avenue is a possible sponsor. Ross was promised prominent sponsor dealer links on the chapter website and has not gotten them. Banner ads for Zygmunt are paid for but not online. The board agreed to provide Zygmunt with a complementary newsletter ad to compensate for the delay. Ross will reduce the expenses on trophies. The fact that we have National-mandated expenses, including two tech stewards, was noted. The need for race-worker volunteers was discussed. There was a discussion on the Westlake school donation, and whether we should continue to determine the amount at the event by a committee comprising the President, Treasurer, Race Chair and Social Chair. Ross moved to continue the current practice, Brian seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

<u>Autocross</u>

Elihu reported on the autocross schedule through August, and noted that there were 97 cars at last Sunday's event. The issue of noise levels was discussed. Elihu asked for consensus on loaning cones to Delaware Valley Chapter for their Teen Street Survival School and there were no objections. An autocross registration committee is being set up and will determine any needs. David Ngo will handle registration for the 7/9 autocross school.

The next meeting was set for June 28th. Al motioned to adjourn at 9:35, Bob seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Allaway, for Deborah Kolar (Secretary)





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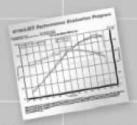
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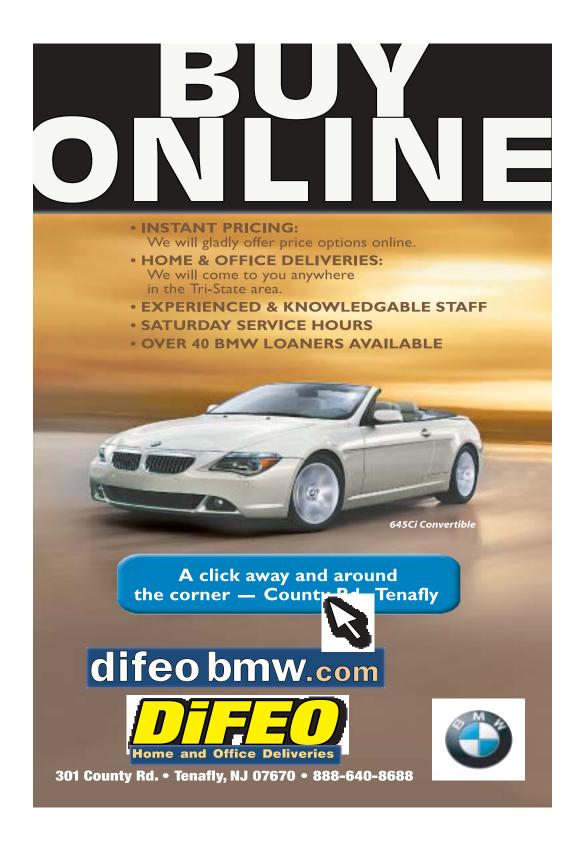




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Summer Road Rally July 16th

Up early in anticipation of the NJ Chapter picnic on Sunday, July 16th, and can't wait to get the day started properly? If so, then spend some time getting lost beforehand by joining us on the Summer Road Rally! As in years past, we will be running the rally in the morning, and ending at the picnic.

This rally will be a gimmick rally, where you follow a predetermined route, and answer questions about what you see along the way. Questions will be serious, obscure, silly, or even a combination of the three. This is a timed event, and there will be two run groups - Competition and Fun groups. The Competition group is for cars with just a driver and navigator, who are competing for Driver of the Year points. The Fun group is for everyone else - families, friends, basically any car with more than one passenger. Come early, participate in the rally, then commiserate with your fellow ralliers about your mistakes while enjoying the picnic. Prizes will be awarded to the winners in each class.

There is a \$20 registration fee per car. The starting location is Pleasant Valley Park on Valley Road in Bernards Township, NJ. Please arrive at the park with a full tank of gas, pens, and be ready to have fun! The driver's meeting will be at 9:30 AM to go over the ground rules, and the first car will be off at 10:00 AM sharp. Directions to the start are below.

