



New Jersey Bulletin

BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA
NEW JERSEY CHAPTER
March 2008

<http://www.njbmwcca.org>

Volume 39 Number 3

Want to Drive?

Have you ever been to one of our excellent Driver Schools? If not, we have a special offer for you. How would you like to learn how to drive your car, on a real racetrack, with our great team of instructors guiding you each step of the way - on and off the track?

We're happy to announce a special Driver School offer for those who have never been on the track. This "Newbie Special" is the perfect opportunity for you to dip your toe into one of the most exciting, fastest growing sports - and have more fun than you can imagine!

The Newbie Special goes like this: sign-up now for our one-day school at Lime Rock Park, held on 4 April (Friday). When you register, be sure to enter "Newbie Special" in the "Notes" field. We will then guide you each step of the way.

We'll connect you with your mentors right away who will help you with all the details. Our experienced team will provide guidance on how to prepare, what to bring, what to expect, where to stay, etc. Our Tech mentor will provide advice on what you need to do to prepare your car for the event. We're here to help - before, during, and after the event.

If you don't have a helmet to use, we may be able to help. We now have helmets that we can loan to you for the event (limited number and sizes, so sign-up early!).

To show our appreciation, you will receive a \$50 discount coupon for one of our other schools (we know you'll be back).

Come see why NJBMWCCA Driver Schools are considered the best - since 1974.

To register, and for more information, please visit www.njbmwcca.org

Questions? Please email Jeff White at jwhite@njbmwcca.org

Warning: Driving on a racetrack could be addictive.

Already Addicted? - See page 11

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

2008 Banquet



Champ Series Winner James Kavalieros and Runner-up Jon Trudel



Happy Banquet-goers



President Neil gives speech



Dancing into the night...

Photos by Jerry Faber

BMW of Morristown

Opening Spring 2008



Now Hiring for all Positions:

BMW knowledge is required for all positions.

BMW CCA members and enthusiasts are encouraged to apply

- Receptionist
- Service Technicians.
- Alignment Specialist
- Quality control
- Driver / Valet
- Parts Advisors / Picker

Application in person only, looking for motivated, customer oriented, outgoing personalities. On job training, competitive compensation, excellent benefits.

*Become a member of the **Open Road** family.*

BMW of Morristown

170 Madison Ave.
Morristown NJ 07960

President's Line

I hope by the time you read this the Jon Corzine Toll Road 800% Increase Plan is history. A 99-year plan. Would it have kept NJ property taxes (the highest in the nation) from increasing? Jon wanted these roadways, the NJ Turnpike and the Garden State Parkway, to be the solution of New Jersey's problems ever since he took office. They're being used as a cash cow for the political feeding trough.

Why is he going after people who drive cars and trucks and only on those roads? The plan didn't make sense to me since there are no provisions for the people who don't drive on these roads to help in paying down the debt. It would have caused congested alternate roads and the increase in fees for any commerce that has to travel these roads.

A solution - maybe reduce spending; our budget is the same size as the one in Pennsylvania. I'm sure you'll let me know it's not that easy. How about letting me have several million taxpayer dollars and I'll try to think of another solution while sitting on my beach chair in the Caribbean and trying to keep left while driving.

I know the weather is a bit frigid now (I'm writing this in Feb) but soon it will be warm enough to hit the track or tracks as the case may be. Lime Rock Park is upon us on Friday April 4th while Summit Point's Advanced Driver School and Instructor Training School is Monday and Tuesday April 14th - 15th. This event at Lime Rock Park could be as historic as our first visit there in 1974 since it may be our last. It's a two-part reason for possibly being the last, one is the change of business model for LRP that doesn't provide us for favorable dates and the second is the lack of response for students of the school. We do have a discount promotion for our driver schools including Lime Rock, details are on the website.

The Autocross schedule is out and it looks like a full one. There will be an Autocross School on Sunday April 13th and a Club members only Autocross later in the year. Autocrossing is a great way to learn car control that is useful in the real world, although it will take more than one autocross to master it.

Thanks to the Shade Tree Garage in Morristown for our February Club

meeting. Their technician Phil was very informative on suspension and alignment and more importantly how to tell when it's gone bad. He also had some useful tips on setting alignment at the track should you need an adjustment after an impromptu repair. Now if we can just get him to the track to make the adjustments.

The March Club meeting will be at Len's House of Cars in Jamesburg on the 19th and will be on car detailing, the perfect thing to know about having to deal with the winter's affects on your cars appearance. The meeting starts at 7 pm.

Some news from the BMW CCA's National Office: the results from the elections that were held in February gave us Bruce Hazard as our new President. That's not really a surprise since he had run unopposed. The results for the Executive Vice-President have the incumbent Mark Jon Calabrese defeating Leonard Mueller. For the North Atlantic Region, John Sullivan from the Boston Chapter will continue on for another 2 years as our Regional Vice-President.

Once again there is a membership contest through the National Office. Prizes range from an extension of your Club membership to an admission to the BMW Performance Driving School at Spartanburg. The contest runs through September 14, 2008. When you refer a new member please be sure they have your membership number for you to be credited for their referral. For a complete list of prizes and contest rules, you can go to the BMW CCA's website at: www.bmwcca.org.

Block your calendars for September 23- 27 2008. That's the date for the BMW CCA's OctoberFest, this year being held in historic Watkins Glen, NY. There will be driving schools, Autocrossing, TSD and Fun Rallies, Club Races, and a Concours along with other events for the whole family. For more information, please go to: www.bmwccaofest.org. It's the perfect time of year to be in upstate New York for the fall foliage but I have to warn you, there are many vineyards in the area.

