



New Jersey Bulletin

BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA
NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

June 2008

<http://www.njbmwcca.org>

Volume 39 Number 6

Instructor Training School by Thom Rossi

Picture this: a smoking hot, brand new M3 capable of reaching incredible speeds in vanishingly small amounts of time idles in the paddock at a closed road course, and the driver is about to have his or her first experience of high performance driving. But they can't get out on the track to see what they and their car can do without the constraints of speed limits and laser-gun-wielding constabulary to slow them down...unless some crazy person is willing to strap into the passenger seat and teach them how to drive on the track. Do you know what we call those crazy people? Instructors.

If you've never been to one of our driving events, let me set the stage for you. A high performance driving school is all about providing a controlled

environment for students to learn the car control and driving techniques that add up to some serious fun. The events are conducted at closed "road courses". They are not races: no lap timing is allowed, there is no "finishing order", and there are strict rules of track etiquette. However, speed is limited only by the car's and (mostly) the driver's capabilities. Yahoo!

What, you might ask, qualifies an instructor to be an instructor? That's where our chapter's highly regarded instructor training school (ITS) comes in. In order to be considered as a candidate for ITS you have to already have achieved a level of proficiency in the club's driving program. Generally, this is an opportunity for people **(Continued on Page 8)**



Photo by Paul Ngai

Newsletter of the NJ Chapter
BMW Car Club of America
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President's Line

As I write this, the Memorial Day weekend is approaching. It's a time to give thanks to those who have served our country and a really big thanks to those who are currently serving our country. May they return home unharmed. There are many parades, picnics, and gatherings with friends and family; what a great way to start the summer.

Besides all the remembrance activities going on, the problem for me on Memorial Day is "suffering" from a racing hangover. The Sunday prior to Memorial Day starts out with the Formula One Grand Prix Race from Monaco in the morning, the Indianapolis 500 in the afternoon, and the Sprint Cup Coca-Cola 600 from Charlotte, North Carolina in the evening. A racing triple-header that's almost 1300 miles of racing; I hope I can keep pace with it all.

We have many great events coming up in June. There will be two Autocrosses, one on the 1st and the other on the 22nd, and the first Street Survival™ School of the year will be held on the 29th at the New Jersey Exposition Center in Edison. The Club's monthly meeting once again will be at the BMW North America Headquarters in Woodcliff Lake on Friday, wait for it, the 13th. Information about these events can be found elsewhere in the Bulletin or on our website.

There still is time to register for our Driver School and Club Race which will be held at the main track of Summit Point Raceway in West Virginia. The track has been paved since last year and is definitely smoother. The date for that event is July 26-27. Plan on it being warm there.

As of June 1st, our Chapter will be holding its own membership contest separately from the one being held on the National level. Now the good thing about our contest is you are still eligible to be in the National Contest, which runs until September 12th. Our contest runs until the date of the December meeting when we'll hold our elections and Pinewood Derby. Please read about the contest rules, eligibility requirements and the prize elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Please keep some time open in October; the Susan G. Komen Drive for the Cure will be back in the area. The Susan G. Komen Foundation will benefit when you take one of the cars in BMW's special fleet of 18 for a test drive. BMW will donate one dollar for every mile driven. Since the start of the program, BMW has donated over 11 million dollars, which has gone toward breast cancer research, education, treatment, and screening programs. Kudos to BMW.

I will have the schedule of participating dealers along with a contact number you can use to reserve a spot for a test drive in the next month or so. It's a good time to test-drive a new BMW while helping out a great cause.

Please enjoy your summer.

Neil Gambony
neilx@earthlink.net

June Meeting at BMW NA Headquarters

For the June meeting we are once again invited to the Mothership at BMWNA headquarters by US Manager of Product Planning and Strategy Rich Brekus, with Larry Koch and the rest of the team. The date is Friday, 13th, at 6:00PM. Bring all of your prying questions on today's technology as well as the future, the brand's direction in racing, diesel technology, hybrid, hydrogen, etc. Most times the answers are more complex than the questions. As Rich usually reminds us "it's how you ask the question". The presentation is preceded by an exceptional buffet and a wonderful display of vehicles.

This is our premier meeting of the year so you do not want to miss this one, ask any prior attendees. Directions are as follows, GSP North to exit 171. At the top of the ramp turn left then make a left on Chestnut Ridge Road. Turn left into BMWNA Headquarters.

