

## ***aus Freude am Fahren***

*(For the joy of driving)*

We were able to wrangle a great keynote speaker for our Second Annual Meeting. Tom Salkowsky has been the BMW corporate “M” brand manager in this country for the last year. If you are new to BMW’s the “M” is for Motorsports and the highly acclaimed BMW M streetcars. As the leader of the division nearest and dearest to our hearts (and right feet), he is responsible for helping to interpret and represent the needs and desires of BMW enthusiasts and racers in this country to BMW NA and BMW AG. He has an intimate insider’s knowledge of the developmental details and decisions that have gone into their most highly engineered street-able vehicles that we all love to drive. More importantly, he is deeply involved in the decision making process of product design and marketing that will define the future of “M” cars for a long time to come. I was able to spend a little bit of time listening to him speak at this year’s Oktoberfest at Spartanburg, South Carolina during Motorsports Day. He is entertaining, focused, dedicated and knowledgeable, and is sure to give us a great insight into the future of “M” and BMW.

Scott Blazey will also talk briefly with us about his vision for the future of the club. We believe he will be able to make a positive contribution to the club and those of us in Iowa when he is elected to fill Dave Farnsworth’s shoes as North Central Region Vice President of BMW CCA. There will also be great food and drink at a reasonable price in a nice

location. There might even be a few surprises.

So why should you as a longstanding ten or twenty year club member attend this, our Second Annual Dinner? Or why should you as a newly minted member courtesy of European Motorcars Des Moines, who has just bought their first BMW and wants to find out what the Iowa Chapter of the BMW CCA is all about attend our Second Annual Dinner? It’s the *people*. Iowa Chapter members define us as a group, and there isn’t a better group of car enthusiasts to be found. A social event like this is a great way to meet like-minded people and have all those questions answered. For example, what it’s like to attend an autocross or a high speed driving school, or a cross-country road rally, or “what’s the hot set up?” or “will it hurt my car?” Hopefully, your curiosity will be aroused enough to attend another Iowa chapter event in the coming year.

We hope to have at least one every month. But, in the end, the best part of this club is the chance to socialize, and in that respect, our first year has been a great success.

Why don’t you plan on helping us celebrate? Also, don’t forget to check our web site for updates at.

[www.bmwia.org](http://www.bmwia.org)



The sun sets on another track season.

*Photo courtesy of Jeff Lacina*

# NewsWorks

Newsletter of the Iowa Chapter of the BMW CCA

## THE WIRE

***Track Junkies***

***New Members***

***Popular upgrades***

***Annual Meeting !***

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## Disclaimer:

The NewsWerks is a publication of the Iowa Chapter of the BMW CCA and is in no way connected with Bayerische Motoren Werke AG. All of its contents shall remain the property of the club. This publication is mailed to chapter members in good standing. The ideas, suggestions and opinions expressed in articles are those of the club and/or its members.

The Editor of this newsletter seeks material suitable for publication by and for its members.

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# Technique

by Doug

## UPGRADES !

So, You have returned all of the , shall we say, impractical Christmas gifts, the weather has got you at bit down, you need a lift. Well, I can't help you with that, but I might be able to advise you on a lift or two for your BMW. Performance upgrades have become one of the most popular activities for us car nuts in recent years. I'm not talking about serious mechanical modifications, but relatively easy to do, bolt on performance items.

By far, the number one thing BMW owners do is to upgrade their engine management software or what is commonly referred to as "chipping". The rule of thumb for this operation is that the older your BMW is the more this upgrade potentially can do for you. You can expect between 10-15 percent in total horsepower increase with the right product and an improvement in drivability and overall performance.

Exhaust systems are another popular bolt on. In my opinion they are mostly a waste of money for added performance unless your system is in need of replacement or you are willing to go the whole route. This might include an exhaust header and software tuning to match your system. Of course many of them sound great, and at least to me, that is worth something.

Aftermarket air filters and cold air induction systems are a relatively cheap engine upgrade that will in most cases produce good results for the money and also make your engine compartment look really cool. Please however, try to refrain from the neon colored anodized aluminum pipes in the interest of good taste.

Plus sizing of tires and wheels is one of the best bang for the buck upgrades, and about as easy mechanically as it comes. If you consult with a reputable company they will show you how easy it is to upgrade the handling and style of your BMW just by switching wheels and tires. Many of these companies now have computer programs that will actually show you what your car will look like before you order a thing. In the same area you might want to think about some minor suspension upgrades. I would start with the sway bars and links. In my opinion they will have the most positive effect on the handling of your BMW with the least amount of potential to ruin your smooth ride. Most of the aftermarket sway bars are somewhat adjustable enabling you to play with the tuning of your suspension. Which leads me to the whole point of this article.... Tuning.