Neil Gambony
neilix@earthlink.net

Welcome New Members

Allan Barja
John Cardoso
Cynthia Ciancimino
Bradley Cutler
Kaz Czulowski
Peter Danysh
Gail Danysh
Tom Drabik
David Edwards
William Farrell
Matt Fassnacht
Jeffrey Gluck
Mike Gruener

Alf Gruener
Anthony Guerrieri
Robert Hallinan
Gail Hoovler
Guy Hoovler
Forrest Hull
Asad Kazi
Jamaluddin Kazi
Mahazabeen Kazi
Brandon Kimmins
Glenn Kolansky
Steinar Kolas
Jozef Kurasinski

Anthony Latronica
Amy Latronica
Gerald Levine
Jason Lockman
Christopher Maisco
Frank Malgapo
Christopher Mather
Ron Miele
Joseph Modero
Frank Natto
Frank O'Leary
Tom Razmologov
Giovanni Reynoso-Perez

Warren Selden
Sean Serino
Jeff Shulman
Richard Smith
Andrew Staiano
Richard Steiner
Dale Strickler
JP Tracey
James Tracey
Chris Whiteside
Tony Yang

Drivers School Registration Open

On-line registration is now open for our 2008 Drivers Schools. Once again all registration will be electronic via links of the chapter website. If you have not participated in one of our schools previously, you will need to create an account for yourself then fill in information about yourself and your car. For those of you who used our system last year, please take the time now to verify and update your personal and vehicle information and be sure your e-mail address is correct. All communication regarding our schools is via e-mail.

Our big news for this year is that we will now accept payment via credit/debit card. We have chosen Google Checkout to be our vendor for this service. The first time you elect to pay via this method you will be taken from the Registration section of the chapter website to Google. You will need first to create an account for yourself on Google and enter your card information including billing address and an e-mail address for confirmations (this is a one-time step). From there you will have the ability to pay for each school electronically. Importantly, all credit card information is

stored on Google's secure servers - the chapter has no access to this information. Eliminate the need to mail in separate checks and wait for your acceptance; electronic payment speeds the whole process. Naturally, if you prefer to mail in a check, we still accept that method of payment but remember that you are not accepted into the school until the Registrar receives your check.

Registration is open for our April school at Lime Rock Park (our First Annual Last Chance to Drive Lime Rock school) and our joint DelVal/NJ school in August at Thunderbolt raceway in Millville. Register early for both schools to be sure of your acceptance. We hope to open all our schools at Summit Point by the time the newsletter reaches your mailbox.

So, register early and mark your calendars. We look forward to seeing you at the track. -Jeff White



Philes' Forum

by Vic Lucariello

Hello Bimmerphiles! By the time you read this, Ol' Man Winter should have loosened his icy grip upon us, and the NJ Chapter season-opening driver school at Lime Rock Park on Friday, April 4th should be only a few weeks away! I hope you will join us at this event. Lime Rock was the venue for the very first NJ Chapter driver school, way back in 1974, and we have been holding at least one event there every year since then. Sadly, due to ever escalating event costs at Lime Rock and other factors, this may be the last year we hold a driver school there. So if you want to be a part of the NJ Chapter's proud history at Lime Rock, be sure to sign up for this school [Assuming there are still spots available.]. See the Chapter website for registration details.

For the first time in NJ Chapter driver-school history, we are accepting credit- card payment of school fees. Moreover, we are offering some exciting promotions to encourage increased driver school participation. My personal favorite is if you attend Lime Rock and get a friend who has never been there with the NJ Chapter to attend as well, you BOTH save \$50 on your next NJ driver school [excludes the Thunderbolt joint event in August with the Delaware Valley Chapter]! How cool is that? Note that BOTH you and your friend can be first timers with us at Lime Rock and still qualify for the promotion. Lessee, pay by credit card, attend with a friend, you both save \$50, you both get to drive Lime Rock Park's legendary road course.....how can you NOT sign up??

I still wish to receive copies of your NJMVC emissions-inspection reports. You can either mail a photocopy of your report [preferred], or simply e-mail the test data. [Include your name, too, if you want to be famous and be mentioned in Philes' Forum!] Please include both the test results and the pass/fail criterion for each pollutant along with your model and year, transmission type, and mileage. If you know at what mileages your oxygen sensor and spark plugs were last replaced, include that as well. Please indicate what, if any, modifications have been made to your motor [aftermarket chip, intake, exhaust, etc.] and your exact model number [eg: 328i, not 3-Series].



Photo #1 Bowl Cover

Many BMW M20-series motors [belt-driven, single overhead cam 6 cylinders found in E30, E28 and E34 Series US-spec cars] are fitted with a brace between the engine and transmission. BMW refers to this part as a "Bowl Reinforcement". See Photo #1. The brace is usually removed in order to remove the transmission. Removing the brace will expose a number of oil-pan-attaching bolts. See Photo #2. So, while the brace is off, take the opportunity to check the tightness of the oil-pan bolts. I'll bet you find that at least one of them is loose! Torque them to 10 newton-meters [7 lb-ft]. Many times I have seen an oil-pan-gasket leak from under the brace mimic an engine rear-seal leak or a transmission front seal leak. So be sure to check this out if you suspect your motor has either. Removing the oil pan is much easier than removing the transmission; especially if you



Photo #2 Oil-Pan Bolts Exposed.

remove the transmission and don't find the leak you seek.