NJ BMW CCA Membership Contest

Ground rules for the membership contest are as follows:

A new membership is defined as: (1) an individual or business that has never belonged to the BMW CCA or (2) an individual or business that was previously a BMW CCA member but whose membership lapsed at least six months prior to the date of the new membership. A new membership with a corresponding associate membership only counts as one new membership. Associate membership will not be counted as a new membership.

To be eligible to participate in the contest, you must be a current paid member in good standing. (Memberships "comped" by BMW CCA or BMW CCA Chapters are ineligible to participate) Associate members are eligible to refer a new member.

Please be sure to have the individual or business include your name and membership number on their application. You will not receive credit if referring member information is not included.

The prize for our contest, which will be drawn at the Pinewood Derby/Election meeting in December, will be two tickets to the 2009 Banquet - date yet to be determined.

You will receive one prize chance for each member referred; the more new members you sign up, the more chances you will receive.

New members can join by phone, website, or snail mail.

By Phone: have the new member call 1-800-878-9292 to submit their application and credit card information over the phone. To receive credit the referring member's name and BMW CCA member number must be provided at the time the call is made.

By Website: have the new member visit the www.bmwcca.org website to submit an application online. To receive credit the referring member's name and BMW CCA member number must be entered in the appropriate space in the online application form.

By Snail Mail: have the new member mail a membership application to the National Office. Membership applications are available from the National Office by calling 864-250-0022 or sending an e-mail to stevens@bmwcca.org. In order to receive credit, the referring member's name and BMW CCA member number must be written on the application.

Now go get those new members!

Neil Gambony



News from National

2008 BMW CCA CAR-OF-YOUR-DREAMS RAFFLE

The raffle has begun! If you have not yet been to the website recently stop by and click on the Raffle Link,

<http://www.bmwcca.org/index.php?pageid=raffle>; from there you can buy your tickets for a chance at the car of your dreams! Amongst the changes for this year are three prize levels: One Grand Prize will be awarded this year. What is the grand prize, you ask? The BMW of your dreams—up to an MSRP of \$100,075. (Why the odd number? Because it's the MSRP of a new M6!)

There's also one First Prize, for which any BMW up to a total MSRP of \$60,000 will be awarded. Depending on the number of tickets sold, we will most likely also award several Main Prizes—any BMW up to an MSRP of \$42,000.

As always, only BMW CCA members—including associate members—are eligible to purchase tickets and win prizes. Anyone joining the Club prior to August 1, 2008, will qualify to purchase tickets. The maximum number of tickets available for purchase will be seven (7) per valid membership. And this year for the first time, tickets will be available for purchase on our website. The National Office will send each chapter information on the raffle as it becomes available. We ask that each chapter promote the raffle and take advantage of it as a recruitment opportunity. Remember, the Membership Drive will continue through September 12, 2008.

MEMBERSHIP REWARD PROGRAM UPDATE

Members who are purchasing a new or certified pre-owned BMWs will be interested in the following updates to the Member Reward Program that BMW NA established to exclusively benefit CCA Members.

- In the past, MRP rebate requests were sent directly to BMW NA for processing. BMW NA then forwarded a list of applicants to the National Office for membership verification. Verified members were then given notification of complete or incomplete applications. To streamline this process—and remain true to NA and CCA's commitment to customer service—BMW CCA has recently taken over some of the steps in the MRP process.

- When applying for a MRP rebate, members should now send their application directly to the BMW CCA National Office, where the staff will verify membership eligibility and check to see that all necessary paperwork is attached. Members will receive confirmation from the National Office of receipt of their paperwork and its completeness, and—if complete—that it is being sent to BMW NA for final approval and processing.

- Please note that the 1 Series and X6 are currently not included in the Member Reward Program. Lest anyone think we are being slighted, such is not the case: Both cars are in limited production this year, and no one—not even BMW employees—are receiving incentives to purchase them.

OKTOBERFEST 2008 WATKINS GLEN, NY SEPTEMBER 23 – SEPTEMBER 27, 2008!

Oktoberfest registration is still running ahead of last year's at the same time, so we have added two more hotels to the approved list. They're the Radisson in Corning and the Hilton Garden Inn in Elmira. Two more sponsorships just confirmed include Griot's Garage, and BMW North America.

Griot's is back to present the popular Concours d'Elegance at the Logan Ridge Winery. BMW NA will again furnish cars for test drives and sponsor the awards banquet at the Wings of Eagles Discovery Center.