I have heard for years how cars in general have become so much harder to work on. Many of the people I grew up with that tried anything to gain a bit of performance are now taking their car to a professional for even the most basic of maintenance. Hey, that okay, but I hope its because they are getting older and richer and not because they are afraid?

I have been working on cars for more years than I care to count. You know what? They are easier to work on than ever. Thats right, you read that correctly. With a few basic tools and some reading no one should be afraid to do at least basic mechanical work on their car. If, of course, they so desire. Heck, even I can think of many things more enjoyable.

One last thing, Buyer beware, even in the case of BMW upgrades. Check with vendors you trust, check with people who have done similar upgrades, and most of all? Use your club. Many of us have been doing this kind of thing for years. If we can't personally help you? Someone in the BMW CCA can and will be happy to assist. That I can promise.



# Dates to Remember

**January 20<sup>th</sup> 5:45-9:30 p.m.**

It's that time of year again. We have been hard at work planning a great celebration of our first year. With a wide array of good door prizes, upgraded food and drink, and several guest speakers including BMW's own Tom Salkowsky. We even have a few surprises. This year's annual meeting is going to be the place to be in January for anyone that loves BMW's or loves the people that love them.

However, our chapter has grown so much in the last year we could possibly have an overbooked room situation.

Please make sure you send in your reservation which is on the back cover of this issue ASAP. We all look forward to seeing you there.

**February 10th 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

## **Brake Tech Session**

We will all be ready for a tech session by February, and to learn just how easy it is to change our Brakes. Martha has donated her car, Tony his talents, Doug his tools. Here is your chance to get all the inside tricks to saving a few bucks and learning the basics of BMW brakes. I'm sure all of us will learn something and have a good time doing it. We will be holding this event at Easter Seals Camp Sunnyside in the brand new activities center. It should be a bunch of fun! Group Lunch to follow.

**March 29th-31st  
Their 20th Anniversary !**

## **Gateway Tech**

The now famous Gateway Tech in St. Louis is the first National BMW CCA event of the 2001 season. It's also usually about the time our weather warms enough for a nice drive. Why not plan on joining your fellow Iowa chapter members for an event that has become a spring tradition. Last year, we had several Iowa members there and a great time was had by all. We will be having an Iowa chapter meeting at the event this year. Please visit the St. Louis chapter web site for reservation information at [www.stlBMWclub.com](http://www.stlBMWclub.com) and watch for e-mail and Iowa chapter web site updates.

## **Annual Meeting**



**European Motorcars**  
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For all of your new and previously owned BMW needs as well as parts and service contact a certified professional at

**1 800 733 4808**

Or on the web at: [www.eurocarsdesmoines.com](http://www.eurocarsdesmoines.com)

## ***Tom Salkowsky***

**January 2000:** BMW of North America names Tom Salkowsky to the position of M Brand Manager. Tom began his career as a sales consultant at a BMW center after receiving his bachelor's degree in marketing.. He then spent two years on Wall Street before joining the BMW NA team as a member of the Management Associate Program. Salkowsky held positions with BMW's Eastern Region Sales and marketing department, worked with Dealer Development as a market analyst, and most recently was Retail Operations Training Manager within the Professional Development department of BMW NA.

Tom has been very busy his first year with various BMW related motorsports as well as working closely with the BMW CCA.

**January 2001:** On the 20th of January, the ***Iowa Chapter*** is very proud to have Tom Salkowsky as our annual meeting guest speaker. Tom has agreed to visit with us about his first year on the inside of BMW Motorsports and I'm sure will have some very interesting insight into BMW products we can expect to see in the near future. Tom has also mentioned he will bring some BMW "M" goodies along for us.

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to get your reservations in for the Iowa Chapter annual meeting. It promises to a very memorable evening !

### ***Oktoberfest note***

Did anyone else notice who cleaned up in the recent Oktoberfest autocross and slalom events. It was our own Iowa chapter member Russ Wiles. Now, many of us who have been around the club for a while know this is nothing new, Russ and his talented family have been doing this for years in many different BMW's and at many driving events. We are proud to have such a great driver in our chapter, not to mention his brother Tony Wiles who is not only an expert driver in his own right but is our Vice President. *We are all proud of*

***Bavarian ad 9-1-1***

***MechTronics Ad***

# New Members

Welcome to the Club !

