

New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting October 23, 2019

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Dave Allaway, Ross Karlin, Jamie Kavalieros, Jeff White, Bob Isbitski, Ron Gemeinhardt, Colin Vozech. Board members absent: Jerry Faber, Paul Ngai, Mark Hulbrock. Others present: Jeff Caldwell, Bill Van Ocker, Brian Morgan, Kevin Sheehy, Mirril McMullen, Larry Engel, Mark Mallory, Elihu Savad, Warren Brown.

President

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM at Alfonso's in Somerville. Ross Karlin motioned to approve the September minutes as distributed and Jeff White seconded (approved unanimously). Neil reported that he will be attending the chapter conference on November 2-3 in Dallas. Ron Gemeinhardt is unable to attend. BMW CCA national is suspending the charity matching funds program which they had been covering since ZF ended its participation in 2008.

Vice President

Paul Ngai reported, via e-mail, that Pam Marshal from Circle BMW was extremely happy with the turnout at last week's Oktoberfest Show & Shine event. She thanked the club for the last-minute push to get the word out. The November meeting will be at 56 Degree Wine on 11/13 with the topic: "Wines for Thanksgiving — A Comparison of Wines from Around the World Perfect for Turkey Day." December 3rd will be at the Deutscher Club for the Pinewood Derby and Election of Club Officers.

Regional Vice President

Jeff Caldwell noted that the suspension of the charity matching funds program will hopefully be temporary. Rumors of no more O'Fests are unfounded, but we may be moving to more destination-based events such as the La Quinta resort in Palm Springs, CA and nearby Thermal Club (track) planned for September 15-19, 2020, with possibly semi-annual O'Fests in the traditional format. National has not decided on the matter. National is also trying to do regional non-track events (e.g., concours, car shows, scenic drives, etc.).

Driving Events

Jeff White reported that we held our first Cars & Coffee concurrent with an autocross, the weather was uncooperative but there were no complaints and 25 cars showed up. Jeff gave thanks to BMW of Bridgewater for sponsoring. The Whack-Your-Turkey co-rallymasters will be Tim Farnsworth and Rob Chrzanowski, with the starting point in Flemington.

Driver Schools

Jamie Kavalieros reported on 2020 track dates, for which we have been bumped from our 2019 dates by both NJMP and Summit Point. NJMP dates are April 17-19 (Fri-Sun) for Driver School and ITS, and June 8-9 (Mon-Tue) for Driver School and Club Race. Jamie is still working on Summit Point dates. At Shenandoah our first-ever potluck dinner was more successful than anticipated. Warren Brown is handing off next year's Chief-of-Tech responsibilities to Mirril McMullen. Larry Engel reported that our third Tire Rack Street Survival school of the year, in conjunction with NJMP, will be Saturday 11/16 in the Lightning paddock. Larry is still working on financials, but the space is at no cost. We have 12 to 14 students enrolled already and Larry still needs 10 coaches.

Autocross

Elihu Savad noted that we had a full event last Sunday, with 63 registrants and 56 timed cars.

Treasurer

Ron Gemeinhardt distributed the year-to-date income and expense reports. This month's dues rebate from national reflects the insurance premium deduction. The 2019 newsletter costs are about final at \$13,686. Ron will probably be moving the media financials to advertising. It was noted that we will probably need to purchase more helmets if autocross attendance continues strong. We are \$1,641 positive for the year.

Newsletter

A tentative decision was made to discontinue the printed NJ Chapter Bulletin following the next issue, in favor of 100% electronic delivery. This will be finalized next month. We will need to reassess our 2020 advertising rates.

Web Manager

Colin Vozech reported that work continues on the new website design. A beta version will be available in about a month. Colin still needs the list of current sponsors.

Members at Large

Mark Hulbrock reported that the barbeque at Shenandoah was a success. Mark is doing bi-weekly postings on social media and targeted lists. Almost 3,000 users were reached with the SIGFest e-blast.

New Business

There was a discussion on soliciting Ferrari Club (FCA) members to participate in our events. At a minimum, the FCA contact person can be added to our distribution list. Ron Gemeinhardt noted that Victoria Lee would like to do a 5-10 minute presentation on the stakeholder view at our next board meeting.

The next board meeting was set for Wednesday 11/20 at 7:30 PM at Alfonso's. Jamie motioned to adjourn at 8:28 PM and Jeff White seconded (carried unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Allaway, Secretary