



New Jersey Bulletin

BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA
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Summit Point Club Race

By Thom Rossi

I hate cheating in club racing: especially when I get caught! Whoa! What's that you say? Club racing cheaters are lower than pond algae on the evolutionary scale? True. But, honestly, I didn't even know. Let me explain, officer.

Our chapter hosted a very successful club race at Summit Point on August 5 and 6. The race was a North American Premier Event, meaning that all participants received double the normal amount of points for their participation and class placement. This helped attract a full field of top competitors in all classes from a broad swath of regions across the country, some of whom were in a serious hunt for points.

On Saturday we ran sprint races in two race groups. Group A was comprised of the faster classes of cars, Group B the slower, with quite a bit of overlap in lap times between the two groups. In the Group B sprint, after a delayed start, we completed nine laps, or less than 15 minutes of racing, to get to the checkered flag. Early in the race things got a little dicey as Billy Jack Etheridge's number 63 KP car spun and came to a stop facing the wrong way at the exit of turn 5. This caused an accordion-like compression of traffic coming out of the chute into the turn. But good luck was

with us and other than receiving a love tap from the car behind me we all made it through without any substantial contact. A few turns later, after Billy Jack's brakes gave out, he ended up in the gravel at the far side of turn 1 with a DNF. Nick Rubenstein won the KP class and I placed second, ahead of John Wilson. Amongst the faster cars in Group B, Phil Eiseman left the field early due to an overheating problem, leaving the JP class and overall win to John Paton.

In Sunday's enduro all the cars remaining in the field were grouped into one big happy family for a one-hour race. It was great fun being on the track with the super fast C Modified competitors and seeing drivers like Chuck Stickley and James Clay (CM class and overall winners of the enduro) in action. The starting order was determined by the finishing order of Saturday's sprint races. That put me starting a few cars ahead of another KP competitor who was vying for the national championship and lusting for points. And that led to a protest against my car. You see, I bought my car already prepared for SCCA racing in the ITS class. And the SCCA ITS rules are a little different than the BMW CCA KP rules. Namely, my car has an adjustable fuel pressure regulator, which is not allowed in the BMW CCA rules for prepared classes. If my car had been re-classified or dis-

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

NJ BULLETIN STAFF

EDITOR JERRY FABER
fbr2002@optonline.net

CLASSIFIEDS EDITOR CHET MARFATIA
ckmarfatia@hotmail.com

TECH EDITOR VIC LUCARIELLO
vic.sr@njbmwcca.org

BUSINESS MANAGER PAUL NGAI
pknagai@yahoo.com

2006 CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT NEIL GAMBONY
neilix@earthlink.net

VICE PRESIDENT BRIAN MORGAN
briansmorgan@comcast.net

DRIVING EVENTS BOB ISBITSKI
bisbitsk@benco.com

SOCIAL EVENTS AL DRUGOS
glaad1auto@netzero.net

TREASURER WARREN BROWN
whbrown1@optonline.net

SECRETARY DEBORAH KOLAR
deborahkolar@yahoo.com

MEMBER AT LARGE JOHN CSURI
csuri@njbmwcca.org

MEMBER AT LARGE ROSS KARLIN
rosskarlin@njbmwcca.org

MEMBER AT LARGE MARK DERIENZO
mderienzo@njbmwcca.org

MEMBER AT LARGE ROBERT CONWAY
rgconway@njbmwcca.org

CHAPTER TOOL BOX ROBERT CONWAY
rgconway@njbmwcca.org

MEMBERSHIP BOB ISBITSKI
bisbitsk@benco.com

DEALER LIAISON DAVID FINCH
davidfinch@njbmwcca.org

LEGAL COUNSEL BRIAN CORRIGAN
briancm3racer@aol.com

CHAPTER LIBRARY NEIL GAMBONY
neilix@earthlink.net

TECH TIPS VIC LUCARIELLO
vic.sr@njbmwcca.org

DRIVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Chairman John Csuri
Chief Tech Advisor Vic Lucariello
Chief Instructor Blake Smith
blakesmith@njbmwcca.org

Registrar Jeff White
Member Mark Derienzo
Member Warren Brown
Member David Finch

AUTOCROSS COMMITTEE

Elihu Savad drautox@comcast.net
Ed Walters teamdfle28@go.com
Robert Steele steele@whafh.com
David Ngo dngo@commvault.com
Pete Revenidis takibmw7@earthlink.com
Steve Pulvers sbpulvers@msn.com
Walter Baliko balticvid@msn.com
Charlie Meagher charlesmeagher@msn.com
Larry Engel lengel@pclient.ml.com
Brent Jerolomic bjerolomic@comcast.net
Jim Kavalieros jimkavo@optonline.net
Mike Marvuglio mmarv@patmedia.net
Mo Karamat karamatm@optonline.net

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HOTLINE : 908-322-2758
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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 Line

I can't believe it is September already. Where has the summer gone? The days are getting shorter, the Autumnal Equinox is approaching, and pretty soon you'll be raking leaves in the yard. While you're at it, don't forget to have your gutters cleaned.

