

Lets Have Some Fun !

Dates to Remember

May 20th

Waterloo Greyhound Park

DMVR SCCA Autocross Solo II

The first Iowa chapter endorsed autocross of the season. A great low cost low stress way to enjoy your BMW. Registration is 9:30-noon, with first car off at 11. Arrive by 10 if you can, to walk the course and get familiar with it. Fee is \$15 for SCCA members, \$20 for others. If you haven't tried autocross before, this is a great place to start. The facility is large, better for higher HP cars like our BMWs. Not much car prep required, just clean out all the loose stuff and add a few pounds of air to your tires. Sound like fun doesn't it?

June 9th

Coralville Reservoir, West Overlook

2nd Annual picnic

Our official new member event. **FREE** to all Iowa chapter members and families. Great Food and drink provided by *your* BMW club and a chance to meet all of our new members. **PLEASE** make this a must attend event. RSVP to any club officer by **June 2nd**. Why not do it now. Special prizes and new member recognition and a short tech session on successful rallying.

We know all of you **new members** are out there. Why not give us a shot at showing you a great time?

July 14th

European Motorcars Des Moines

Free driving school tech session and inspection

Our friends at European Motorcars will check out our BMW's for the upcoming Heartland Park driving school event and we will give some advice on basic car preparation and rules. This is also a great time to catch up on all the new BMW's and possibly do a bit of parts or accessory shopping with your *20% Iowa chapter discount*.

July 28th 29th

Heartland Park Topeka Kansas

BMW CCA Drivers School

This is it, your chance to finally come out with us and enjoy what that BMW was made for. High performance driving. We want to stress just how much we would like to see many new Iowa faces at this years BMW CCA Heartland park school. We picked up a few last year, all of which have vowed to become regulars. Contact any board member for information and tips you need to make this your first of many enjoyable track experiences. I know most of you have always wanted to try it. Now is the time. Sign up now as this event fills up very fast. See the Kansas City web site for all forms and more information. www.kcbmwclub.org

Just what have you been waiting for?

WIRE

New membership rewards

New Tools

New Ads

New Cars

*New improved **Free** Picnic*

Reviews

Humor

News

It's Finally Here !!!!!

Why a BMW ?

NewsWerks



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Disclaimer:

The NewsWerk 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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WHAT ELSE IS OUT THERE

by Doug Wittkowski

Why a BMW?

If you were not driving a BMW, just what would your car of choice be? I was recently talking to a group of automotive technicians at Gateway Tech and just that subject came up in conversation.

First let us set a parameter. I consider BMW's sports luxury cars so we will start from there. Let us begin with the domestics. On the domestic luxury front we have the Cadillac Seville and Lincoln LS. Both nice cars. Semi-competent handling and much luxury at a great price. What is the problem here? Resale my friends, or residual value if you lease or finance. You can actually own a BMW for less money. **Advantage Bimmer.** On the domestic performance front there seems to be many good competitors. The Corvette is very fast and with that low center of gravity and tire patches the size of trash cans the road holding ability is awesome. But, have you driven one lately? What comes to mind is a very fast piece of very poorly put together plastic, sort of like driving a life size version of a Barbie doll car. Not impressive. The Viper? Extremely fast with unlimited low end torque, a bit expensive at 70k plus and seems to be missing things like stopping power that matches the going power and not a completely engineered package. Mustang GT and Cobra. My favorite among the domestics (Although I am probably a bit biased) A great bang for the buck but lacks the panache or refinement of a true sports coupe. **Advantage Bimmer.**

On to the real competitors. The Mercedes is without doubt the best automobile from a quality/engineering standpoint. The only downside I can see is the driving experience, very average in that department and the prices are enough to shake even regular BMW shoppers. The Japanese, who I should mention were responsible for waking up there European and domestic counterparts in the 1990's. They are now at a disadvantage financially and still in my opinion are better at copying great cars than building great cars. There are some nice reliable choices here from Acura, Nissan, and Mazda but like a CZ verses a real diamond, no one really wants a knock-off. I'm keeping my eye on Lexus though, they could get it right yet. Porsche, what can you say about a Porsche? Nothing bad here. Fantastic handling, power, quality and brakes second to no one. Very expensive and a bit impractical for daily use though. Audi, possibly BMW's most direct competitor and in my opinion a most formidable one. The best interior ergonomics in the world with very nice quality of fit and finish. You have to look hard to fault an Audi and in my opinion they are the best of the rest, all things considered. There is still a small problem with low resale values in relation to other German cars and they are still basically built on a frontwheel drive platform even in their quattro versions. Front-drive platform vehicle dynamics work okay for 80% of our driving but for me that last 20% is where the rubber meets the road, so to speak, and they lag behind a bit in that department as any of our drivers school patrons or club racers can tell you.