The M1 package plan includes the Car Control Clinic. It's proving so popular that a second Car Control Clinic has been added to the program. The M3 track option is also still attracting lots of interest.

We still have room for more companies and organizations who would welcome the opportunity to display their wares before a national audience such as the BMW CCA nation. If you know anyone who fits this description, please contact Linda Axelson at 864.250.0022 or by e-mail at lindaa@bmwcca.org.

We have heard from some chapters who would be interested in advertising in the Oktoberfest souvenir program. Please contact Linda at lindaa@bmwcca.org if your chapter shares this interest.

A reminder: Our dedicated O'Fest website—www.bmwccaofest.org—is the best and fastest way to learn everything about this outstanding event. We're hearing that more and more newsletter editors and webmasters are posting the O'Fest link on their own sites. Official O'Fest 2008 merchandise will soon be featured on this site, too!

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF BMW CLUBS POSTS SURVEY

Psyma Group AG, a global independent market research institute, is conducting an international online survey of BMW Club members on behalf of the International Council of BMW Clubs and BMW AG. BMW Club members are invited to participate in this online survey. Psyma Group says it takes 15 to 20 minutes to fill out the online questionnaire.

The survey is open through June 30, 2008. The survey asks about your BMW ownership, reasons for owning a BMW, reasons for joining a BMW club, your interests, and your future plans to buy BMWs, BMW motorcycles, and accessories.

The survey will be conducted in English, German, French, Spanish or Japanese. You can choose your preferred language on their website. You can reach the website by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.psyma-surveys.com/uc/bmwclubs/>

If you have any questions concerning the survey, please contact Psyma Group at feedback.survey@psyma.com. Answers will be kept confidential and individuals will not be identified. Psyma's data protection policies are at <http://www.psyma-statistics.com/documents/privacy.php?lang=en>



We Remember Richard John

Richard John was a drivers school instructor with the Tarheel Chapter who would answer the call to help out the New Jersey Chapter by instructing at our schools or being a mentor for our Instructor Training School. Richard died on Monday, May 26, 2008 from pancreatic cancer. If you were lucky enough to have him as an instructor, you will remember an intensely kind and enormously talented gentleman. He would offer a suggestion or two and you'd find your line and laptime improved. He eagerly shared his knowledge and his love of driving was palpable. To his wife and fellow instructor JoElla, we send our deepest sympathy. Loss is always difficult, but a man of Richard's character and abilities leaves a deep void.

Deborah Kolar



Summit Point Driver School and Club Race

Our annual combined Driver School and Club Race at Summit Point Raceway is fast approaching. This year our event will be particularly special because it is the event we dedicate to raising money to donate to the Westlake School (see article elsewhere in this issue about the school and the special needs children who go there). The NJ Chapter has a long history of providing funds to Westlake to help buy computers, teaching aids and other instructional materials.

We still have room in the school for additional students; registration is on-line from the chapter website and don't forget that we now accept payment using credit/debit card in addition to personal check. We will be running only two student run groups but we will make every effort to accommodate all registrants. We expect a good turnout of racers since this is the only Club Race sponsored by our chapter this year so there will be plenty of action to watch on the track. The main circuit at Summit Point was paved late last fall and everyone who came to the Advanced School in April can attest to how nice it is to drive on new pavement. For those of you who have driven Summit Point previously, it's a whole new experience.

Remember, we have our Saturday evening barbeque at the track catered by Mr. B's. So, come on down for a great weekend at the track, see some good racing, have a little BBQ and help the kids at Westlake School. What could be better?

Jeff White

2008 Driver School Schedule

School	Dates	Location
Driver School/Club Race	July 26-27	Summit Point Raceway, WV
Thunderbolt School	August 22-24	NJ Motorsports Park, Millville, NJ
Shenandoah	Sept. 13-14	Summit Point Raceway, WV

May 4th AUTOCROSS

Our second season championship event took place at the ballpark in the red lot. The county is making use of our usual site in the blue lot, so we were a little cramped for space.

Nevertheless, we ran an 8-run event with 62 drivers on a course that challenged even the most seasoned autocrossers. The results have been posted for a while now, but the top finishers were:

Class AA: Caesar Rowsinski
 Class A: Chris Faust
 Class B: Chris Leckenby
 Class C: Mike Marvuglio
 Class D: Dave Ngo
 Class E: T.J. Emmer
 Class F: Mark Wiercinski
 Class X: Eric Gebhardt

Eric also won FTD.