The Driver School/ Club Race at Summit Point in West Virginia was a great event in early August. The weather had cooled down to the 80's; much better than the temperature and humidity had been preceding the event. Of course it was still sunny for two days, requiring the use of sun block and having plenty of ice water on hand.

I always enjoy this event because there is so much to do, but I actually looked forward to returning to work on Monday so I could rest. Saturday began with a safety check or technical inspection as we call it on student and instructor cars, then the rest of the weekend was spent working on checking student's wristbands, assuring they were in their proper run groups. I got to ride shotgun in the tow truck with Big Al Drugos while retrieving an occasionally stranded vehicle.

For the third year, I was the radioman in the pace car for the Club Races that took place during the weekend. This year, Dave Finch and I were able to commandeer Big Al's 740iL to pace the races. We needed to test the A/C, and it passed with flying colors. Thanks Big Al. It was great to see the races being incident free and watching Chuck Stickley start dead last on Sunday's race and finish first.

The event ran smoothly; credit for that goes to several individuals. First I'll start with our Club's School Chairman, John Csuri. John handles all the arrangements with the track management for our schools. John has been saying for years that our schools are family oriented and he proved it by enrolling his daughter Kay in the driving school program.

Registrar Jeff White achieved a milestone by having the entire school's registration done through the Club's website. Jeff has been working with Webmaster Bob Conway and Chief Driving Instructor Blake Smith in streamlining the registration process for him, which is going to make the job easier to do for our future schools. While I'm mentioning Blake, I'd like to thank him for the terrific job he does matching students with instructors, or vice versa, and I certainly can't forget to thank all of the instructors that come to our events.

Club Race Chairman Ross Karlin wears many hats during a Club Race weekend and surprises me he has the time to drive his own E21 racecar. This year's race attracted over 50 racecars from all over the country, which kept Ross very busy. It was a premier event, paying double in points for those participating in the Club Race Championship Series. Equally as fascinating as the racecars are to look at were some of the rigs that brought them there. Congratulations to Mo Karamat for starting and finishing in his first Club Race weekend. He won't have those rookie stripes for long.

Some upcoming Club events: there will be an autocross at the PNC South lot on the 10th, and on the 20th we will be back at Flemington BMW. They plan to have a few engineers from BMW on hand. We are also holding a driver school at Lime Rock Park on Sept. 25, information on registering for the event can be found on the website.

Some good news for those who missed out on the Banquet this year because it was held on a Friday, we are planning to hold the Banquet in 2007 on February 10, a Saturday. It will once again be at the Grand Colonial Restaurant in Perryville, which is easily accessible from Route 78. There should be no excuse for missing it next year, unless of course you're shoveling snow.

Neil Gambony

Welcome New Members

Ackerson, Jeffrey
Anroman, Bill
Bhardwaj, Rajesh
Bhardwaj, Neena
Bolden, Wayne
Bush, James
Butera, Dean
Chan, David
Conger, Brian
Coppisetti, Naresh
Crawford, Holly
Cruz, William
Czop, Brian
DeYoung, Jillayne
Domingo, Ramon

Finkle, Cliff
Hromy, Brian
Hunter, Patrick
Joseph, Jeffrey
Kamps, Todd
Katava, Miroslav
Kelly, Michael
Kuchavik, Matthew
Leckenby, Chris
Lee, Daniel
Lynch, Pat
Lynch, Charles
Mansuri, Ali
Mansuri, Saf
Many, Deborah

Martin, Colin
Marulli, Daniel
McEnroe, Robert
McGowan, Sean
Messer, Mark
Moye, Maria
Narayanan, Kris
Nemeth, Michael
Ohashi, Kenneth
Olsen, Erik
Patel, Sunil
Randall, Jared
Rapoport, Michele
Rooney, Bill
Russo, Carlo

Shafer, Michael
Shafer, Angel
Shah, Alan
Shashaty, Rich
Shprekher, Leonid
Sprenger, Magnus
Stefaniwsky, Dmitri
Swenson, Nils
Vatsky, Carol
Waring, Nelson
Weiss, Henry
Wong, Paul
Wurst, Alexander

Board Meeting Minutes

New Jersey Chapter of the BMW CCA
Board Meeting - July 27, 2006

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Warren Brown, John Csuri, Al Drugos, Bob Isbitski, Ross Karlin, Brian Morgan. Board Members absent: Mark Derienzo, Jerry Faber, Bob Conway. Others present: David Finch, Jeff White, Blake Smith, Vic Lucariello, Sr., Elihu Savad.

