



# New Jersey Bulletin

BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA  
NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

June 2013

<http://www.njbmwcca.org>

Volume 44 Number 6

## Photos from Gfest



M-pire cornerstone

Continuing the tradition

Photos by John Stramiello



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## More Gfest



Classics



Rare classic

More classics



Photos by John Stramiello

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# President's Page

By Jeff Caldwell

## Season Openers!

Spring is a great time of year. The weather gets warmer, snow melts, the days get longer and trees begin to bloom. It's time to get outside and work in the yard. It's also time to shake off the winter blues and get that long overdue cleaning done. Wait, who am I kidding? It's really time to ditch those snow tires, put the top down, and let that sweet BMW powerplant sing right up to redline. OK, maybe that's a little extreme, but you get my point. Spring isn't only about cleaning up, it's about getting behind the wheel of your favorite car and spending some quality time together. Each of us has our own special way of indulging the need to get out and drive. Lucky for you...YOUR car club has tons of activities planned to get your motor running (and that of your prized BMW!).

Most of us self-described "track junkies" pine endlessly through the cold winter months for the beginning of track season. All of the work on the car is done, the new tires have arrived, the helmets and race suits are out of storage and ready for action. Spring is a time of great joy in the life of a high performance driver. Certainly, I am no different in this respect. After destroying a transmission at the end of last season and constantly battling alignment problems, my car finally arrived back in my hands less than a week before the first NJ Chapter track event of 2013. It has a "new to me" transmission (thanks to NJ instructor and friend Greg Lockman) as well as a sorted alignment courtesy of miracle worker Mike Yaskin and his shop Bavarian Specialties. Needless to say, I was pretty darn ready to get on the track and enjoy the payoff from all of the off season work. I know many other drivers felt the same way. Time to head to the track yet? YES!

April is the time for the first NJ Chapter Driver School of each season at New Jersey Motorsports Park and it is paired with the Instructor Training School (ITS). NJ Chapter holds one of two BMW CCA regional instructor training programs in the northeast. Genesee Valley Chapter (GVC) hosts the other in May at Watkins Glen. 2013 was a banner year for our chapter with respect to ITS. 20 instructor candidates participated and all of them will make excellent instructors in the future. This is the largest ITS class in many years and I would like to take a moment to welcome each of the new instructors and offer congratulations on a job well done. Thanks as well to the ITS Mentors for their

dedication and hard work. Our instructor corps is recognized as one of the finest in the nation and our instructors are welcome out of region with other BMW chapters and certainly with other marque clubs. Completing the NJ Chapter ITS carries with it a lot of opportunity, as well as a great deal of responsibility. Instructors are charged with not only teaching a student driver how to get around a racetrack quickly; their primary focus is to keep everyone safe. That includes their student, themselves, and others on the track. While it may seem simple, things can get a little more interesting at 140+ miles per hour! NJ Chapter driver schools are the safest around and we take pride in our record of putting on safe, fun, and exciting events.

April also brings with it the first autocross event for the season. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, NJ Chapter hosted an autocross at PNC Arts Center in Holmdel in the "North Lot". The North Lot is large and quite open with a good surface...perfect for a successful run through the cones. Over 50 cars participated in the event and combined with perfect weather everyone went home with smiles on their faces. I saw some great videos from the event posted on the chapter website and our Facebook page. I must say it looked like a great course. Kudos to the NJ Chapter Autocross committee and volunteers for pulling off another successful event! Please check our website for the latest autocross information.

By the time you receive this newsletter it will be June and we'll really be cranking along with all sorts of activities. June ushers in a host of events including a Driver School and Club Race at New Jersey Motorsports Park on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The Biergarten and car show is on Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> at the Deutscher Club in Clark. We're also happy to announce the return of our annual meeting at BMW NA headquarters in Woodcliff Lake, NJ. The meeting at BMW NA is on June 14<sup>th</sup> and is very popular. Don't miss it.

Thanks to the many organizers and volunteers who dedicate their time and effort in planning these events, the CCA has all sorts of activities to break you out of the winter blues. SO, it's up to you to get out of the house, fire up the car and come join us!