One of the simplest, yet important, maintenance items you can perform on your Bimmer is replacement of the wiper blades. Simply unclip and remove the old blade from the wiper arm and pop in the new blade. BMW made it easier for us by designing the wiper arm such that when it is pulled far enough away from the windshield, the arm's spring goes "over center" and holds the arm off the windshield. I have seen this literally 2-minute job turn into a several-hundred-dollar fiasco when the wiper arm, after the blade has been removed, snaps back down on the windshield and cracks it! Believe me, it only takes a slight bump on the arm to make it do this! The solution is pretty simple: Before you begin the blade-change operation, place a folded-up towel under the wiper blade. See Photo #3. DUHHHH.....



Photo #3 DUHHH.

That's all for now, Bimmerphiles. See you next time. At Lime Rock!!

Anyone wishing to contribute to Philes' Forum should contact me at vic.sr@njbmwcca.org. I'm interested in tech tips, repair /maintenance questions and/or tips, repair horror stories, emissions inspection sagas, product evaluations, etc.

Photos by V.M. Lucariello, P.E.
Copyright 2008; V.M. Lucariello, P.E.

Board Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2008

Board members present: Neil Gambony, David Hirschhorn, Penny Galossi, Barry Stevens, Jeff White, Warren Brown, Bob Conway, Al Drugos and Deborah Kolar. Board members absent: Jerry Farber and Ross Karlin. Others present: Blake Smith, Elihu Savad, Paul Ngai, Alfredo Galossi, and David Allaway.

President

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM at Café Cucina. Penny Galossi waived the reading of the minutes. Al Drugos seconded.

National announced that a new executive director, Frank Patek, started in February. Neil reported that the ZF Award application is due in March. Neil is working on this with Ross Karlin.

As last year, if you pre-purchase a ticket to the NY Auto Show for Saturday, March 22, you can be escorted in early by BMW.

Vice President

Barry Stevens reported that the January membership meeting with Dinan Engineering went very well. The February meeting will be at Shade Tree Garage in Morristown with discussions on virtual steering and suspension problems unique to BMWs. March will feature detailing at Len's House of Cars in Jamesburg. (This meeting has been rescheduled to March 19th).

Treasurer

Warren Brown provided the financial report which included the deposit for the Lime Rock Park April Driver School and banquet costs. Financials must be filed with BMW CCA National by April and the government by mid-May.

Newsletter

The Bulletin deadline will continue to be the first of the month, with the exception of the Club Race issue. We need to add the BMW CCA service officers to the Bulletin mailing list and apply for rebate monies.

Social Events

Al Drugos reported that over 70 people attended the banquet at the Grand Colonial, Saturday February 9. There was a buffet dinner, soda, coffee & tea with a cash bar. It was agreed that we should have a picnic this year, but not on Father's Day.

Driving Events

The Driver School Committee is working on a promotional strategy. Bob is also working on a mass e-mailing to promote our driver schools.

Bob gave out 10 \$50-off certificates to novice drivers at the banquet to encourage attendance at the Lime Rock Park and Shenandoah driver schools.

Driver Schools

Jeff White reported that registration is open for all 5 of this year's events: Lime Rock Park Driver School (April 4), Summit Point Driver School & Instructor Training School (April 14-15), Summit Point Driver School & Club Race (July 26-27), Thunderbolt Driver School joint event with Del. Val. (August 22-24), Shenandoah Driver School (September 13-14). We have received a significant number of registrants, most notably more than 60 for Thunderbolt. Jeff congratulated Bob and Greg for setting up credit card processing. The new minor waiver has been posted to the website and Jeff has ordered new printed waivers.

Race

There was a discussion of changing the format and/or location for students from the Westlake School, since there will not be a Lime Rock Park Club Race this year.

Autocross

Elihu Savad is working on the autocross schedule. He is trying to avoid conflicts with driver school events, but it may not always be possible. He is using last year's budget as the basis for this year and including two Teen Street Survival Schools and a Car Control Clinic in the Autocross schedule and budget. David Ngo has volunteered to run Street Survival.

We need an EMT for our events.

There may be one BMW CCA members-only autocross this season.

Bob Conway reported that he will be meeting with the Autocross committee soon.

Elihu requested that a laptop computer be purchased for Autocross registrations. Warren made a motion to purchase this PC. Barry seconded. The motion passed.

Instruction

Blake Smith currently has over 90 attendees signed up for the Instructor Seminar. Al is arranging for the banquet room at the Grand Colonial. Blake will get a screen and Bob will bring a projector.

Dealer Liaison

Penny Galossi reported that we need to coordinate our appeals to dealerships. Paul Ngai requests payment for ads in January and February. This is the same timeframe that Penny was requesting door prizes for this year's banquet. It was suggested that next year we request banquet prizes in November and December. We may want to give free banquet tickets to each contributing dealership.

Bob Conway suggested that Paul sell web ads. We can also offer a free web ad as a promotional offering.

DR. COLORCHIP™
AUTOMOTIVE PAINT CHIP REPAIR SYSTEMS

Can Your BMW Touch-Up Paint do this?

BEFORE **AFTER**

...Ours Can!

Fast, Simple, Dramatic Repairs... No Paint Blobs!

Better than Paint Pens.
The cure for 'Road Rash'

Take Care of Your Bimmer.
Order your paint chip repair kit today.