One of my car friends put it simply like this " After driving a BMW, everything else is a truck" I'm not sure I would go quite that far but I still say.....

Advantage BMW ED.



PLANNING TO WORK ON YOUR BIMMER?

The chapter has just made its first acquisition for the chapter toolbox! We bought a Technical Information Systems (TIS) CD for use by the members. According to the software distributor for BMW, this CD contains (take deep breath): Complete repair manuals for E36, E46, E39, E38, E31, and E53 series; all series Service Information Bulletins, Technical Reference Bulletins, Technical Data, Tightening Torque Data, Parts Information Bulletins and Special Tools Bulletins, and a symptom and graphics path for troubleshooting. WHEW! Seems like a whole lot of tech stuff, on one little silvery disk. Information is current to January 2001.

I've tried the CD for a couple of example repairs and service information bulletins. It takes a little getting used to, in searching from one section to another to compile a complete How-To for a given maintenance action. Still, it has all the info that your neighborhood BMW center has, although it can't do the computer diagnostic hookups that the center can. If you're looking for a way to read up on how to do something mechanical on your Bimmer, this may be just the tool for you. The program simply needs either your model/year or VIN to screen for the proper data sections, and then gives pop-up menus akin to a typical service manual's chapters. Contact me with your questions and ideas on something you want to research, and I'll work with you to provide the info. We can either loan out the CD temporarily, or get you the relevant sections you need.

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Chris Brennan in his 318ti shows us his line around the autocross course



European Motorcars
DES MOINES

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.europeanmotorcars.com

Oktoberfest 2001

August 5th-11th

Its not too early to be thinking of attending the largest gathering of BMW car nuts in the world.

This years event will again return to beautiful Waterville Valley in New Hampshire. The advantage to this location is it is also the perfect location for family vacations. With almost unlimited recreational options and a resort atmosphere it could be the favorite Oktoberfest destination to date. Check out the following link to see just how fun your next vacation could be. More details will follow as they become available. Several Iowa Chapter members will be attending this year and we would like to make this an Iowa Chapter Oktoberfest to remember. If we can gather a large Iowa contingent, possibly a group drive to New Hampshire?

Contact Dave Brennan at: dbrennan@netins.net for the inside information on Waterville Valley or check out these web-sites.

<http://www.waterville.com/summer/>
<http://www.bmwcca.org/>

Body Language Travel Guide

(Where you are, from what you see)

Original version from the BMW CCA editors internet group

1. One hand on wheel, one hand on horn:
CHICAGO.

2. One hand on wheel, one finger out window:
NEW YORK.

3. One hand on wheel, one finger out window, cutting across all lanes of traffic:
NEW JERSEY.

4. One hand on wheel, one hand on newspaper, foot solidly on accelerator:
BOSTON.

5. One hand on wheel, one hand on nonfat double decaf cappuccino, cradling cell phone, brick on accelerator, gun in lap:
LOS ANGELES.

6. Both hands on wheel, eyes shut, both feet on brake, quivering in terror: OHIO, but driving in

CALIFORNIA.

7. Both hands in air, gesturing, both feet on accelerator, head turned to talk to someone in back seat:
ITALY.

8. One hand on 12 oz. Double shot latte, one knee on wheel, cradling cell phone, foot on brake, mind on radio game, banging head on steering wheel while stuck in traffic:
SEATTLE.

9. One hand on wheel, one hand on hunting rifle, handgun in lap alternating between both feet being on the accelerator and both feet on brake, throwing McDonald's bag out the window while shooting at road signs:
MISSOURI

10. Four-wheel drive pick-up truck, shotgun mounted in rear window, beer cans on floor, squirrel tails attached to antenna:
ALABAMA.

