



News Werks

Presidential Views

I originally joined the club in 1978 when I bought my ruby red 320i. I loved that car. I went to some of the local events of the Iowa Chapter in the Iowa City area where it was headquartered at the time. There was a dedicated core of enthusiasts, but over time, things changed and the chapter became inactive.

I've always been aware of the cohesiveness of the club in a detached sort of way, through the "Friends of BMW" stories in the *Roundel*. I feel truly humbled at the response from our club members and the members that are going above and beyond the call of duty to help us get organized and to help us try and make our first annual meeting a roaring success. **Scott Blazey** from the Kansas City Chapter has given time and advice to us and providing all of the Kansas City Chapter documents to use as templates in organizing our chapter.

When I asked **Satch Carlson** if he would be interested in coming down from Alaska to be our keynote speaker for our annual dinner on January 22nd, he didn't hesitate. But, our club would have to cover his expenses, an impossibility for our new group. Between **Wynne Smith**, the national acting executive director, and Satch, it was arranged to make the trip into a fact finding mission as background for a *Roundel* article on the resurrection of the Iowa Chapter and national would cover the travel expense. If you have any information on the early years of the chapter, please come to the meeting and share your insight with Satch.

Dave Farnsworth, North Central Regional VP, came through with some discretionary funds to allow us to set up a bank account, register our chapter web site, www.bmwia.org, and set it up on a server. **John Christensen**, who unfortunately will be leaving the area soon, and **Siraj Podikunju** were kind enough to immediately volunteer their services in setting up and managing our web site. The site is currently located at www.goldart.net/bmw/. If you have been there, you can see that they have been doing an excellent job. John also helped design our chapter logo.

Dave Dean, general manager of **European Motorcars of Des Moines** has been gracious and very willing to help our club. We are currently discussing European Motorcars sponsoring club members to attend the factory driving school in Spartanburg next spring. Club member, Dave Trachtenberg, came forward to volunteer his expertise, as a United Airlines group ticketing agent, in obtaining discount pricing to chapter members on their flight to South Carolina. Might as well fly, since the factory school only uses their own cars anyway!

When **Doug Wittkowski**, our newsletter editor, and I discuss the progress that our chapter has made in the few short months since we first talked about resurrecting the chapter, last August, we are continually amazed at how events have seemingly simply 'fallen

together'. The kind of spirit and willingness to help mentioned here has stunned me and reinforced my conviction that this is a great club. I should also mention **Ric Johnson** and the other members of the local **SCCA** chapter who have welcomed us at their events. Many thanks to everyone mentioned and to all who have volunteered their time and talents. We can only get better from here with this kind of involvement. Keep up the good work. To those on the sidelines, please participate, get involved, make some suggestions, make yourself available to help with planning and conducting events. To make it happen, we need and want everyone to get involved!!

See you in the Amanos on January 22nd. We'll have great food, fellowship, fun entertainment, and a bunch of door prizes.

Freude am Fahren

Dave Brennan
President Pro-Tem

THE WIRE

Who is Dave?

First Club Competitive
Event

Book Review

For Sale

Fun in January ?

Who's Who?

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Dave Brennan, D.O.

Our president pro-tem Dave is 47 years old, is a native Iowan, grew up in Des Moines and attended Dowling High School. The car bug first bit him at an early age when he was schooled by a neighbor that had spent a lifetime working on and racing Triumph TR3's. That of course also got him interested in driving.

After high school, Dave became a Journeyman Ironworker for Local #67 and worked on several notable Iowa landmarks in Des Moines and throughout the state.

Dave attended the University of Iowa and graduated in 1980. While attending the university he met his soon to be wife, of 21 years, Linda. Who says college is a waste of time? He also has two children Kathleen, 14 and son Chris, 15 who is also a Bimmerophile.

Dave continued his education at the College of Osteopathic Medicine and graduated as a Dr. in 1984. He interned in Cleveland, Ohio and then was in the Army, as a general medical officer, Captain from 1985-1989, at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Dave returned to Des Moines after his service and is now Board Certified in Emergency Medicine and works as a independent contractor, in that specialized field, in Iowa and surrounding states.

Dave drove a new 1977 320i, on spring break, and reportedly fell in love again. In 1978, he took the plunge again and though a poor medical student bought himself a Ruby red 320i and joined the BMW CCA. Here is a guy that knows his priorities. Over the years he has loved and cared for his BMW and did many mechanical upgrades to enhance its performance. Dave unfortunately totaled his beautiful BMW in southern Missouri, when he went off a curve and rolled twice down a steep embankment. Dave believes the integrity of his car saved his life and that just further fueled his interest in BMW's.

His next BMW adventure started in 1994 when he bought a new 540ia. He used it as a daily driver and in 4 years racked up over 145,000 miles. Over the years, he has done some minor modifications but recently retired the 540 to fun car status and now drives a 318ti. Dave has recently rebuilt the entire suspension on his 540 with stock and aftermarket parts and now has a track car that one Skip Barber instructor said "was better" than his own M5. Dave has been active with BMW CCA and has attended many club Oktoberfests and is now a certified track junky. He has attended 16 drivers' schools and has a goal of making 6-12 more next season. Many of us plan to be attending them with him and hopefully will get some expert coaching.

The "Who's Who?" column will be published to help us get to know our members.