## More Gfest

Classic M5

Photo by John Stramiello



# Philes' Forum

By Vic Lucariello

Hello, bimmerphiles! This month I would like to revisit an important topic: power-steering hose failures on E36 models.

Beginning about four track seasons ago, at our driver schools we began seeing on-track failures of the power-steering-return hose on E36s ['92 - '99 3-Series; including M3 and Z3 models]. The hose separates from the power-steering-fluid cooler right where the hose connects to the cooler. The result is that the contents of the power-steering system are quickly disgorged onto the track surface, creating quite a hazard for the afflicted Bimmer as well as following vehicles. More than one Bimmer has gone to da big *autohaus* in the sky because of this hose failure.

The NJ Chapter Tech Crew investigated these hose failures, and we developed a document that addresses the problem and proffers one possible cure. This document [too lengthy to reproduce here] can be found on our Chapter Website, [NJBMWCCA.org](http://NJBMWCCA.org). The document is absolutely-required reading for E36 drivers, whether you track your E36 or not. Indeed, prior to each driver school, folks who are registered as E36 drivers are emailed a copy of the document and are asked to confirm having received it. Moreover, at event Tech, E36 drivers are required to acknowledge having read the document by initialing their Tech Forms on the appropriate line.

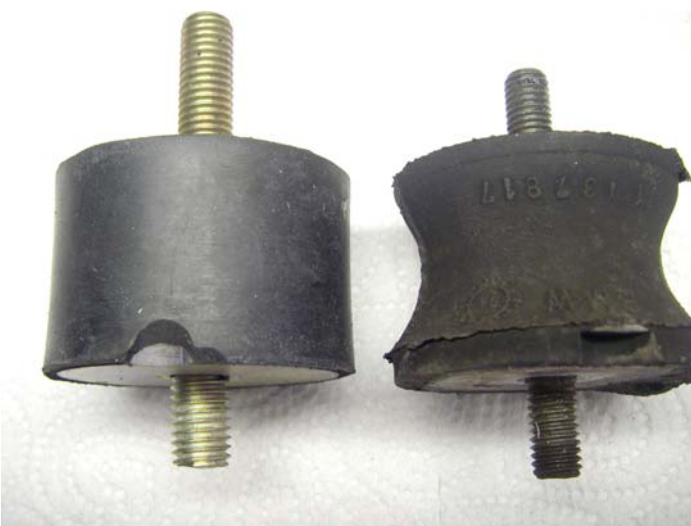


Photo #1 E21 vs. E36 Transmission Mounts

I am happy to report that [sound of wood being knocked] the incidence of power-steering-hose failures has decreased dramatically over the last couple track seasons. I hope that the NJ Chapter's addressing of the problem has contributed to this decrease.

One of the contributing factors in the hose failures is, we of the NJ Chapter believe, excessive motion of the engine-transmission assembly due to deteriorated engine and transmission mounts. This excessive motion can subject the already-too-short return hose to additional strain. So it is very important that these mounts be carefully examined, and replaced if necessary, during the pre-event inspection that every driver-school vehicle must receive before being brought to the track.

In doing this inspection to Joanne's 1995 325is with 200,000 miles and original engine and transmission mounts, I decided that the trans mounts needed changing, as they seemed a bit "mushy", and I also decided to do an "upgrade" by installing E21

['77 - '82 320i] mounts. Photo #1 is a side-by-side depiction of the E21 mount [left] and the E36 mount. The E21 mount, while of virtually identical height, is of somewhat beefier cross section. The studs on the E21 mount are 10-mm while on the E36 mount they are 8-mm. Also, you can see in the photo that the E36 mount has an indexing depression in the "rubber" while I had to add one to the E21 mount.

In order to install the E21 mounts [two are required], I had to replicate the E36 indexing depression on the E21 mount so that it properly engaged the transmission crossmember [See Photo #2]. Although I used a pneumatic die grinder to do this, you can use a "rat-tail" file if you take your time.



Photo #2 E21 Mount On E36 Crossmember

Another slight modification that is required is to drill out the holes in the crossmember so that it will accept the 10-mm studs of the E21 mounts. Don't think you need a 10-mm drill bit, as a 13/32-inch [10.3-mm] bit works just fine, thank you very much. Again, a rat-tail file will suffice if you don't have drill bits that large.



