



News Werks

Bonus Annual Meeting Issue !!!

Actually, that headline is a bit misleading. This is your first issue of the normal bi-monthly NewsWerks for the year 2000. The reason I am calling it the “Annual Meeting issue” is due to the fact that most of us have been concentrating on almost nothing else, and who knows, this issue could become a collectable in the future.

Speaking of the future? It is here and most of us seemed to have made it with no major problems. I myself never had any doubts at all, I never really noticed that it happened. But if you know of anyone looking for a large quantity of fresh water, a cement bomb shelter, or a large diesel powered generator let me know.

Now that the Y2K worries are behind us it is time to get this chapter rolling into the new year. As you know our first major event is January 22nd and I’m hoping all of you are planning on attending your chapters first attempt at an annual meeting. Everyone involved has been working hard to make it happen. The BMW CCA and Satch Carlson have both agreed to help us in the important area of guest speaker. The board itself has been very successful at scrounging some very nice door prizes for this meeting.



Satch Carlson

THE WIRE

Synners

Annual Meeting

What's going on this winter?

New Sponsors

Ad rates

These alone would get me to the Amana’s on the 22nd. In addition to annual meeting sponsorship, we have been in discussion about some very interesting chapter partners that we will hopefully be able to announce at the upcoming meeting. We are also working on the events calendar for the upcoming year and have a few ideas but would more than welcome any ideas from all of you out there.

The last few months have blown by in terms of the initial reorganization of the Iowa chapter. It has been very exciting to see what a few enthusiasts can do when they put their heads together. What we need now is more involvement. If a handful of bimmerphiles can get this much done in a couple of months? Just think where we could be at this time next year!

Please feel free to voice your opinions and get involved with your chapter. I can assure you that it will be a very fulfilling experience.

At least for a few hours in the next year?..... “Ask not what your club can do for you, but what you can do for your club”

....Gee, this writing stuff is a piece of cake.

**Pro-tem Officers
and contacts:****Dave Brennan**

President

dbrennan@netins.net

515 225 7891

Tony Wiles

Vice President

wiles.tony@principal.com

274 1879

Martha Wittkowski

Secretary

mwitt@netins.net

842 5859

Fred Bell

Treasurer

B3725@aol.com

224 4179

Doug Wittkowski

Editor

wittawerks@se-iowa.net

842 5859

John Christensen

Web Guy

<http://www.goldart.net/bmw/>

To Syn or not to Syn... That is this month's question. Of course I'm speaking of synthetic oils and lubricants. The answer to the question is absolutely yes. Now, with that out of the way you can go on to another part of the newsletter or I can try to convince you why the answer is not maybe or probably.

I was involved with the early testing of synthetic motor oils back in the late 70's and early 80's. I have also just completed reading some of the more recent tests of motor oil and without going too deep into chemical properties and molecular chains lets investigate some of the facts.

First lets review the basics. The numbers on the side of your bottle of oil refer to viscosity and is broken down like this: 5w-30, 10w-40 etc. The first number indicates the base grade of oil at a temperature of 0 F used in the multi-grade formulation. The next number indicates that with polymer additives the oil thins only like this base grade at 100 C. An example of this is the above 5w-30 oil will flow like a regular 5w oil at 0 F but will protect similar to a 30w oil at 100 C.

The problem lies in the polymer additives, as the differential of weight increase so do the numbers of polymer additives needed to support this broad range. Polymer additives in regular motor oil tend to breakdown and burn causing deposits. So the rule of thumb is to use the lowest range of difference in the two numbers. Also the higher starting viscosity of regular multi-grade oil, the less additives are required to improve the base oil.

Then came synthetics. The modern synthetic engine oils and lubricants do many things to help protect your engine but it has been my experience that just one of those is of major importance, cold start protection. I'm not talking about mid-winter Iowa cold starts, although they are engine killers in themselves, but normal cold starting of engines.