The June 1 event, also to be in the red lot, is a closed event for CCA members only. This should allow our chapter member some well-earned extra runs, and encourage many of our non-member regulars to join BMW CCA.

We have an August 17 date at the PNC Bank Arts Center to add to our 2008 schedule. Schedule is now:

Autocross Schedule

June 1	Autocross	Ballpark	Members only
June 22	Autocross	PNC	
June 29	TSS	NJ Expo center	
July 27	Autocross	Ballpark	
August 17	Autocross	PNC	
Sept 21	Autocross	Ballpark	
Oct 12	Autocross	Ballpark	
Nov 2	Autocross	Ballpark	

The 2008 champ series standing are posted on the website, and will be updated regularly.

Just an aside: I recently visited a potential autocross site in West Milford that had been mentioned to me by members. This is the site of the old Warner Brothers Jungle Habitat, and a large parking lot remains. I found that, aside from the issue of permission, although the Habitat is gone, the jungle remains. Just walking up the entrance road, I had a close encounter with a bear; it seems they live up there. My judgment is that this could make for more issues at an autocross than we may be comfortable with.

Elihu Savad

Board Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2008

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Jeff White, Warren Brown, Jerry Faber, Al Drugos, Barry Stevens, Ross Karlin and Deborah Kolar. Board members absent: Bob Conway, Penny Galossi and David Hirschhorn. Others present: Blake Smith, Elihu Savad, Brian Morgan, Brian Corrigan, Vic Lucariello and David Finch.

President

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM at Café Cucina. Al Drugos waived the reading of the minutes. Warren Brown seconded. News from National is now being distributed electronically and Neil forwarded it to the Board. The Susan B. Komen drive in our area will take place October 7 through November 1. Neil will find out if volunteers are needed to do transport. Neil sent in the application for the ZF Award, due in March.

Vice President

Barry Stevens informed us that the May 21st membership meeting will be at Morristown BMW's new facility. He will find out if they have a suggestion for a program or if we should arrange for one. Barry talked to Larry Koch regarding June 13th for the annual meeting at BMW NA. Ross requested that Barry contact the Paul Miller and DeFeo BMW dealerships to see if they would like to host membership meetings. Ross suggested that in the future, rather than canceling a membership meeting, we do an impromptu topic such as a tech talk or race videos.

Treasurer

Warren Brown completed the taxes and filed last year's financial report with National. He is working on the remaining financials, including resolving Google billing. Our driving schools have been selling out this year, putting us in an improved financial situation. Warren will investigate buying a new version of Quicken. The Expo Center requested a \$1000 deposit which Warren sent. This check has been cashed and Warren will confirm that it was credited to our account. Elihu will speak to Jamie Kavalieros regarding insurance for the Street Survival School. Warren will send a Word version of the insurance application to Elihu.

Newsletter

The next Bulletin deadline is May 1. As a follow-up to the mix-up regarding the April membership meeting, Jerry requested that he and Barry be in better contact for last minute changes. Jerry would like more contributors to the Bulletin and will include an article in the next issue requesting new writers and photographers. The usual deadline will work for the July Club Race issue.

Jerry attended the National Conference which he thought well-organized and a great experience. He reported that other chapters mail newsletters at the standard rate while we mail first class. If we want to cut costs this way we'll need to move deadlines up 10 days. Small chapters tend to do quarterly newsletters. Chapters equivalent in size to the New Jersey Chapter typically do 10 issues per year. The BMW CCA logo is not yet finalized, but we will need to update our chapter logo once the new standard is ready. We must include at least two phone numbers in the newsletter, in addition to the hotline number. The Rocky Mountain editor gave a presentation on her 7 year tenure during which she transformed a costly 12 page newsletter into a profitable 52 pages.

The attendees discussed the challenge of supporting the interests of all our members, including younger ones. David Finch suggested an off-road event for X3 and X5 owners. Neil suggested that we might want to rename the Bulletin.

Social Events

Al had ideas that could improve picnic attendance including a corral for swapping and a clean car contest. It was pointed out that we would need detailed rules and judges for a clean car contest, requiring a volunteer and some advance notice. Brian Morgan will write a survey question for the website to determine if there is interest. David Finch questioned whether we should continue with the picnic, given declining attendance. There was general support for a picnic this year. Al will look for a date between July and September. It was also suggested that a swap meet could be held at a summer membership meeting.