Photo #3 Making The Mounting Slot A Bit Larger

You may find that the locating tabs on your particular transmission will not accept the 10-mm studs of the E21 mounts. On Joanne's car, although I probably could have forced the mounts into the trans tabs, I chose to open up the slots in the

(Continued on Page 5)

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## Philes' Forum (Continued from page 4)

tabs slightly, just enough so that they would accept the 10-mm studs. Although I used a rotary rasp on the die grinder [See Photo #3], so little material needs to be removed that the old standby, the rat-tail file, will suffice yet again.

Photo #4 depicts the completed installation, although the photo only shows one of the two new mounts. I couldn't seem to get an acceptable shot with both mounts in it.



Photo #4 Finished Assembly

Using the very scientific "big freakin' pry bar" test, the E21 mounts exhibit a lot less compliance than the old E36 mounts. I suspect that even new E36 mounts would have a lot more

compliance than the E21 mounts. Also, I noticed that when driving down our bumpy stone driveway, the shifter bounces around a lot less with the E21 mounts installed. How's that for rigorous scientific testing!

I would very much like to receive a copy of your NJMVC vehicle-inspection report. You can either email a scan of your report (preferred), or simply email the test data. (Include your name, too, if you want to be famous and be mentioned in *Philes' Forum*!) There is no need to send in reports of "passed" OBD II inspections (This is where they scan your car for fault codes.), as these reports contain no useful information. However, for failed OBD II tests and for passed or failed OBD I tailpipe tests, there is good info for my database. Please include both the test results for each pollutant along with your exact model and year, transmission type, and mileage. If you know at what mileages your oxygen sensors and spark plugs were last replaced, include that as well. For OBDII failures, please include the trouble codes. Please indicate what, if any, modifications have been made to your motor (aftermarket "chip" or software, intake, exhaust, etc.). You can obtain copies of passed OBD I tailpipe tests from the NJMVC website.

That's all for now, bimmerphiles. See you next time.

Anyone wishing to contribute to *Philes' Forum* can contact me at [vic\\_sr@njbmwcca.org](mailto:vic_sr@njbmwcca.org). I'm interested in tech tips, repair / maintenance questions, repair horror stories, emissions-inspection sagas, product evaluations, etc.

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## New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting

March 6, 2013

Board members present: Jeff Caldwell, Paul Ngai, John Gyorfy, Ron Gemeinhardt, Jeff White, Ross Karlin, Dave Allaway. Board members absent: Marc Goeller, Neil Gambony, Colin Vozeh, Bob Isbitski, Jerry Faber. Others present: Al Drugos, Doug Feigel, Vic Lucariello, Elihu Savad, Ron Acher.

### President

Jeff Caldwell called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM at Alfonso's in Somerville. Jeff White moved to accept the February minutes as distributed and Ross Karlin seconded (carried unanimously).

Jeff Caldwell reported that the Chapter Congress will be in Newark and Jeff, Paul Ngai, Ron Gemeinhardt and Doug Feigel will attend.

### Vice-President

Paul Ngai reported that the 3/23 tour of the BMW Vehicle Distribution Center (VDC) is full. Doug, Paul and Ron G. will take care of registration. Flemington BMW will provide lunch. The New York Auto Show opens 3/30 and the New York Chapter Event info has been posted on the website. The 4/18 meeting will be at Shade Tree in Morristown. May is TBD. 6/7 will be the Biergarten event at Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC). Paul is working on a possible meeting at BMW NA in June. The July meeting is tentatively at Princeton BMW. Paul reported that the Instructor Seminar at BMW NA was a success and BMW NA was impressed with the number of attendees.

### Treasurer

Ron Gemeinhardt distributed and reviewed the year-to-date financial reports (income & expense and balance sheet). Ross Karlin reported that the Westlake School donation presentation took place. Ron will deliver the official check. Ross Karlin will submit the receipts for the Instructor Seminar.

### Social Events

John Gyorfy reported on the 4/13 DelVal/NJ Chapter vintage event and social gathering at Frenchtown Performance Garage, coordinated by Bill Foster.