Jon Trudel and Doug Humphrey are your rally designers for this event. If you wish to participate, please send an email to me, jdtrudel@yahoo.com, to reserve your spot. Please include your name, BMW CCA member number, and the names of any people in your car(s). If you do not have access to email, please call 732-564-9250 and leave a mes-

sage with that information, and how to contact you, if necessary. Please RSVP so that we can plan accordingly.

Directions to the starting point:

From Western NJ:

Take I-78 East. Get off at Exit 33, and make a left at the exit onto Martinsville Road. Stay on it for about 1 mile. Turn right on Valley Road. Pleasant Valley Park will be a mile further, on your left.

From Eastern NJ:

Take the GSP or the NJ turnpike to I-78 West. Travel to Exit 33, and make a right onto Martinsville Road. Stay on it for about 1 mile. Turn right on Valley Road. Pleasant Valley Park will be a mile further, on your left.

From Northern NJ:

Take I-287 South to exit 26. Bear Left onto CR525/Mt Airy Road. Stay on it for over 2 miles. Turn left onto Valley Road. Pleasant Valley Park will be less than a mile up on the left.

From Central NJ:

Take I-287 North to I-78 East. Get off at Exit 33, and make a left at the exit onto Martinsville Road. Stay on it for about 1 mile. Turn right on Valley Road. Pleasant Valley Park will be a mile further, on your left.

Note - the starting point will be from the first parking lot on the left.

Jon Trudel

Club Race / Driver School June 12-13

The 11th Annual Club Race at Lime Rock Park will take place on June 12 -13 in conjunction with the NJ Chapter's Driving School. Lime Rock Park is known as the Road-Racing Center of the East" and is located in the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains on the western side of Connecticut. Just driving to the "Park" is an enjoyable experience. This event is open to all club members as spectators.

If tradition stays true to form, there should be approximately 50 club racers divided into two groups, which should allow for plenty of action on both Monday and Tuesday. Monday will have a practice and qualifying session in the morning with a race for each group in the afternoon. The results of Monday's race will determine the starting positions of Tuesday's afternoon feature race with warm-up sessions in the morning for both groups. Racers wishing to register for the event can do so through the BMW CCA National website.

Registration for the Driving School is now available on-line through the NJBMW CCA website. There are instructions

listed under the Event. On-line registration should make it easier for you and our new registrar Jeff White. Or you can still register the old-fashioned way via the U.S. Mail. Just complete the form in this newsletter and mail it in.

Since 1998 this event has benefited the Westlake School located in Westfield NJ. The Westlake School is for students with multiple disabilities. Through the effort of Club Race Chairman Ross Karlin, last year the chapter raised \$7500 dollars from this event for the school. The donation is used to fund summer programs for students who are unable to afford them otherwise. A small group of students from the school will be fortunate enough to attend the race and even get a slow speed ride on the track. A lifelong memory indeed.

If you're planning on attending as a spectator, bring a chair and plenty of sun block.

Neil Gambony

Classified Ads

Classified Editor Chet Marfatia

Ads Online

BMW's For Sale:

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Mechanically perfect, interior excellent, V8, automatic with sport, heated seats, sunroof, CD changer, Green, tan interior. 80,000 miles. All original/stock. \$9,500. tomc@coyne-net.com or 973-216-3052. (Morristown area) (6/2006)

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2000 BMW M5

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1987 BMW 5328e

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2000 BMW 528i Automatic VIN: WBADM6340YGU21532

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Parts For Sale:

Wheels for MINI Cooper/Cooper S

Four ASA LW5 with Dunlop M3 winter run-flats. All of the wheels are in good condition. Rims are 16x17.5 and tires are 195/55R16. Pictures and in-depth description found can be at http://www.cardomain.com/ride/766702/5. \$450 takes four. Call 732-406-0498 or email frank_dimatteo@verizon.net. (6/2006)

Wheels For Sale

4 winter wheels (w/run flat Blizzaks 225/45 91H) sport edition rims. Used one winter, 2k miles, from my '06 325i. \$600. New were \$1,100. Jim at 973 714 0583 or e mail sales@plastinetics.com. (7/2006)

Other Cars For Sale:

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1976 Porsche 911S

A nice red narrow body sunroof coupe with a whaletail / front chin spoiler and a clean black /tan interior. Strong 2.7 engine (138k) with recent turn-up and valve adjustment. Shifts fine but there is no stinking A/C or power windows. Just a fun ride on new tires and Koni shocks. Sunday driver or a potential DE build-up. \$12,400 and it's your. E-mail g.shemaka@att.net or call 908-901-8302. (6/2006)

1974 Austin Mini VIN# XA2S1NU110782A

Heavily modified. Too much to list/explain. British Racing Green. Mileage ? Fair/good condition. Very fast. Great track or restoration. Has been road registered (QQ) for last 5 years. \$10,000. tomc@coyne-

1979 Datsun 280ZX

net.com or 973-216-5042. (6/2206)

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2004 Subaru WRX Sti

Silver 24,000 miles. Mounted snow tires Subaru stereo system installed (car did not come with it). No dents, no rust, always garaged, transferable extended warranty 6 years or 100,000 miles. Asking \$ 27,000 firm. 914-478 1946 or e-mail at amsiess@msn.com. (7/2006)

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NJ Chapter Calendar

June, 2006

Sunday, June 4

Autocross at PNC Arts Center.

Friday, June 9

Monthly membership meeting at BMW NA corporate offices in Woodcliff Lake. Gather at 6pm. Meeting at 7pm.

Monday-Tuesday, June 12, 13

Club Race/Driver School at Lime Rock.

Monday-Tuesday, June 19, 20

Summit Point Advanced Driver School.

Sunday, June 25

Autocross at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater.

July, 2006

Sunday, July 16

Club picnic at the Finch farm. Always a fun time.

Sunday, July 16

Summer Road Rally. See article or website for details.

Wednesday, July 19

Monthly membership meeting at Circle BMW in Shrewsbury. Details of the program will follow.

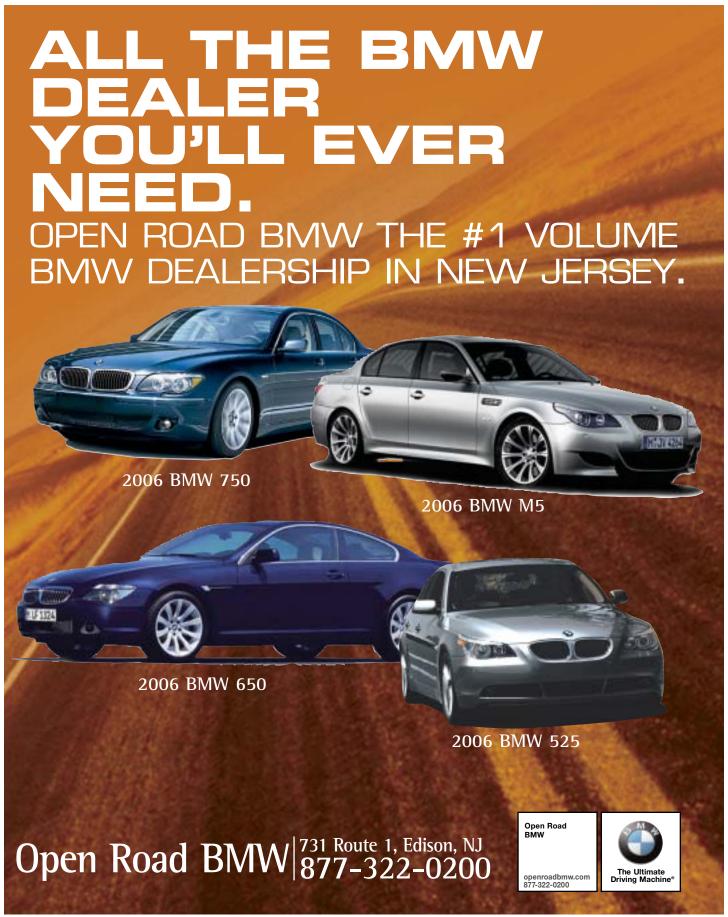
Sunday, July 23

Autocross at PNC Arts Center.

August, 2006

Wednesday, August 19

Monthly membership meeting at the Deutscher club. David Haueter will share his experiences as an automotive and racing writer and photographer.



Financing available through BMW Financial, LLC.

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