(561) 626-9335 **DrColorChip.com**

New Business

Bob would like a banner with our logo and website.

The next board meeting is Wednesday, March 26th at 7:30 PM at Café Cucina. Warren Brown motioned to adjourn at 8:55, Al Drugos seconded.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Kolar

A Bright Healthy Smile for Life ...PRICELESS!

ELIHU N. SAVAD, DDS
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry

1130 Raritan Road, Cranford, NJ
908-272-5703

10% Discount for NJ Chapter Members

MC, Visa, Discover, Most Major Dental Plans Accepted
Senior Discounts • Saturday Appointments Available

Once upon an e30, the saga continues...

Last month you read about my newest acquirement and recent source of anguish. More problems came up since my last writings. The biggest issue, fuel, and it was everywhere! Several days after I did my initial repairs on the car, I filled the gas tank for the first time. The station attendant came to my window with a horrified look and told me my car is spilling gas all over the place. I was informed to roll the 318i forward so they can put some absorbent "kitty litter" on the spill before it seeps into the concrete.

"What now?" I thought. I looked under the car and it was coming from the top of the gas tank on both sides. This can't be good. Talk about a rolling death trap. Luckily, I was only a block from home so I decided to limp it back and park my increasingly problematic Bimmer before it turned into a Bavarian bonfire.

At this point I decided to solve all issues with a \$.99 fix, "FOR SALE." I hate to abandon projects, but sometimes you have to know when to hold 'em, and when to fold 'em. For almost a month, the car turned into the yard gnome of the complex. It sat unloved and untouched. Several people inquired but no one really wanted to take the plunge. I guess it was up to me to solve the riddle.

Back to the shop to spend another day in awkward positions covered in fuel and dirt. This time, the find was down right frightening. I removed the rear seat and pulled the trap door to see where all of the fuel was pouring out of. It didn't take long to find the problem. The sending unit was loose with no o-ring. Yup, it was just lying on top of the tank. I lifted the unit to find the locking tabs were all facing up (they are supposed to be flat) and the area was covered with some sort of flaking red sealant. Holy cow, you have to be kidding me! What kind of hack job technician would do a repair like this? At this point, I don't think this car was taken to a real mechanic in years. It was time to take matters into my own hands and do the job right.

I ordered a new fuel tank, more fuel line, and a sending unit to fix the broken fuel gauge. Also, I bought a new exhaust from the catalytic converter back since the old one was on its way out. The parts arrive several days later and back to the shop I went to finally get this car road worthy and safe. If you are not familiar with this repair, you have to drop the exhaust and driveshaft out of an e30 to remove the gas tank. It was a relatively easy job since I had access to a lift, but time consuming. I replaced all of the rubber lines and prepared the new tank for installation. I pulled the prepump assembly from the old tank, and noticed that someone had their hands on that too. There was a strange aftermarket in-the-tank pump rigged to the original prepump unit. Now get this... whoever was inside the tank, wired up this new pump and grounded one wire to the unit and then left EXPOSED WIRES INSIDE THE TANK! That's right, bare current carrying electrical wire inside a fuel tank. How scary is that? Plus, the pump was actually on an angle inside the tank because it was too long. They just shoved the thing in there even though it was 2-3" too long.

Not taking any chances, I ordered a brand new prepump, which would delay me two days more to finish the job. At least I was able to assemble everything else and just install the prepump using the access door under the rear seat when it arrives. When the correct pump showed up in the mail, my good friend who owns this workshop was going to install it for me. Finally, all fuel issues taken care of and now I can enjoy the car.

But wait there's more... You really think it would end there? Oh no my friends, it doesn't end there. My buddy with the shop was nice enough to leave the car on his lift this whole week while we worked on it and he installed the prepump for me since I was not able to due to work. I get a phone call "Good news and bad news, everything is back together but the car doesn't start". In the immortal words of Charlie Brown, "Good Grief." What else can go wrong? I wanted to bang my head against the wall. Get this - the main fuel pump was not working the whole time. Since the rigged up in-the-tank pump was a higher pressure pump than the normal prepump, the car had been running on that the whole time and pushing fuel through the old, non-functioning main pump. By installing the correct and safer unit, the car was unable to run on just the normal prepump. Back on the phone today to order a fuel pump now. Argh!

Buy your parts from BavAuto and save:

- **Free shipping** on most orders over \$150. Exceptions apply to heavy/oversized items and shipments to AK, HI, PR, APOs, etc.
- **No sales tax.** It doesn't matter what state you live in, we're in tax-free New Hampshire.
- **Best price guarantee.** We'll match any advertised price for same-brand, in-stock items. Details are on our web site.



BMW parts, accessories and knowledge since 1974.

www.BavAuto.com • 800.535.2002

Download FREE tech & DIY articles at www.BavAuto.com/newsletter.

So now if all goes right this should (oh please I hope) take care of all the fuel issues and maybe I can drive this car. Someone tell me why I insist on buying these older BMWs? Didn't I just say something about holding and folding?

JT Burkard (Send comments and suggestions to: jtformula@aol.com)

2008 AUTOCROSS SEASON!

We have a schedule of events planned that should give us a full season.

We start off with an autocross school on April 13, followed by a series of eight competition events.