### Newsletter

No report.

### Website

Jeff noted on behalf of Marc Goeller that an impromptu IT committee has been formed in consultation with Colin. The committee will present the Board with ideas for changes to the website. Marc will follow-up. Jeff noted that Colin would

like to update the autocross committee membership roster on the website. Elihu will follow-up. Colin also requested to be notified of any other updates.

### Business Manager

Doug Feigel reported that BMW of Bloomfield has not renewed. Larry Engel has not renewed. Andy Korinis will be added as a sponsor. Circle BMW has been added as a sponsor. Doug is working with Princeton BMW, and is also working on several renewals. The board was in approval of reimbursing Doug for JMK attendance at the banquet. The board also thanked Doug for obtaining the sponsor door prizes.

### Driver Schools

Jeff White reported that we have 20 candidates for the Instructor Training School, and registrations are at a better than usual pace for Thunderbolt. The 2013 Student Handbook is completed and approved. Ross Karlin reported that there were approximately 100 attendees at our Regional Instructor Seminar.

### Autocross

Elihu Savad reported that he has three autocrosses scheduled: 4/21 at the PNC Bank Arts Center - North Lot, and 5/19 & 6/30 at the NJ Convention & Expo Center. Prices will be \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members, with \$10 applied toward membership. No purchases are requested by the autocross committee at this time.

### Old Business

Jeff Caldwell reported that Ed Hansen has offered to take over the chapter toolbox. Ed is located in Parsippany.

Ross Karlin will purchase converter cables for the newly-acquired loaner helmets.

### New Business

Jeff Caldwell reported that TireRack Street Survival Schools have been scheduled for 6/23 and 9/29. Jeff will contact Larry Engel to coordinate. Ross will follow up with Bergen County.

The next Board meeting was set for Wednesday 4/3 [later rescheduled to 4/17] at Alfonso's. Paul moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM and John seconded (carried unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Allaway, Secretary

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# Autocross

Our next autocross event is June 30th at the NJ Convention and Expo Center in Raritan Center.

website and bring proof of dues payment with you. See you there!

Participants must be members of the NJ Chapter. Although membership applications will be at the event, it would be more convenient for non-members to sign up on the BMW CCA national

- Elihu Savad

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## 2013 Driver School Registration

Register at: [njbmwcca.motorsportsreg.com](http://njbmwcca.motorsportsreg.com).

When you register, please take the time to review your Profile on Motorsportsreg.com. Make sure your email address is current, your Driving History is up-to-date and your BMW CCA membership number is listed. Under rules instituted by BMW

CCA National, all student driver school participants must be BMW CCA members. As a reminder, your helmet must be Snell2005 or Snell2010. See our website for driver school promotions.

- Jeff White

Date	Track	Type	Cost
July 27-28 (S-S)	Summit Point Main	Driver School/Club Race	\$425
Sep 7-8 (S-S)	Shenandoah	Driver School	\$350
Oct 13-14 (S-M)	Lightning	Driver School	\$150-\$395*

\* Registration fee for October varies for First-time vs. Experienced students and one or two day participation.

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## New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting

April 17, 2013

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

### President

Jeff Caldwell called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM at Alfonso's in Somerville. Jeff White moved to accept the March minutes as distributed and Paul Ngai seconded (carried unanimously). Jeff Caldwell reported that the charity matching gifts info was sent to National on time. Ross Karlin suggested a Westlake School tour. A tour of the Oscar Davis Collection is in the works, with support from BMW NA and Erik Wensberg. A \$1000 donation was made to the BMW Foundation based on contributions at the VDC event. Jeff reported on the recent Chapter Congress. There was a discussion on the Facebook group and fan page. Jeff requested that board members bring ideas to committees and present with funding requirements, rather than brainstorming at board meetings. Any expenditures over \$50 require approval, to avoid expense creep. The 4/13 social gathering with DeVal Chapter was noted.