11. Two hands death gripping the wheel at 11 and 1, head barely visible above steering wheel, driving 35 on the Interstate in the left lane with the blinker on looking for signs but with no idea what



Creating solutions, changing lives.

Easter Seals Iowa has just been named the official Iowa Chapter Charity. Easter Seals mission is to create solutions that change the lives of people with disabilities and their families. Each year they provide service to over 5,000 Iowans in all 99 counties. Services at their Camp Sunnyside location include residential camp, travel/adventure camp, respite services (for children and seniors) and integrated day camp. In addition, they are the leading provider of services to farmers who have experienced a disability. Their center on 30th Street in Des Moines provides vocational and employment programs, case management services, and a fully accessible 24 unit apartment building. Other services included a stroke club, scholarship program, craft training and sales, and an equipment loan program. Easter Seals has been very supportive of our Chapter and has been donating the use of their facilities for our Board Meetings and many of our Chapter events. We are proud to name them as

"Our" Charity.

It's Finally here! The very first of the new M3's arrived in Iowa at European Motorcars Des Moines just in time for a quick photo for this months NewsWerks. The proud owner is our own web-dude **Dana Schrader**, who along with his lovely wife **Natalie** are charter members of the Iowa chapter. They have volunteered their time and expertise to help build the Iowa chapter into a winner.

Now look what that did for them? A bouncing baby Imola red M3!

COOOOL !



Membership Involvement Awards Program

The new **Iowa Chapter** program is designed to encourage new and current members to participate in chapter activities and get involved in the Chapter.

As of **January 1st 2001**, points will be awarded based on member participation during the year. Each point will each be converted to one raffle ticket for a drawing on a very special prize(s) at the Annual Meeting. We will be pooling a group of **high value** and **interesting** prizes that will be reserved for this Membership Involvement Program drawing.

A sign in sheet will be available at each "Official" Iowa Chapter endorsed event. It is your responsibility as a member to sign in. We will tally attendance and points several times a year and will assign raffle tickets accordingly.

Board members will not receive points for their Board duties. i.e. no points awarded for writing an article, as Newsletter Editor, but points would be awarded based on extra participation; no points assigned for Board member attendance at Board meetings.

Points to be awarded as follows:

Attendance at Iowa chapter function.(other than those noted below)	1 point
Attending the Annual Meeting	2 points
Attendance at any out of state Iowa Chapter endorsed function	2 points
Writing of a published NewsWerks article	2 points
Attending your first Iowa chapter function	3 points
Securing a year long advertisement for the <i>NewsWerks</i>	3 points
Signing up new Iowa Chapter BMW CCA member	3 points
Helping plan or Coordinate a Chapter event or function	3 points
Attending Oktoberfest	3 points
Hosting / Coordinating an Iowa Chapter event(Chairman)	5 points

Notes From Gateway

Or, what I did on my spring vacation. New products, New BMW's, New Friends and Old.

It was another successful Gateway Tech for the St. Louis BMW club this year. The usual cast of characters from vendors to racers and a crowd of over 200 plain old BMW folk.

Two days of tech sessions ranging from tire selection and OBD II diagnostics to full blown race car preparation. New BMW guests included the new M3 and Z3 roadster and a visit by the just retired LMR BMW race car. The weather was very nice both for the drive and for pursuing the BMW only parking area to look at member cars and talk with their owners.

The social events are always a blast with this year being no exception. On Friday evening we had the pleasure of dinning with two BMW CCA members that had traveled from the Bahamas. They told us very interesting facts about their country along with stories of the surprisingly large number of BMW's and car enthusiasts from home.

On Saturday the *small number* of Iowa chapter members (I'm still working on a *plan* to get a larger group to this event) visited with Tom Salkowsky and BMW CCA officials before enjoying a great dinner and interesting program. The door prize giveaway was again impressive and the final prize of the evening was a chance for one lucky ticket holder to get into the LMR BMW and fire it up for a bit of a demonstration. Needles to say that woke up the party as the piercing sound of the V12 race engine shook everything and everyone for several blocks.

FUN !!

This is an event that all BMW CCA members should attend at least once, and next year I promise to make you an offer that you can't refuse.