April	13	Autocross school	Ballpark	
April	27	Autocross	PNC	
May	4	Autocross	Ballpark	
June	1	Autocross	Ballpark	Members only
June	22	Autocross	PNC	
June	29	TSS	NJ Expo center	
July	27	Autocross	Ballpark	
Sept	28	Autocross	Ballpark	
Oct	12	Autocross	Ballpark	
Nov	2	Autocross	Ballpark	

As before, we will use Patriots Park blue lot in Bridgewater, and the PNC Bank Arts Center south lot in Holmdel. Our rates for 2008 will be \$35 for CCA members, and \$45 for non-members. Please submit your new member applications early!

The June 1 autocross is planned to be a closed event for chapter members only. We are looking for 10-12 runs each! I left a gap for August; we are looking for an autocross date at PNC Center, but the actual date may not be known for a few months. It will be Aug 10 or 17.

Please watch the website for updates and information for registration and classification.

The Only Road for Extraordinary BMW Savings Leads to JMK

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

WE'RE
BUILDING,
YOU'RE
SAVING!

GREAT LEASE & FINANCE RATES
NOW IN EFFECT!

OUR NEW STATE OF THE ART FACILITY WILL INCLUDE:

- 120,000 Square Feet of Sales, Service and Parts.
- Covered Service Drive Area
- Customer Waiting Area with Internet Access/Workstations and Parts Boutique.
- 2 Level Parking Deck with 90 Car Inside Display Area.
- Opening 2nd Quarter 2009!

A FAMILY TRADITION SINCE 1965!

JMK

ISN'T IT TIME?

ROUTE 22 EAST • SPRINGFIELD, NJ
1-800-BMW-LEASE

JMK BMW

JMKBMW.COM
1.800.BMW.LEASE



The Ultimate
Driving Machine®

JMKBMW.com

It's Sunday Morning and My Hair is a Mess!

By Thom Rossi

I had a simple plan for this weekend. Wake up on Saturday, get a haircut, then do a brake job on the Lexus. But life has a way of thwarting simple plans by imposing its own priorities.

Friday night it was snowing and Mrs. R. and I were relaxing in our living room, watching Michael Clayton (rated by Mrs. R. and me as "two thumbs down", by the way) on Pay Per View. Around 11 pm we were struggling to keep our eyes open for the last few minutes of the movie when we received a text message from our son letting us know that he was just about to leave the high school and come home. We gave him the customary parental advice: the roads are going to be slippery, be careful and come right home. He gave us the customary teenage response: we were ignored. Fifteen minutes later, the phone was ringing. Before I go any further with this story, let me reassure all the parents who are reading this and already dreading the next sentences that no one got hurt. The moment Mrs. R. picked up the phone, though, was the exact moment that I lost control of my weekend. Chris had skidded into a telephone pole on a back road in Raritan Township. The car was un-drivable with extensive damage to the front right.

My priorities on Saturday morning got completely shifted around to dealing with the aftermath of the accident. In the early afternoon, just as I was getting ready to get back to my own agenda and head out the door to get the parts for the brake job, a Fedex arrived with our 2007 tax returns. This provided another distraction as my new priority became to review and sign the tax returns, get copies made, and complete the last step in our applications for financial aid for the numerous colleges Chris has applied to. By the time I finally got the parts for the Lexus and got back to my garage it was time to get ready for our daughter Jenny's Birthday party. Arrgggh! Before even heading into this weekend, though, I was reminded that life's agenda is unpredictable in major ways for everyone. Earlier in the week, Ford Motor Company announced that it is offering buy outs to 10,000 of its employees. Ford is offering employees a one-time cash payment of up to \$140,000, and various options that include help with college tuitions and health care, to quit the company. Life is about to take a major left turn for 10,000 people who will wake up the morning after they sign their separation agreements and will have to create a new livelihood. It's not just American car companies and workers that have to deal with the unexpected priorities life is throwing at them. In Japan, domestic automobile sales for sedans have fallen over 30% since 1990.

We New Jersey residents are certainly no strangers to dealing with a changing economic landscape. We have seen iconic companies like AT&T rise and fall. We have seen the pharmaceutical industry so critical to our state's economy expand, contract, consolidate and sputter.

Yet there is a silver lining to these clouds of unanticipated change based upon our amazing ability to adapt to new realities. It seems that in some ways the strength of our economy and our nation is based upon the ability to destroy its existing framework and make way for the new. Who knows what innovations the people who are being shed from Ford and the other Detroit companies will produce? Tens of thousands of people are leaving Ford, GM and Chrysler. Some will probably shift to working in service providers to the Big 3. Maybe some will even become competitors to their old companies by jumping into the scrappy world of start-ups. Certainly there are market trends that the big auto companies have not been able to adapt to. Is there an opportunity for a new small company to specialize in ultra compact, alternative fuel, city cars? Or to design and build cars specifically marketed to younger drivers: super green and loaded with electronic entertainment? I don't know, but I'm sure there are groups of soon-to-be-former Ford employees who are thinking about these things and may yet provide the rest of us with an automotive product of a type we haven't seen for decades. Something with the hip factor and popular appeal of an i-Pod.

Back in the microcosm of my world, it's Sunday morning and I can now look back on yesterday and say that, yes, some things did get accomplished, even if they weren't the things I expected to be doing. Chris's car has been towed to Vicari's body shop (as Steve phrased it when I spoke to him "all is right with the world," one of my cars is in his shop again). We've filed our insurance claim. We got a rental car to help us keep everybody going where they need to over the next couple of weeks (don't ask why only one car in our fleet is roadworthy at the moment!). The tax returns are done. Jenny had a great time with her friends at her Birthday party. I learned how to play Guitar Hero (Jenny's Birthday present). And I still haven't given up on my goal of getting the brake job done on the Lexus as the first step in my preparation for the driving season (have to get the tow vehicle ready for the long hauls!). Nonetheless, it's Sunday morning, and, much to Mrs. R's dissatisfaction, I never did get that haircut. It's on my list of things to do today, but first...