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM at the Grand Colonial.

Al Drugos waived the reading of the minutes and John Csuri seconded - motion passed.

President

Neil Gambony reported that National needs all candidates for national offices by October 31.

Vice President

Brian Morgan reported that there was a good turnout for the monthly membership meeting at Circle BMW. Brian sent a thank-you note. A projector and screen are needed for the August 16th membership meeting. Ross will bring a projector and Elihu will bring a screen. Brian will be taking David Haueter out to dinner. If anyone wants to go, let Brian know. The September meeting will be at Flemington BMW. In October Brian will report on his Goodwood trip.

Treasurer

Warren Brown has not been able to resolve the ZF Award accounting. Warren reported a \$6001 profit from the ITS/Advanced Drivers School and an approximately \$1500 profit from the Lime Rock Park Drivers School and Club Race. Al will provide Elihu with the name of a porta-john company that may have better prices than our current provider. Ross will apply for National monies in support of the ITS school.

Social Events

Al Drugos reported that about 60 people attended the picnic. Thanks to David and Peggy Finch for hosting the picnic this year. The winner of the para-plane ride had a great time. Al will provide pictures for the newsletter. Bob Isbitski requested a show and shine at next year's picnic. Brian Morgan suggested that we might want to have an event at the Unionville Winery. We should start promoting the banquet early this year and try to have it on a Saturday.

Driving Events

Bob Isbitski will put a posting on the website asking for a Whack Your Turkey Rally Master. He sent out the new member letters. Neil would like a membership contest. Elihu reported that the autocross sites are available in October, but are probably not appropriate for a Teen Street Survival School.

Driver Schools

We have approximately 50 students for the Summit Point Drivers School and Race. Acceptance emails for Summit Point will go out tomorrow. Vic raised the issue of a cut-off date for drivers school applications. This decision was deferred to the Drivers School Committee.

John Csuri will contact LRP to discuss lowering their prices. We may want to conduct a web poll to see where our members want to have driving schools. We need to make sure dates aren't so close together next year. Ross will talk to Davis Rieman concerning insurance for people's cars on the track.

Club Race

Registration for the Summit Point Club Race is close to 50 racers for this premier event. Ross requested that we get the flat bed tow truck. Tony at VAC is providing t-shirts. We can arrive at the track at 6pm Friday and start tech shortly after. John said that he had an offer from an attendee with a light-bar-equipped wagon for the pace car. It was suggested that we tech any car that will be on the track. Larry Fletcher will be in charge of timing and scoring.

Autocross

Forty-two students attended the July 23rd autocross and got 11 runs each.

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The next autocross is August 20 at PNC. September 10th at PNC and two autocrosses in October are being planned. Elihu will get the results to Bob Isbitski so that Bob can update the Champ Series points.

Dealer Liaison

David Finch - no report.

New Business

Neil will pick up the filing cabinet of Roundels at Vic's.

The next meeting was set for August 24th. Al motioned to adjourn at 9:08, Jeff seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Kolar (Secretary)



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Summit Point Club Race

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qualified, that would amount to the protestor having executed a pass for position before we got to the starting grid! Not a bad idea if you're hunting points. However, it turns out that one is allowed to run an ITS compliant car in KP, as long as this is declared prior to the race. I had my SCCA log book (which demonstrates the car was inspected for an SCCA race and found to comply with ITS rules). All I needed to do was declare that I was running an ITS prepared car, make note of that in my BMW CCA log book, put some decals on, and I was back in the running for KP! So my cheating offense, such as it was, was easily remedied and the race went on. In the end I placed third in class, eight seconds behind second-place Billy Jack Etheridge, and Nick Rubenstein again got credited with a win. I also learned a lot about the differences between ITS and KP car prep. I have the winter to pick a rule set and work on improving the car within those rules.