PLEASE send me a rough draft of your bio so we can all get to know you and to help prevent me from having to write my own.... :-)

Starting with the January issue the 'NewsWerks' will be published every 2 months, January, March, May, July, etc etc. The deadline for submissions including classified ads will be the 15th of the published month.

Some of the companies that have helped our chapter off to a strong start.

European**Motorcars** DES MOINES



BMW of North America, Inc.



Easter Seals Iowa



Creating solutions, changing lives.

Annual Meeting

Please plan on joining us for the first annual “**Annual Meeting**”

The meeting will be held in the beautiful Amana colony area which offers something for every interest including shopping, dining, historical landmarks and some really great touring roads. The **meeting and banquet** will be held at the **Amana Colonies Holiday Inn** at exit 225 in little Amana. It will include a social hour starting at 3:00p.m. with a great all you can eat Amana style family dinner served at 5:00p.m. after dessert its off to the meeting for a short but important business session, then we all get a chance to meet and hear **Satch Carlson** (Roundel Editor and Humorist) give one of his famous talks. But the fun is not over, we are at this very moment busy collecting, begging for and stealing a vast collection of **door prizes** which will, along with all the good company, make it a date to remember. So fill out the form below and send it in!!!

What are you thinking about? You know its the place to be.... :-)

SPONSORED BY: BMW OF NORTH AMERICA

Those Members wishing to make hotel reservations for Friday and or Saturday night are eligible for a reduced rate by mentioning they are with the club and making there reservations before January 2nd. **Call: 1-800-633-9244**

Annual Meeting

Make your reservations now for the annual meeting. Reservations must be received by January 15th, 2000. A dmittance not available the day of the event!

Name _____

Number attending ____ X \$25.00

Membership Number _____

Total Enclosed _____

Please send check or M.O. to: **Iowa Chapter BMW Club**
P.O. Box 42113
Des Moines, IA 50322

If you're a motorsports spectator, driving school addict or racer, this book is for you.

The book deals with driving, vehicles and racing at a level no driver's school can approach. It is written by Carl Lopez with contributions from Skip Barber, Robbie Buhl, Jeremy Dale, Terry Earwood, Bryan Herta, David Loring, Jim Pace, Dorsey Schroeder, Danny Sullivan and Brian Till, all of

who are or have been instructors for Skip Barber Racing School.

Part 1 covers the fundamentals: finding the line, corner exit speed and braking. Part 2 developing the basics, providing more details on the "real word line", mastering car control, braking and entering and shifting. Part 3 includes a chapter on working up a track, in which the author describes how to find the line, determine braking points and how to maximize speed. Using an onboard data collection system installed in a school racecar the author shows with computer generated charts just where the time is used on a racetrack. Other chapters in this section discuss in detail such issues as passing, realities of racing, accidents, and racing in the rain. Part 4 is an in depth description of tires and vehicle chassis adjustments. Part 5 includes chapters on becoming a race driver.

Do you know the three phases of correction of a skid? Chapter 1 explains it. Want to know why Mark Donohue always put a strip of tape on his steering wheel? Can you name three types of corners on a racetrack? Both answers are in chapter 3. What type of corner offers the

REVIEW

"Going faster! Mastering the Art of race driving"

The Skip Barber Racing School

By Carl Lopez

Robert Bentley, Inc., Publishers \$29.95

Reviewed by chapter member **Jay R. Read**

greatest savings in lap time? See chapter 8.

Throughout the book the author uses photographs, detailed track drawings, charts and diagrams to help explain the concepts. A nother interesting feature is the use of direct quotes from the instructors and drivers, which helps put a real world perspective on the subject material.

I hope this review has helped peak your interest for more knowledge of race driving. If Speedvision can't answer your questions, this book probably can.

Note: This book and an accompanying video are available from the chapter for loan. Contact your editor for more information.

Classifieds

Cars

1994 325is Black/Black
101k excellent condition
\$15500 obo
decals@harenet.net

1986 Chevrolet Chevette
4dr 5spd dependable
\$1500 obo
John 515 270 8326

Parts

4 Bridgestone WT-05
winter tires 225/45r 17in.
Less than 500 miles
\$300 obo
Jim DeMatteis
515-981-5115

Etc.

Roundel Collection
6/89 — 12/97
93 issues in all
\$120 obo
Doug 515 842 5859

Non-commercial classified ads are free to chapter members, so clean out that garage and turn your junk into someone else's treasure.

Commercial ad rates are being set at this time. They will be a very reasonable way to showcase your business and support your club chapter. Contact the Editor for further details



Disclaimer:

The NewWerks 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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Happy Holidays !!!!!

Club Competition !!!

The first competitive event for the Iowa chapter was held when a group of club members ran the last sanctioned autocross event of the year with the Des Moines valley region of the SCCA.

A great time was had by the members that ran as well as our friends that spectated, We had a great turn-out on short notice.

Most of the members were novices at this form of motorsports but it didn't keep one of our drivers from a trophy in his class.

Congratulations to Fred Bell.

Jim Dematteis once again proved that his M3 is not just beautiful but fast. John Christensen in his 325i was extremely smooth and will be someone to watch in the future. Your editor found a novel way to get more practice by taking an extra lap on the opening run...hmmm?

But the point of it was fun, and that it was!!!

DATES

TO

REMEMBER

JANUARY 22nd

A n n u a l

Meeting

Amana Iowa

The Agenda is FUN!

FEBUARY

**Chicago Auto show
group tour?**

MARCH

Gateway Tech

St. Louis MO