Thom can be reached at thomrossi@gmail.com

Performance Driving School

The following is a story submitted by Phil Eiseman about his and Melissa Wechsler's experience using the certificate she won at the 2007 NJ annual banquet for a (1) day at the BMW Performance Driving School facility in Greer, S.C.

After a pleasant flight from Allentown, Pa. we arrived at Charlotte, N.C. to find it somewhat colder there than at home. I could tell that Melissa was just a little tense. After 3 years of coming to the track supporting me our rolls were about to change. For the first time she was going to be behind the wheel at a track and in a performance driving School at the factory no less. I think she was feeling what most students feel the day before a school knowing that you will be stepping outside your comfort zone and everyone will be watching, most of us have been there before.

The fun started at the airport when Wesley Parker the branch manager of Enterprise car rentals noticed my BMW hat and jacket and we began talking about cars, a few minutes later Wes had us in a new Mercedes sedan and at a great price. With about 90 miles to drive to Greer we got onto I-85 and headed south. Just starting to settle in Melissa is beginning to relax when as we were approaching a pickup truck being used as a moving van a box spring mattress fly's up right in front of us fortunately the Mercedes was up to some quick steering inputs and we got by, not sure about the 3 lanes of traffic behind us though. I look over at Melissa and see she is no longer relaxed, back it down a notch or two to 75 which seems to do the trick. After a nice but uneventful rest of the day we wake up at 6:30 the next morning ready to go the BMW facility, wow it's 21 degrees out, windy with a dusting of snow! A short ride back up I-85 gets us to exit 60,

very well marked to let everyone know that this is where the BMW factory and school is located. The performance center is a real treat a beautiful, modern building new BMW's everywhere very impressive. Groups of people are getting together in the cafeteria with plenty of coffee and hot drinks. We meet the 12 others who will be in Melissa's group and doing the 1 day school. We learn that at this facility they also do 2 & 3 day schools, teach teen driving skills a advanced M school is also available. Customers can schedule picking up there new car there where they have a beautiful show room with their car all shinned up and waiting. I'm getting the feeling that this is a special place.

The day starts in the classroom where Melissa and her group meet their 4 instructors stories are told and many laughs later everyone is feeling a whole lot more comfortable. At this point they split into two groups of 6 with 2 students per car. Students keeping in touch with instructors via in car radio's. The first group's in new Z 4 coupes and Melissa's group is in new 650 coupes. Out to a series of very nice road courses to do some performance exercises. After which the the group returned some what up tight the exercise was challenging and everyone wished they had done better. The rest of the morning is spent with the two groups changing back and forth between the Z 4's and the 650's while they do an amazing series of avoidance maneuvers, lane changes, and a really cool skid pad on a large polished & watered down concrete circle. After a very nice relaxing southern style buffet style lunch provided by BMW everyone re-grouped in the classroom. The afternoon would be a series of competitive events to show the new skills learned in the morning. First was what they called a rat race on a fairly large watered down oval two cars **(Continued on Page 11)**

SHADE TREE GARAGE

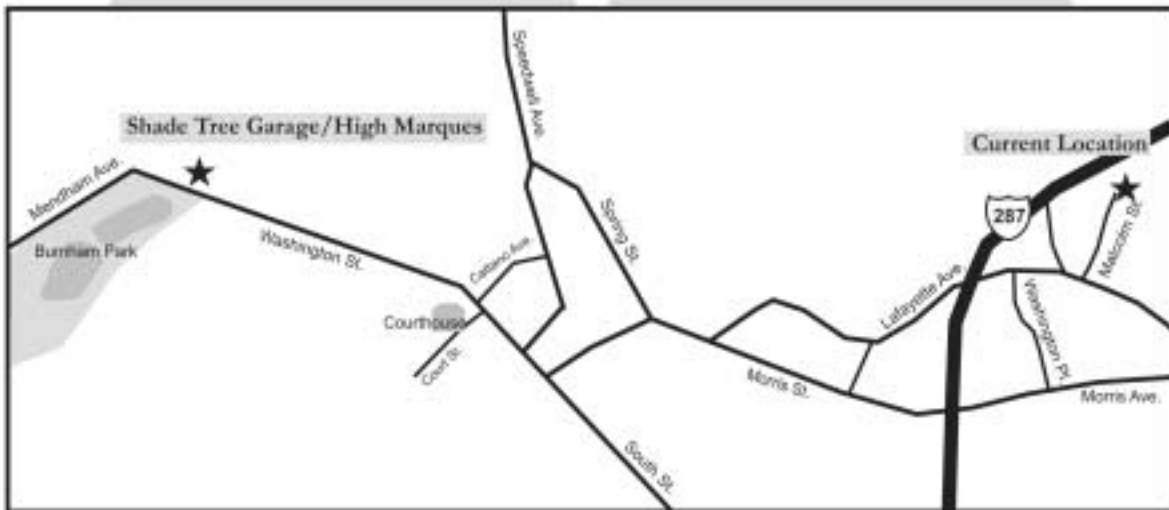
Personal Automotive Services



The Path to Performance
The Ultimate Service Commitment

**In Partnership with
High Marques to make
automotive services personal.**

Again.