### Vice-President

Paul Ngai reported that the April meeting will be 4/18 at Shade Tree Garage, with the topic: Using a dealer vs. small shop vs. DIY. The May meeting will be 7pm Tuesday 5/21 at Circle BMW. A special blast e-mail will be sent 2 weeks in advance to promote the meeting. Circle BMW will keep the parts department open late and is working on a special discount. Friday Jun 7<sup>th</sup> will be the Biergarten event at Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC). The June meeting will be 6/14 at BMW NA in Woodcliff Lake. BMW NA may need to limit attendance. We already have a request from Patroon Chapter for 35 attendees. The July meeting will be at Princeton BMW, date TBD. The board expressed a preference for 7/17. Jeff Caldwell reached out to the NNJ Region PCA for a get-together, possibly at the Chatterbox Drive-In in Sussex Co. Jeff is in very preliminary discussions with National regarding hosting O'Fest in 2016. Paul noted that the Lime Rock Historic event will be 8/30-9/2 with a BMW corral and parade laps. Lime Rock has asked BMW CCA to coordinate, via John Sullivan.

### Treasurer

Ron Gemeinhardt distributed and reviewed the year-to-date financial reports (income & expense and balance sheet). Jeff White predicted

that Thunderbolt will be profitable. Recent costs included replacement autocross trailer tires. The annual financial statement was submitted to national.

### Social Events

No report.

### Newsletter

Jerry requests articles.

### Website

Marc reported on the IT committee. Charles Craig has volunteered to build a new website. A mockup will be provided for board approval.

### Business Manager

Doug Feigel reported on recent contracts and renewals including Circle BMW, Eurosport and Princeton BMW. Doug reported \$27,700 in advertising revenue in 2012 and \$16,800 so far in 2013, with several large contracts up for renewal. There was a discussion on adding print advertising pages. Paul Ngai provided a lead of Paul Miller as a potential race sponsor.

### Driver Schools

Jeff White reported that Thunderbolt was a success, with full run groups, full ITS and no incidents, and should finish in the black.

### Autocross

Elihu Savad reported that the first autocross of the season will be this Sunday (4/21) at the PNC Bank Arts Center. The following autocrosses will be 5/19 and 6/30 at the NJ Convention & Expo Center. There was a discussion on the procedure for handling new memberships. Elihu reported that the autocross committee has been reduced to 8 to 9 members.

### New Business

Bob Isbitski suggested chapter hats. Jeff Caldwell will follow-up on registered logo merchandise from Land's End. Doug provided Jeff with copies of the chapter letterhead. The next Board meeting was set for Wednesday 5/15 at Alfonso's. Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 PM and Neil seconded (carried unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Allaway, Secretary



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# Initial Ramblings

## Spring Cleaning

Some of you may have wondered what happened to my article last month. Well I was a victim of a spring cleaning accident. Not a good idea to go diving off a boat when it's out of the water. I sprained my ankle dropping off the swim platform from a seated position to the ground, about 2.5 feet and when I landed I felt and heard a pop. This is something you never want to hear. After inventing a few choice words, I hobbled my way back into the home and found an egg shaped lump sticking out of my ankle. A trip to the doctors revealed a bad sprain with a possible torn ligament that knocked me out of commission with the first week with minimal movement and 2 weeks before I started to feel less pain and start to walk without crutches. The ankle was swollen for 3 weeks. After a month, I still have some soreness and have to take it easy. I couldn't even think about driving anything with a clutch for a while.

The good news is I am getting better so it is time to start getting the fleet of cars in order. It's spring time which means cleaning, washing, waxing, detailing etc. Also on the agenda are the to-do lists I have been putting off. The first one to get some attention was the 740il. I needed a new taillight as one of the contacts for the taillight was burnt up. I also had to get new headlight washers as they were missing when I bought the car and I couldn't put them off any longer. The third item for attention was replacing the broken side mirror cover. In one of the wind storms, a large branch fell from a tree and broke the cover off. I had never seen anything like that, it just hit the mirror in a way where the cover broke off but the rest of the car was untouched. I contacted Circle BMW and applied my club discount for the associated parts. I was surprised how quickly they were able to get parts to me, even though they didn't have them in stock due to the age of the car (1996). They were able to get them by the next day. That's customer service!

