

# News Werks

## Presidential Views

Many things are happening with the club since I last spoke to you in October. The executive committee has met, submitted the application for our chapter to the national office and I am happy to report it has been **approved**. We had a special guest at our board meeting who spent the evening with us and gave some very useful tips and information on the operation and building of a chapter. We would like to thank Scott Blazey from the Kansas City chapter for his time and expertise. One suggestion that we in turn made a motion on is to have on our executive committee a vice president from eastern Iowa area to help keep this chapter focused on the whole of the state. Anyone from that area who is interested or would like to nominate someone for that position should contact a committee member. The next steps on the business side of the club will be establishing a post office box address, bank account, and articles of incorporation, club charter and By-laws. Actually with winter fast approaching it's a good time to get the business side of the club running smoothly, so we are all looking forward to completing these tasks and starting to concentrate on organizing what we are all interested in, **fun events**.

On the fun side of things as I reported to the membership at the November 6th meeting we have had a very good development in the sponsorship area. **European Motorcars of Des Moines** is interested in becoming a corporate partner of our chapter in a big way and has agreed to the following. They will offer a 20% parts discount to chapter members.

They will financially support our web site.

They will now provide a one-year membership to the club for every new and used BMW customer. They will supply door prizes for all chapter meetings. They will help us with tech sessions at there facility. They want us to meet at there facility occasionally. They will give us space in their facility to promote our chapter, meetings and events. And now for the big one. They are interested in subsidizing a trip to the new **BMW Driving School** in Spartanburg South Carolina for interested members. To say that we are excited about the possibilities would be a gross understatement. A formal proposal is being drawn up as I speak and I hope to be reporting that it is official at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be our first "annual" banquet and meeting and is tentatively scheduled for **January 22nd** so clear your calendars and get ready for a good time.

We are currently looking at the Amana area and would love to hear suggestions from all of you on content and activities for this inaugural event. We will also need some volunteers for various duties I'm sure, so keep that in mind.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday and thank you for all of the interest in **Your Club**.

**Dave Brennan, President Pro-tem.**

## The Wire

The officers start the official ball rolling.

What kind of tires?

Iowa's top 7

Germany's top 10

A Scary good time

Member interests

## BMW Model Designations

E3	2500-3.3 Li
E9	2500 CS-3.0 CSI
E12	5 Series up to 81 model
E21	3 Series up to 83 model
E23	7 Series up to 87 model
E24	6 Series
E28	5 Series from 82 model
E30	3 Series from 84 model
E31	8 Series
E32	7 Series from 88 model
E34	5 Series from 89 model
E36	3 Series from 92 model
E38	7 Series from 95 model
E39	5 Series from 97 model
E46	3 Series from 99 model

## Top Ten Reasons Why Germans Are Better Drivers Than Americans

by Scott Blazey, Kansas City Chapter Editor

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10. Germans never take their eyes off the road to fumble around for their pistol to shoot at you when you tick them off.

9. Americans rarely get to practice high speed exercises; Germans practice high-speed slaloms every summer when the Dutch tourists with their camping trailers transit the country on the way to Italy.

8. Less than optimum driving means using more gasoline, at \$4 per gallon

7. To get a license, Germans must pass a written test by correctly identifying 150 different traffic signs.

6. To get a license Americans must pass a written test by correctly identifying which side of the road to drive on. (They get two guesses.)

5. Germans pride themselves on being able to avoid accidents at high speeds.

4. Americans pride themselves on being able to avoid mis-dialing their cell phones at high speeds.

3. Germans always keep to the right except to pass.

2. Americans always keep to the right whenever they feel like it. You got a problem with that?

.. And the number one reason,

1. You rarely see a German struggling to free a gas pedal stuck because of wadded up Big Mac wrappers.

# Who's Who?

## Doug's top "7"

(As compiled from the first meeting survey)

#7 Concours 10%

#6 Gymkana 15%

#5 Autocross 37%

#4 Tech Sessions 40%

#3 Social Events 43%

#2 Rally's 45%

And the number one activity preference for the members in attendance was.....