Driver Schools

Fred Franklin called Neil regarding the death of a teen in his town and said that local police were asking what could be done. Our Street Survival program tries to address this need.

It was noted that our Street Survival School was not listed on the National website, so Neil will contact Jamie find out the status of registrations. The Lime Rock Park and Summit Advanced Drivers schools both sold out. We gave out t-shirts at both events. We did have a number of no-shows at LRP, perhaps due to the rain, but everyone who came had a great time. Brian Corrigan will review all the info and documents given to our drivers school attendees.

We have zero tolerance for alcohol at the track with no drinking while the track is in use. We will add a statement regarding this to the morning tower talk, as well as verbiage such as "we're all in this together - if you observe anyone else impaired report it immediately to club organizers."

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Race

Ross has started talking to sponsors for the July Club Race. Ross spoke to the principal of the Westlake School who asked that we participate in their carnival Thursday May 29th (rain date May 30th) 9:30am to 1pm. Ross would like to have some of our race sponsors attend. We should also take photos at the event. There is room for two cars to be displayed and it was suggested that one be a race car that the students could sit in. We could also display a race seat with a 6 point harness to show the importance of wearing seat belts.

Autocross

The April 13th Autocross School was a success. Wyeth, the owners of the lot leased to the Patriots which we use for autocrossing, may need to be listed on the certificate of insurance. June 1st will be a members-only event. The September event will be the 21st, instead of September 28th.

Brian Corrigan will follow-up with Great Adventure about donating a lot for a Street Survival school in their off season.

Instruction

Blake Smith reported that we had 14 Instructor Training School (ITS) students at the Summit Point Advanced Driving School, with nine successfully completing all requirements. Ross asked that the evaluations be shared with the DEC. We got great feedback from the attendees at Lime Rock Park.

New Business

Any membership issues can be directed to Neil.

Old Business

There is a concern that JMK did not receive proper credit for their generous donation of a bicycle to our Chapter as a door-prize for the annual banquet. The bicycle was routed to the Delaware Valley banquet and given as a door-prize there. We have not seen any indication that JMK received credit for this donation. Al and Vic requested that we get a complete accounting. Neil will speak to Dave Wolman and Penny Galossi and determine the facts.

The next board meeting is Wednesday, May 28th at 7:30 PM at Café Cucina. Warren Brown motioned to adjourn at 9:48 pm, Jeff White seconded.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Kolar

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Instructor Training School

(Continued from Page 1) who have been advanced students for a while and are known to our chief instructor to have appropriate track etiquette. But that is just a prerequisite. As I was to learn over the course of the ITS, good instructing is a combination of being analytical, communicative, and being able to connect with various student personalities.

The ITS is a busy two-day program alternating between class room and track time. There is a great deal of role playing utilized as a means to get potential instructors comfortable with a variety of situations and personalities. Each candidate is paired with an on-track mentor who does his/her best to throw every possible curve ball at the candidate then dissect their reactions and provide some coaching on how things could have been handled better. My mentor was Ross Karlin.

I should say that although Ross is a well known figure within our chapter, and although I've seen him at virtually every race and driver school I've been to with our club, I had never really gotten to know him. All that was to change and part of the fun for me was getting to make a new friend. In fact, during ITS I got to know every version of Ross there is as he played various personality types throughout the two days. First we had the timid Ross portraying a novice driver who wouldn't get the car out of third gear, couldn't understand my directions on finding the driving line, and seemed at times not to even know what a road is, what a gas pedal is, what a steering wheel is, or understand a word of spoken English. This was an excellent lesson in stripping away the use of the jargon we've been taught about apexes, lines, turn-ins, and track outs. It also brought home an important lesson for me: you can't assume you know what you're going to teach somebody until you figure out what it is they already know and what they need to learn. I had started the school with the impression that I could have a preconceived lesson plan for various levels of driver. Not!