171 Washington Street
Morristown, NJ 07960

973-540-9880
www.shadetreegarage.com

NJ Chapter Calendar

March 2008

Wednesday, March 19th
7pm

Len House of Cars, 1 John St. Jamesburg, NJ will host our meeting. They are master detailers and with spring arriving and the winter salt, etc. taking its toll on our cars' finishes, what better way to get started.

April 2008

April 4th

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

April 13

Autocross school at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater.

April 27

Autocross at PNC Arts Center in Holmdel.

May 2008

May 4th

Autocross school at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater.



<u>NJ BULLETIN STAFF</u>		MEMBER AT LARGE	ROSS KARLIN	<u>CLUB RACING COMMITTEE</u>	
EDITOR fbr2002@optonline.net	JERRY FABER	rosskarlin@njbmwcca.org		Chairman	Ross Karlin
CLASSIFIEDS EDITOR ckmarfatia@hotmail.com	CHET MARFATIA	MEMBER AT LARGE dhirsch@njbmwcca.org	DAVID HIRSCHHORN	Scrub	David McIntyre
TECH EDITOR vic.sr@njbmwcca.org	VIC LUCARIELLO	MEMBER AT LARGE pgalossi@moneymailer.com	PENNY GALOSSI	2nd Asst Scrub	Gary Bossert
BUSINESS MANAGER pkngai@yahoo.com	PAUL NGAI	CHAPTER TOOL BOX rgconway@njbmwcca.org	ROBERT CONWAY	4th Asst Scrub	Justin DaSilva
<u>CHAPTER OFFICERS</u>		MEMBERSHIP bisbitsk@benco.com	BOB ISBITSKI	<u>AUTOCROSS COMMITTEE</u>	
PRESIDENT neilix@earthlink.net	NEIL GAMBONY	DEALER LIAISON pgalossi@moneymailer.com	PENNY GALOSSI	Elihu Savad	drautox@comcast.net
VICE PRESIDENT barrystevens@njbmwcca.org	BARRY STEVENS	LEGAL COUNSEL briancm3racer@aol.com	BRIAN CORRIGAN	Ed Walters	teamdfle28@go.com
DRIVING EVENTS rgconway@njbmwcca.org	ROBERT CONWAY	CHAPTER LIBRARY neilix@earthlink.net	NEIL GAMBONY	Robert Steele	steele@whafh.com
SOCIAL EVENTS glaad1auto@netzero.net	AL DRUGOS	TECH TIPS vic.sr@njbmwcca.org	VIC LUCARIELLO	David Ngo	dngo@commvault.com
TREASURER whbrown1@optonline.net	WARREN BROWN	<u>DRIVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE</u>		Pete Revenidis	takibmw7@earthlink.com
SECRETARY deborahkolar@yahoo.com	DEBORAH KOLAR	Chairman	Jeff White	Steve Pulvers	sbpulvers@msn.com
MEMBER AT LARGE jwhite@njbmwcca.org	JEFF WHITE	Chief Tech Advisor	Vic Lucariello	Walter Baliko	balticvid@msn.com
		Chief Instructor	Blake Smith	Charlie Meagher	charlesmeagher@msn.com
		Registrar	Dennis Krug	Larry Engel	lengel@pclient.ml.com
		Member	dkrug@njbmwcca.org	Brent Jerolomic	bjerolomic@comcast.net
		Member	Mark Derienzo	Jim Kavalieros	jimkavo@optonline.net
		Member	Warren Brown	Mike Marvuglio	mmarv@patmedia.net
			David Finch	Mo Karamat	karamatm@optonline.net

HOTLINE : 908-322-2758



<http://www.njbmwcca.org>

This newsletter is a publication of the New Jersey Chapter of the BMW CCA, Inc. and it remains its property. All information furnished herein is provided by the membership for members only. The Club is not associated with BMW of North America nor BMW A.G. and none of the information contained herein bears "Factory Approval" unless so noted. Ideas, suggestions, and all technical opinions are solely those of the authors, without authentication by nor liability to the Editors or the Officers of the Club. Modifications within the warranty period may void your warranty.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are both welcome and encouraged. Contact the *Bulletin* staff by mail or email. Please send your articles, photos, artwork and ideas to: NJ Chapter Newsletter, BMW CCA, PO Box 2305, Westfield, NJ 07091-2305. Permission is hereby granted to copy any and all material contained herein for non-profitable applications provided that proper credit is given to the author and to The New Jersey Bulletin. Copyright 2008, New Jersey Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc. All rights reserved.

ADVERTISEMENT POLICIES

Advertising Rates Per Issue

Full Page - \$300 Half Page - \$160 Quarter Page - \$80 Business Card - \$55

For information on advertising, or for an advertising contract, please contact the Bulletin's business manager, Paul Ngai. Send advertising artwork to the *Bulletin's* PO Box. Send classified advertisements to Chet Marfatia, Classifieds Editor. Please do not send membership renewals or address changes to the Chapter.

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.

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.

Performance Driving School

(Continued from Page 8) are placed at opposite sides of the oval 180 degrees apart, I'm with the instructor in his car, through his radio he gets them set up and starts the rat race, the rat race is seeing who can go around the oval the fastest without sliding out on the slippery watered down oval each race lasts about 7 or 8 laps losers are eliminated until the two best race for the overall win. On to the final event! where I am in the car with the chief instructor as he sets up a interesting course approx. 3/4 of a mile long with tough turns and a series of chicanes within a road course. This is to be a timed event to showcase all of the skills learned during the days events. Everyone is diving new 650's lots of power, lots of weight get the idea? The young guns start first their times are times are around 29 sec.