MechTronics Ad

***Bavarian ad
(re-run printers choice of
supplied graphics)***

*Its time to have a talk with your car
Finally, an OBD II diagnostic scan tool
for the enthusiast and professional*

IM
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An inexpensive and easy to use interface system compatible with PDA, Notebook, and Desktop formats. Meets all SAE requirements with features like displaying of trouble codes (DTC's), descriptions, live data, freeze frames, and reset functions. A complete diagnostic tool for all OBDII cars sold in the United States since 1996. Order yours today and start to

Take Back Control !

For more information and *Special Introductory Pricing* see our website at www.iowamotorsports.com

Iowa Motorsports Inc. Phone 515 707 7789

Driving With Technology

New Members

Welcome to the Club !

Be sure to attend our official new member event of 2001 on June 9th

Larry	Brown	Waukee	00 Z3
Robert E	Martin	Blue Grass	88 325ic
Dr Thorir	Ragnarsson	Sioux City	
Keith	Motter	Council Bluffs	
Jack	Rose	Malvern	84 528e
Jack	Kramer	Marion	86 635csi
Steven	Bradley	Cascade	00 528
Ed	Merkler	Grimes	98 M3
Jason	Shannon	Coralville	98 540l
Martin	Spratt	Davenport	92 535l
James	Smith	Cedar Rapids	97 740
Andrew	Lindholm	Des Moines	
Dean	Anderson	Urbandale	
Kurt	Schaeffer	Clive	98 528
David	Vaudt	West Des Moines	01 525ia
Trudi	Rosenfeld	Des Moines	01 330xi
William	Boulden	Des Moines	01 X5
Randy	Larson	Iowa City	01 X5
Barb	Clark	Iowa City	01 X5
Vicki	Sukup	Dougherty	01 X5
Anthony	Grasso	West Des Moines	01 Z3 3.0
Brent	Gale	Norwalk	01 Z3 3.0
Craig	Voelker	Mt Pleasant	01 Z3 3.0
Stephen	McClintock	Belmond	01 X5
Danh	Ho	Des Moines	01 X5
Elizabeth	Newell	Des Moines	01 530ia
Larry	Allen	Marshalltown	
Randy	Brunson	Cedar Rapids	01 740il
Tim	Grissel	Solon	01 325xi
Zach	Whitehill	Johnston	01 330ci
Ratsamy	Phongsa	Lakeside	01 325l
Lois	Archer	Des Moines	01 325l
Mark	Ross	Des Moines	01 325ci
Kevin	Kauffman	Des Moines	99 328l
Jack E	Myers	Sheldon	01 Z3

FOR SALE

Cars

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

Mike, 319 369 3359

1994 BMW 740iL 48k miles,Silver/Black,New tires,no winters, extended warranty until 11/03 or 82k,Dealer maintained, extremely good condition,WBAGD8321RDE90646,\$22500 William at 712 262 1126 or wheme@avionicstraining.com

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

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

1995 Porsche 993 Cabriolet, 14k miles, Silver/Black/Grey leather,6 speed, 17" cup wheels, nearly perfect garage queen, Stu @ photon4@aol.com

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

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

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

Parts

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

Jack 515 277 8562

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

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**Also,**

Gift Certificate \$100 **BMW** lifestyle certificate from Kimberly Imports.

Contact your editor at wittawerks@se-iowa.net

Iowa Chapter website sponsored by: **International Travel Associates**

.....Welcome to flyITA.com.....

flyITA.com

www.bmwia.org Check it out !

The Iowa Chapter Picnic

When is the last time you did a picnic? On June 9th at 12:00p.m. at the Coralville Reservoir we are planning perhaps the best picnic in Iowa this summer. BBQ, food, drinks, games, prizes, and some inside tips on rallying (which could come in handy later on in the season). Best of all? Its **Free** to all Iowa chapter members and families. Watch the E-mail updates or web-site for all of the fun details and mark your calendars now.

RSVP by June 2nd.

"The Official New Member event of 2001"

**Check out the Coralville Lake web-site for information on the area at
<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/ncrodc/coralville.htm>**



*P.O. Box 42113
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Volume 3
No. 3
May 2001

**"Driving
Into Summer"**