**Driving Schools 55%**

The survey results will be used to plan future events for your club. The survey is available at any club meeting or activity. Voice your opinion, After all it is your club.

This column will appear regularly to help us get to know our members better. We would be very happy to include any members Bio. Please send your information to the Editor and he will do his best to make you sound good.

### Fred Bell

Fred is 45 and originally from Oakland California. He migrated to the Midwest with his wife Lynne who is from Moline Illinois. That should certainly prove his dedication for many years to come. They have two daughters, Allison and Steph. Allison has her driver's license and Steph will soon have a learners permit.

Fred is a very recent convert to BMW's having just bought a beautiful M coupe. He vows that his daughters will not be cruising around West Des Moines in his BMW anytime soon.

Fred is the chapter's treasurer and having worked for the last 15 years at Principal Capital Management and also for a bank in San Francisco he should have all of the technical skills needed for managing our budget.

Fred was a Navy pilot and is now retired from the Naval Reserve which gives him more time to spend flying his BMW much closer to the ground. Fred has started to compete in local SCCA autocrosses and is looking forward to the next driving school season and his first try at that activity.

## Technique

by Doug Wittkowski

Winter, yes it is that time of year again. I for one find myself fantasizing about scenarios that have me living somewhere south and west of here. I promise myself that it will

happen one day soon. Spending most of my life in the upper mid-west I have learned to particularly hate winter driving. There is some hope for all of us drivers that literally sink our fingernails into the steering wheel and wake up in a cold sweat from dreams of black ice and blowing snow. Have any of you tried the latest and greatest technology to combat winter driving problems? I speak of the current crop of Winter tires.

Many of us would like to think that all-season tires actually work well in all weather conditions. We are the same kind of people that think one size does fit all and that a few days at the driving range is all we need to be on the PGA tour. The truth of the matter is they don't do very well in any season.

The current ranges of dedicated Winter tires are truly amazing in their ability to handle ice and snow. The newest technology combines multi level compounding with high tech materials that in basic terms stay soft while wearing reasonably well. The leader in high tech winter tires for the last few years has been Bridgestone with their "Blizzak" tire and through my experience with them as well as many rave reviews they certainly deserve it. Now the very BMW friendly Yokohama company has entered the ring with the latest technology in a tire they call the "Guardex 600". Early reports indicate that it might even have the edge in winter performance as well as being a little more users friendly in the dry.

I know some of you out there are thinking "Hey, my baby is going to be put away for the winter" and that is great but unless you are plan on hibernating or spending the winter in the Caribbean I'm assuming you'll be driving something in bad weather.

With all the overblown product claims we constantly hear about automotive products it is great to see some real advancements in truly usable technology. The ability to again pass those pesky SUV's, there relatively low cost, the increased margin of safety for us and our families and the potential of saving some high performance summer rubber in the process really make Winter tires something all of us should consider.



**Mailing  
Address  
Goes  
Here**

## Halloween Rally Results

Although we didn't have a large turnout of local members for the "SCCA Wicked Witches Rallye" the members and families who were there had a great time. Two of our officers competed.

Pro-tem President Dave Brennan and Treasurer Fred Bell along with their wives drove the course, carved pumpkins, visited rural cemeteries and tried to stay on course for a winning time and speed.

Fred and Lynne were the highest finishing chapter members placing 5th!! Great job. The event was won by a BMW 750iL. Maybe the owner should be contacted regarding membership ASAP? Our President Dave didn't fare as well but I will let him tell you the scary details. I'm afraid to ask Linda, But who was actually doing the navigation?

### 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 of its members.

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

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**DATES**

**TO**

**REMEMBER**

*Enjoy Your Holidays!!!*

**JANUARY 22nd**

**Next Meeting :**

*First annual meeting  
and Banquet, Look  
for details to follow*

**MARCH**

**Gateway Tech**

**St. Louis MO**

**Group drive to**

**St. Louis ?**