The next Ross was the overly aggressive Ross. Here, my challenge was to reign in a student who started off "knowing more than the instructor" and was absolutely dedicated to proving he was the fastest driver on the track, which allegedly was populated by "wusses" who couldn't drive as fast as my student. Track etiquette? This person needed a basic lesson in "becoming a human" before we could even get to track etiquette. I couldn't help but laugh when the first words he said to me as we pulled into the pits after a harrowing session were "So, are you going to sign me off?" But the funniest version of Ross, by far, was in a scenario where I was his second instructor of the event, his first instructor having been a fellow named Pasquale. Ross packed in at least three driver errors per corner and for every correction or piece of advice I gave him, his comeback was invariably "But Pasquale told me to do it this way!" Half way through our second lap neither one of us could keep a straight face anymore and after we finally stopped laughing Ross was able to coach me through how to handle that kind of situation.

Overall, I found the role playing to be highly effective and useful. Most of the time, as the trainee, I knew what was going wrong and what I wanted to correct, but it really was necessary to have the coaching to help me understand how to get my point across better. My hat's off to Ross. I figure he had to have been a darned good driver to intentionally make as many mistakes as he did without getting the two of us into any serious trouble.

The class room sessions were based on materials developed specifically for our ITS program, and a text written by Richmond Shreeve. As both a driving enthusiast and an amateur writer, I read the instructor's manual with a great deal of admiration for the understanding of driving, teaching, and writing craft which went into creating it. By a funny coincidence, I was paired up with Richmond as my evaluator when it came time to put my newly learned instructor's skills to the test (literally). The instructor evaluation consisted of another role playing scenario, this time with Richmond as the student and me as the instructor. I won't give away all of his tricks and secrets, but I will tell you that part of the evaluation came down to the student intentionally making errors, some obvious, some subtle, and the instructor having to make the right observations and give the right feedback in a timely fashion. Fortunately, the baker's dozen of nut cakes that Ross had impersonated in our mentoring sessions gave me a well prepared mind and eye, and I was able to perform effectively in the evaluation.

The last step of the evaluation was a driving test on Sunday afternoon. This was the first time I had gotten my car onto the track over the course of the weekend. By the way, knowing that the driving was going to be rather less intense than a typical track outing, I brought my 540 down to Summit for a return to its old track haunt. What fun to have horsepower again, and I swear I could see my car grinning with the excitement of being in the center of the action one more time! Geoff Atkinson strapped in as my driving evaluator and put me through the paces for a few laps, with specific requests to demonstrate certain driving techniques. This too was a bit of a role playing exercise, the idea being that Geoff was a student taking a ride with an instructor. Therefore, the challenge for me was to demonstrate good high performance driving technique while talking the student through each maneuver. Geoff has one of those personalities that instantly puts people at ease, so I found that this was the least stressful part of the weekend and, since I had a steering wheel in my hands, the most fun.

Then came the waiting. For about two hours, we instructor candidates hung around in the parking lot, got our gear stowed, and waited for the outcome of the deliberations of our mentors, evaluators and the upper echelons of instructors. Finally the smoke could be seen rising from the chimney and we knew the results were in.

Ross had one more chance to make me sweat and boy did he capitalize on it. As he meandered toward me with my evaluation results in hand, I was mentally preparing myself for the outcome. That's when Ross, master of suspense that he is, casually excused himself to use the boy's room! I am happy to report that, judging by the amount of time it took Ross to re-emerge, he must be in that narrow portion of the male population that does a thorough job of washing his hands before exiting the rest room. This is good news considering his profession as a dentist. Confident as I then was in Ross's hygiene, I was happy to shake his hand upon receipt of the news that the evaluation of my performance was favorable and that I was a newly minted instructor. The fact that I made it through is as much a testament to Ross's excellent coaching as to my own merits as a student, and I would like to thank him and the rest of the mentors who took the time to help us candidates learn the ropes.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to add a serious note to recognize that there is an inherent level of risk for all participants in our club's driving schools. One of the best tools we have for managing that risk is to develop the skills of our instructors. To that end, our chief instructor, Blake Smith, has put together a best-in-class program for instructor training. It is serving as a model for other chapters in developing their instructors. I am happy to have experienced it first hand and to have been entrusted to help others advance their skills in our driving schools.

I congratulate James Banks, Bart Bartlett, Thomas Buchanan, Greg Conway, Erick Corwin, David Guida, William Mellott, George Pizzullo, Peter Stephan, Richard Vernick, and Scott Reiman on their successful completion of the ITS program.