Current Iowa membership 396 National membership 56357

Larry Anderson Forest City 323I  
Craig Barnes Clive 330CI  
Art Bauer Clive 740IL  
Stephanie Bell WDM M Coupe  
Alison Bell W Des Moines  
Craig Berenstein Sioux City 325XI  
Davis Bergland Ankeny Z3  
Susan Bilunos Sioux City 540  
Paul Bilunos Sioux City 540  
Tony Boothroyd Urbandale 323CI  
Dorothy Buchner A.Park 740IL  
Alejandra Chavez Oskaloosa 323IA  
John Clark Coralville Z3  
Robert Cramer Boone X5  
Kristan Day Des Moines 323I  
Lynn Ewing W Des Moines 318IC  
Nora Freedman Clive 330IA  
Steven Gleason Des Moines  
Mark Holmes Indianola 323I

Brian Jansen Altoona Z3  
Paul Jennings Johnston 740I  
Reza Kargarzadeh Grinnell 323I  
Frank Kaufman WDM 330IA  
Tiffany Koenig Des Moines 328I  
Karen Loipl Des Moines X5  
Fred Marsh Ankeny 328CI  
Leon McCoullough Oskaloosa 740  
Joann McVicker WDM 323IT  
Todd Mendenhall Des Moines 330I  
Roger Menneke Urbandale Z3  
E Meredith Des Moines 740IL  
Mike Owen Marion 325I  
Richard Pope Dubuque 325  
Helen Redmond Grinnell 323I  
Sanlene Richer Des Moines X5  
Steven Rust Ames 540IA  
Stephen Sandquist W Des Moines  
Bob Sapp Urbandale X5

Jay Sedlacek W Des Moines M5  
Doug Sires Johnston 323I  
Jason Smith W Des Moines 328IS  
Joellen Sperfslage Ankeny 323IA  
Thai Staris Des Moines 733I  
Roger Stetson W Des Moines 328I  
Mary Stewart Grinnell 528IA  
Leonard Strand Cedar Rapids 328  
Sunder Subbaroyan Bettendorf X5  
Manoj Tomar Marion 323  
Earl Underbrink Ft. Dodge 323IA  
Perry Wehrle Brooklyn 330I



## *Membership does have it's privileges*



**BMW CCA  
Membership  
Reward Program  
Savings up to \$1500**

You may be eligible to receive a cash allowance based on the purchase of a new or Certified Pre-Owned BMW automobile through an authorized U.S. BMW center. A membership in the BMW CCA of one year or more immediately preceding the purchase of the vehicle is required to take advantage of this program.

Please see your current *Roundel* for further information or the BMW web site at:

[www.bmwusa.com](http://www.bmwusa.com)

# ANATOMY OF A DRIVING SCHOOL JUNKIE

By Jay Read

If you attend car club performance driving schools, you'll see the same group of hard-core enthusiasts several times a year, at tracks around the Midwest. Who are these people? And why do they do it? Don't they have families, golf clubs, or even a lawn to mow, for crying out loud? Are they type A personalities, taking their road rage to the track? Are they gear-heads, tinkering and testing? Maybe they are wannabe racers without the budget? Or just egomaniacs out to show off their cars and driving skills? There are lots of folks who may or may not be car people who attend a driving school because they want to be with a friend or relative. And there are others who are curious enough to try it once. And some, who buy a new car and just want to try it out. This *is not* about them. What I'm talking about are those who try it once or twice and get hooked. They start doing three to four schools each year. They become driving school junkies.

At one time, I thought weekend trackies were all very competitive people and the track provided yet another kick-butt opportunity. My theory was that if they could have the entire track to themselves, they wouldn't do it because there was nobody out there to compete with. It turns out that many experienced drivers prefer a clear track with few cars, just so they can perfect their skills. Some instructors prefer the teaching aspect of the schools and some don't even drive much at schools. One instructor, who is a former racer, doesn't even bring a track car to the schools any more, but this is rare. Most instructors bring fast cars and drive them very well. The common denominator has to be that we are all car people and tend to spend a little more time than average on our cars. That's a given right? But beyond that, the make-up of speed-philes isn't much different from the general population. Here are some of the types you will meet: (1) the gear-heads- they are easy to spot. They've got enough tools with them to do an engine swap and their cars are usually up on jacks in between sessions; (2) the hot shoes-they go flat out nearly all the time and they can tell you their best and latest lap times. They often drive cars like Vipers, ZR-1's, M3's and 911 Turbo's; (3) The gregarious-they are there for the social interaction. Their clothes are always clean and the only stuff in their trunk is what came with the car; (4) The instructors-as previously discussed, they are motivated by various things but let me tell you, anybody who is willing to climb into an M3 driven by a novice teenager, is truly dedicated!