I still have a few other things to complete on this car, like the dash pixels are intermittent and also there is a driveline vibration I need to figure out. Also, I just got a warning that the brake linings are low. Now would be a good time to upgrade the pads and rotors to some quality aftermarket pieces to slow this Bavarian Barge down. Sandy has been driving the E38 daily so I haven't had a chance to do what I need to yet but once I pry the keys away from her, I can get to these items.

Next car on the list is the Black 77 E21. This one doesn't require much, just making sure the battery is charged up from sitting all winter and a fresh coat of wax. The Sierra Beige e21 is still in limbo. I haven't done much of anything with that car since I purchased it a year ago February. It just sits behind my shop waiting to get going again. I am gearing up though to tackle the conversion from MegaSquirt back to K-Jet. I just need to rip out everything the previous owner did and return it back to stock. Once I do this, I will get it back on the road and start to plan my autocross and track events with it. I just have to make sure the car is safe and reliable first.

I also have another E21 for parts I have been holding onto for years. Luckily for me, the landlord at my business hasn't given me too much issue with it but it's time to finish plucking the last few items from the car and get rid of the remaining carcass.

Moving onto the non-BMWs, the Alfa's clutch started to slip so that is going to be high priority to get done. With the weather getting nicer, top down fun will have to commence. I also got quite a surprise when I fired the car up for the first time this

year. Fuel was leaking profusely from one of the lines to the fuel injection. I suspect it cracked from age so while the clutch is being tended to, I will repair this as well, and change the other rubber lines as preventative maintenance.

Now for the two most recent additions to the family. First I rescued a 1984 GMC General from an abandoned house not far from my home. For those of you who don't know what that is, it's a Semi Truck Tractor. Let me tell you, there are MANY differences from large diesel trucks to cars. Once I get this road worthy, this will be put up for sale just because it's too impractical for my needs. The second is a vehicle I just picked up a few days ago. It's a 1954 Mercedes 180d (diesel) that was going to be sent to the junkyard but I intervened and saved it. I am hoping to find someone who needs a good parts or an ambitious restoration project to play with. It's sad to see cars like this get crushed. Even though it's in rough shape, it has lots of good useable parts for the right person who needs them. By saving these two from an uncertain future, I have contributed to the recycling and repurposing of an old car parts and a big old truck and getting them into the hands of people who can do the right thing with them.

So I am on my way to recovery with my ankle, I have some items crossed off the honey-do list on the E38, I have my sights set on the beige E21, and I saved a couple vehicles. It's been a pretty busy month. Most importantly, I was able to get factory parts on a 15 year old BMW in a short amount of time from a local dealership and was able to get a club discount in the process. That was just the icing on top of the cake if you ask me.

JT Burkard

[jtburkard.blogspot.com](http://jtburkard.blogspot.com) Send comments and suggestions to [jtburkard@comcast.net](mailto:jtburkard@comcast.net)

Gfest—showing some tail-lights



Photo by John Stramiello

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## NJ CHAPTER CALENDAR

June 2013

Friday, June 7th

Biergarten BMW Night. Place: Deutscher Club in Clark NJ. (See map lower-right.) Time: 6pm to 10pm.

Friday, June 14th

Annual BMW NA Meeting at BMW NA Headquarters, 300 Chestnut Ridge Road, Woodcliff Lake, NJ. Time: 7pm to 9pm.

Sunday, June 23rd

NJ BMW CCA will host a TireRack Street Survival School at Campgaw Reservation in Mahwah, NJ. Registration done at: [www.streetsurvival.org](http://www.streetsurvival.org). Time: 8:00am to 4:30pm.

## Welcome New Members

Ziad Abbass Fayad  
Neipaul Angad  
Jane Bjornsen  
Jakub Bobkowski  
Richard Brown  
Daniel Cacace  
Alptekin Caglar  
DAVID CASSEL  
Natalya Chernykhovskaya  
Stanislav Chernykhovskiy  
Gene Chyzowych  
James Clark  
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Steven Marcus  
Arthur Martin  
Constantin Mateiescu  
David McNally  
Faulu Mtume  
Mark Napiany  
Dan Neff  
Terry North  
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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 result in a different date and/or location. Please check the calendar of upcoming events (or the Club's website).

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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