Thom can be reached at thomrossi@gmail.com



SHADE TREE GARAGE

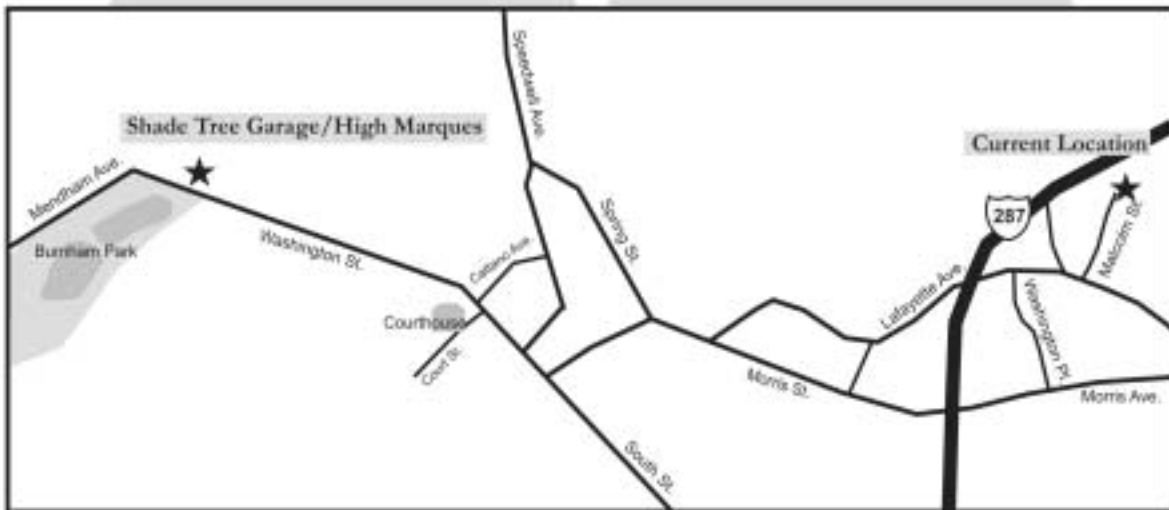
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NJ Chapter Calendar

June 2008

June 1st

Autocross school at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater.

June 13th

Monthly Meeting - we're invited to BMW NA Headquarters in Woodcliff Lake. This is always a great meeting. 6:00pm.

June 22nd

Autocross school at PNC Arts Center.

July 2008

July 26-27th

Driver School / Club Race at Summit Point in West Virginia. See website for details.

June 27th

Autocross school at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater.



NJ BULLETIN STAFF

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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 can be done via the BMW CCA National website: www.bmwcca.org or can 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.

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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.

May Monthly Meeting at BMW of Morristown

The May meeting for the NJ BMW CCA was held at the brand-spanking-new Morristown BMW facility. Oh, when I say new, I mean NEW. Can you say three days old? There were still guys running wires and doing various other construction while our meeting was going on. It kind of felt like we were on an episode of Extreme Makeover Car Dealership Edition and we just got the keys to the building! Calling it a building is an understatement, this place is huge!

The showroom was long and narrow, well not really narrow, but it was so long, it appeared narrow. I think you could run ¼ mile drags in there! (Yes, I did ask, but since I was not buying a car, they said no drag racing inside the building). The shop was, well, I can't even think of words to describe it. There had to be over 30 lifts (actually 42 - Ed) and spots to install 15 more. There were 2 top-of-the-line alignment racks. Tire machines and wheel balancers were in their own little area. All it needed was to have beer taps coming out of the walls and it would be perfect!

There was also a great social scene out in front of the dealership before the meeting began. I got to catch up with some old friends, as well as some not so old ones, too. I also met a few people I've never met before, as well as a few new members. Its also always fun looking at the cars everybody has brought. There were some beauties, like Gary Bossert's E30 M3 with the Motorsport cloth interior. What an amazing car, if mine ever looks half as good as his, I'll be real happy! There were also plenty of new BMW's there, just waiting to be driven home and parked in your driveway. I

especially liked the X6. This is the first time I saw one up close, and I will say I am impressed.

Towards the end of the meeting, our good friend Len House from C.A.R.S. detailing took over the show. I said it once and I'll say it again, this man knows his stuff. Len was kind enough to give a presentation on detailing your car and also answer a few questions. Thankfully it was not raining this time and Len was able to show us a car he just detailed that day, a beautiful E30 M3 owned by Ross Karlin.

The meeting was a great success-even without food or drinks! As always, the monthly meeting is a great reason to get out the house, see some old friends, make some new ones and see some great BMWs! Hope to see you all at the next one!

Jeff Burgess



Photos by Ray Adam



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