In case you've got the wrong impression, this phenomenon is not a guy thing. I've had two female instructors, both, very smooth, skilled and good teachers. There is one young woman who regularly attends these events who has an RX-7 with a full roll cage, racing seats-the works! And I'll never forget the sight of the beautiful 968 convertible with roll cage and track tires, driven flat-out by a woman dressed in Nomex racing gear. At one school, I asked a young lady with a brand new M3, attending her first school, why she was there. She said she bought a fast car and came to the school to learn how to drive it. She had it right. So after my research, have I pegged the reason these people get hooked on driving schools? There are any reasons. The gear-heads get satisfaction from the results of their tuning, the hot shoes are competitive people who like to lap their friends and beat their personal goals. The gregarious like cars and people and a trip to the track is a good way to enjoy both. The instructors include all these types, plus others probably, with a common interest in improving their performance driving skills and helping others do the same. The other thing all these folks have in common, besides an interest in cars is they are having fun. There's something about learning how to drive very fast on a racetrack that brings a grin to your face!

If you are still reading this you're probably already a confessed track junkie, but if not, don't worry-it is easy to become one-just sign up for the next driving school. If you own a BMW, you owe it to yourself to see what they mean by the "ultimate driving machine". Everyone of them is a competent performer on the racetrack, right out of the box. Very few brands can make that claim. And as the young female M3 driver said, if you buy a fast car, you should learn how to drive it. Besides, you will meet lots of your BMW CCA friends at the track, including me.



*J & J Motorsport business card AD*

# For Sale

## Cars

**1988 325ic** Red/Black, Auto, **Great Condition**.173k,\$6000 o.b.o. Bill 319 447 0282

**1984 733i** High miles,needs some TLC or would be a great parts car, recent Transmission overhaul and many new parts including tires. \$1900 obo Steve (319) 277 6854

**1969 Alfa** Belina 5 spd. twin webbers,solid,straight,and intact, light rust,near perfect interior former SCCA national champion, needs work, \$1000 o.b.o. Kent 243 7063

**1980 Jag** XJ40 sedan Silver/Blue 108k,Needs minor repairs \$4200 o.b.o. Jack 277 8562

**1984 Fiat** Spyder Many new cosmetic and mechanical parts , Great summer toy, Cheap Z3 substitute \$5500. Eric Burmeister 515 224 3617

**1992 M5 Perfect condition** 58k miles,sunroof,CD,built in radar protection front and rear, two sets of tires, stored winters, \$28750. Bob 515 229 1480

**1997 328i Sedan** Arctic/Grey leather,Loaded, Warranty to July 2001, \$27500

Mike, 319 369 3359

**1997 M3 Sedan** Boston/Magma,5speed,Lux.Pkg,Warranty to 10/01 or 50k,Beautiful Cond, \$30500 o.b.o. Stuart 319 337 3383

**1998 M3 Sedan** 22k,Cosmo/Gray,5speed,\$32000 515 577 8367

## Parts

**2002 13"** steel wheels, with excellent Goodyear tires and hubcaps. \$120

Jack 515 277 8562

**95 M3** 5-17X7.5 multispoke BMW Motorsport wheels excellent condition with 6 well worn but trackable Michelin Pilots. M car traction for any E36 3 series. \$900 obo, Doug @ 515 842 5859

**E30** 6 cylinder **Bavarian Autosport** 8mm High Performance Ignition wire set \$50.

Rafael Toro 319 887 2399 after 5 p.m.

**Michelin** Arctic Alpin winter tires. P195/65/r15 mounted on BMW alloys , \$1500 new in 1999 \$750 Terry 712 325 1062

**2002 parts** 1973 engine,and drivetrain, Dave 319 352 1096

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**IOWA CHAPTER BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA  
2001 ANNUAL MEETING  
REGISTRATION FORM**

WHO: All BMW Club Members & guests

WHERE: EMBASSY SUITES ON THE RIVER  
101 East Locust  
Des Moines, IA

TIME: 5:45 p.m. - Social-cash bar  
6:30 p.m. - Dinner  
8:00 p.m. - Guest Speaker  
9:00 p.m. - Raffle

COST: \$33.00 per person

**Please RSVP by January 13, 2001.**

Payment must accompany reservation. No refunds after  
January 10, 2001.

Hotel rooms can be arranged by calling the Embassy  
Suites at 1-800-362-2779 and refer to the Iowa  
Chapter BMW Car Club. The room rate is  
\$109 and is available until December 29, 2000.

**Yes, I/We plan on attending the 2001 Annual Meeting.**

Please make \_\_\_\_\_ reservations for the following individuals:

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Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail reservation and payment to:  
Iowa Chapter BMW CCA  
P.O. Box 42113  
Des Moines, IA 50322



P.O. Box 42113 Des Moines IA 50322

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**Happy  
New  
Year !**