Carol, Melissa's friend gets her chance and does a 28.2 the fastest time of the first round. Melissa turn, the instructor barks into the radio, OK Melissa are you ready? 3 2 1 GO! Melissa stomps on the gas lifting up the back tires of the 650 off to a quick start, I'm thinking she is going a little too fast and will not get through the first chicane, but she does and somehow keeps a fast pace, setting a time of 27.20 the best time of the entire group, she

went even faster 26.13 on her last run which beat all the young guns and everyone else by about 1.5 seconds. I don't know where the driving competitiveness came from but it was great to see her having so much fun. I have to say that after feeling her apprehension

in the morning I was so happy that Melissa found herself and enjoyed the competition in the afternoon. Everyone in the group enjoyed the special treatment that they received from the instructors and the BMW staff that day and all felt that they now possessed new skills that could be helpful diving out on the road.

The instructors got the group together in the class room at the end of the day everyone received a certificate with their names on them smiles on every face, it was a day to remember. Ms. W says many thanks for the wonderful opportunity which would not have been possible with out the NJ BMW Club, Luv & Thanks to all.

Hooked on Driving?

We're happy to announce a special Driver School Offer for our regular drivers. It's simple:

Attend at least four of our driver schools this year, and we'll give you a free school next year

(The freebie excludes the 2009 joint school we will do with Delaware Valley).

Come see why NJBMWCCA Driver Schools are considered the best - since 1974.

To register, and for more information, please visit www.njbmwcca.org

Questions? Please email Jeff White at jwhite@njbmwcca.org

Warning: Driving on a racetrack could be addictive.



Photos by Jerry Faber

April Driver Schools Register Now!

Our first two driver schools of the season are approaching fast but there is still room in both schools so register now. On Friday April 4 we will be making our only visit to Lime Rock Park for the season. This school is open to all students and is an excellent opportunity to get an introduction to the fun you can have while learning to be a better driver. Moreover, it will be the last chance to drive Lime Rock in its traditional layout before it is reconfigured in June. Ten days later we will hold our annual combined Driver School/ Instructor Training School. The driver school is open to students with previous track experience who can run in either the Intermediate or Advanced student run group. The Instructor Training School is by invitation only. If you have questions about becoming an ITS participant, please e-mail Blake Smith. In this school we strive to provide additional track time for both student run groups, compared to a typical school, so that you can really concentrate on specific corners or techniques to improve your skills.

New this year are two important announcements. 1) We now accept payment by credit/debit card via Google Checkout. 2) We have instituted a series of special promotions to stimulate participation in multiple schools, shown below.

Promotion	Benefit
Register and pay for Lime Rock and Shenandoah by March 28@	\$100 off combined registration fee for both events (\$500 total fee for both)
Attend Lime Rock School	\$50 off registration for Shenandoah#
Attend Summit Point DS/ITS event	\$50 off registration for Shenandoah#
Bring a friend who has never been to Lime Rock	\$50 off for you and your friend to your next school*

@ Must attend both events to receive discount

Cannot be combined with the combined Lime Rock-Shenandoah registration promotion

* Excludes Thunderbolt

Promotions can be combined for even greater savings. Please e-mail the registrar to be sure you are properly credited.

Check the website for more complete descriptions of each school and the promotions as well as registration instructions. We'll see you at the track.

-Jeff White



2008 Driver School Schedule

School	Dates	Location
Lime Rock	April 4	Lime Rock Park, CT
DS/ITS	April 14-15	Summit Point Raceway, WV
Driver School/Club Race	July 26-27	Summit Point Raceway, WV
Thunderbolt School	August 23-24	NJ Motorsports Park, Millville, NJ
Shenandoah	Sept. 13-14	Summit Point Raceway, WV

2008 **335i**
Sport Package
AWD



Denville BMW

973-627-0700

74 Route 46 East, Mountain Lakes, NJ

Denville
BMW

denvillebmw.com



The Ultimate
Driving Machine®

SALES: Mon-Fri 9-9, Sat 9-6
SERVICE: Mon-Fri 8-5

Financing available through BMW Financial, LLC

2008 **1 Series**
Starting at \$28,500
Coming Soon!



Morristown BMW

973-455-0700

170 Madison Ave. (Rt 124), Morristown, NJ

Morristown
BMW

morristownbmw.com



The Ultimate
Driving Machine®

SALES: Mon-Fri 9-9, Sat 9-6
SERVICE: Mon-Fri 8-5

Financing available through BMW Financial, LLC

20% Discount on Parts
to all BMW Club Members

Membership ID Required

2008 **X6**
Coming Soon!



2008 **M3**



Open Road BMW

Open Road
BMW

openroadbmw.com



The Ultimate
Driving Machine®

New Car Sales: 732-985-4575
731 Route 1, Edison, NJ

SALES: Mon-Fri 9-9, Sat 9-6 • SERVICE: Mon-Fri 8-5, Sat 8-2

Pre-Owned Sales: 1-866-BMW-ROAD
540 Route 1, Edison, NJ

SALES: Mon-Fri 9-9, Sat 9-6 • SERVICE: Mon-Fri 8-5, Sat 8-2

Financing available through BMW Financial, LLC