I owe special thanks to fellow racer Marshall Lytle, who lent me his SCCA General Competition Rules on racing. I had to produce this for the tech inspection team in order to pass muster with an ITS prepared car. I also owe thanks to Neil Gambony, our chapter president, who donated one of his mirrors (somehow mine fell off during a practice run) and lots of elbow grease to help re-attach my exhaust system which had been knocked loose during the sprint. Of course, this required a part I didn't have with me and I ran looking for "Ziggy" who graciously provided what I needed. These highlights of camaraderie embody for me the spirit of our club races and driver's schools, cheaters and points be damned!

Autocrossing

July 23 and Aug 20 autocross

July 23 gave us a great weather day for an autocross; our first at the Commerce Bank Ballpark blue lot. The modest attendance of 42 drivers gave everyone 11 runs at the short, demanding course. Where were you? You missed a great one!

This was our first autocross using our new software/laptop/generator setup, and everything worked! The new results format will show complete results of all runs, and should be available much sooner. Our thanks to Mike and Brent for helping implement this improvement in our score-keeping.

Long-time chapter hot-shoe and former autocross chairman Jim LaForge was narrowly edged out of first in X class. Jim brought a co-driver for his Miata; his daughter Lisette, who did a respectable job of mastering the course, and seemed to have a great time all around.

The August 20 autocross at the PNC Bank Arts Center had to be cancelled, as the south lot was trashed by the good citizens who attended the WKTU Beatfest the night before. Broken glass was everywhere (see photo), and it would take several days of cleaning to make it useable again.

Our remaining schedule looks like this:

September 10 at PNC

October 15 at Commerce Bank Ballpark blue lot.

November 5 at Commerce Bank Ballpark blue lot.

After 3 autocrosses that apply toward the champ series, there is a 3 way tie for first place:

Jaime Kavalieros, Mike Marvuglio and Brent Jerolomic all have 30 points, closely followed by T.J. Pierson with 26 points. This will probably change after Sept 10.

Our thanks and appreciation to Ken Herskovitz for donating to the autocross committee a set of six Motorola FRS walkie-talkies.



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Classified Editor Chet Marfatia

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VIN: WBADM6340YGU21532

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VIN: WBAHE5234SGA65507

Oxford green/tan leather, 128.2k miles, 6-speed, "M" pkg., 17" alloys, one of 135, 6-disc CD, ASC+T, alusil at 50K, dealer serviced, new struts, water pump, Bridgestone SO3 Tires, garaged, no accidents, non-smoker, excellent condition, pic avail, \$15,500. Dick: 609-896-1665 (d); 609-896-4236 (n); 609-462-7693: jsmith2389@aol.com. (10/2006)

1993 BMW 325i

4-dr auto 120,000 miles runs well all has some body dings but is in solid running order \$2000. Cell 908-764-1927; home 908-351-4421. (10/2006)

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Wheels for Sale

4 Conti Contacts on E39 OEM wheels. Perfect for E28 or E39. Tires like new, wheels true. \$500 for set. Joe @ 973 989-5500 or joem52002@hotmail.com. (10/2006)

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16inch Fuchs, 6 CD changer, heated sport seats, limited slip, engine stock, new rotors, new tires, lowered, rolled fenders, improved suspension, Cool Brake Kit, harness bar, belts, fire extinguisher, well sorted for DE, autocross, detailed, photos available, \$24,500. John Lamont, Chatham, NJ, 201-213-6031, or e-mail: johnlamont@optonline.net. (10/2006)

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Hot Wheels

Photo by Jerry Faber

NJ Chapter Calendar

September, 2006

Sunday, September 10

Autocross at PNC Arts Center. See website for details.

Wednesday, September 20

Monthly membership meeting at Flemington BMW. The Chapter returns to Flemington BMW for a technical presentation from BMW NA.

Monday, September 25

Driver School at Lime Rock Park, CT. See website for details.

October, 2006

Sunday, October 15

Autocross at Commerce Ball Park in Bridgewater. See website for details.

Wednesday, October 18

Monthly membership meeting at the Deutscher club. Chapter VP and Roundel Motorsports Editor Brian Morgan will report on his visit to the 2006 Goodwood Festival of Speed in the UK. The festival is one of the world's largest vintage motorsport events. Meeting starts at 8pm.

November, 2006

Sunday, November 5

Autocross at Commerce Ball Park in Bridgewater. See website for details.

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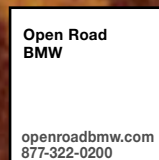


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