The modern engine is designed to run at around 200 F water temperature and 250 F oil temperature. In the time it takes your engine to come to operating temperature, even in normal weather, most of the measurable wear is taking place. I have seen the test data and taken measurements myself that indicate up to 60% of engine wear occurs during this period. This is an area where synthetics shine. They have the ability, without additives, to flow at extremely low temperatures, come to operating temperature quickly and start protecting your engine much sooner. That very important property along with the extra insurance of higher flash points, much lower extreme cold flow capabilities, low ash content and high film strength make them the choice for our high performance and expensive BMW engines, gearboxes and differentials.

How about a few recommendations you say? No problem, in a modern engine with less than 125k miles I would go with a 5w-30 synthetic and with a typical high mileage or engine that is pushed to the extremes a large percentage of the time you might bump that up to a 10 or 15w. The top number is a personal choice as the latest synthetics have great ability to cover large viscosity differentials. Brands? I'm the most familiar with Mobil synthetic products although there are some other good ones out there. Speaking of recommendations what about oil change intervals? I believe, that as car nuts, most of us go way overboard with oil changes. This is probably due to the fact that oil changes are something we can all do no matter what our technical expertise. In my opinion, the manufacturers recommendations are sufficient with normal driving and synthetic oils but I would always change engine oil once a year no matter how few miles you put on your car. Am I hooked on synthetics? You bet I am. I have seen dramatic measured results in not only wear protection but increased performance (yes they make horsepower too). In my opinion I wouldn't (and don't) use dinosaur derived oils in my lawn mower.

And now some words from our wonderful sponsors.

EuropeanMotorcars

DES MOINES



BMW of North America, Inc.



Easter Seals Iowa



January 22nd If you don't know what is happening on that day yet? **I give up!**

February 11th-20th Chicago Auto Show, many of us are planning to travel to the only "real" auto show in the area and would love to meet as many of you as possible in the **BMW** display area. Have you ever done an auto show with a bunch of car nuts? Why not give it a try? Let us know when you will be there. Your editor has some information to make your journey and stay their easier and cheaper. Contact him.

March 18th Next regular membership meeting & Tech Session Not an annual meeting but sure to be fun. All the BMW's should be out in force.

March 23-26th Gateway Tech also known as **Oktoberfest** of the Midwest. This is three days of

pure Bimmer fun. If you are at all interested in talking to some of the experts in technical areas such as tires, wheels, car care, suspensions, and engine management this event should be on your itinerary. The Gateway chapter is also famous for its door prize giveaway at the end of the banquet on Saturday. Over 75 very nice prizes were given out last year including a **BMW**. We will be holding a meeting at the event to further enhance your fun. Check out there website for more information. www.stlBMWclub.com

April 15th First annual Iowa chapter "Fun Concours" We are planning on a car show. So plan on washing it up extra clean for that weekend. Details to follow.....**Drivers Schools** As soon as we have the dates and information for next seasons drivers schools we will be posting them here and on the E-mail update. We plan on traveling to many of the local events as a club this summer.

Annual Meeting

JANUARY 22ND, LITTLE AMANA, IOWA, I-80 EXIT 225

FUN RALIX ? - 4 PM SOCIAL 3 - 5 PM DINNER 5 PM - ?

Hotel reservations should be made individually by contacting the A mana Colonies Holiday Inn directly **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

Children under 5 free, 5-11 ____ X \$12.50

Membership Number _____

Total Enclosed _____

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

Classifieds

Cars

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

1995 M3 Avus blue, Lux.
pkg, Heated seats, new
tires, drilled rotors,
Autothority chip, Tri-flow
exhaust, Excellent condition
34k miles, \$30,000 obo
Mike Pelham
w/ 800 243 9007x162
h/ 319 242 1895

Parts

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

4 E 34 steel wheels from a
1993 535, like new
condition, **free** to chapter
member (membership has
its privileges) or \$100.00 to
non member. **Eric**
ewb@midamericagroup.com

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 !!!!



Commercial ads are an inexpensive way to showcase your business and at the same time support your BMW club chapter.

The ad rates below are for print ready and or electronically transferable images. Please contact the Editor for your needs.

NewsWerks ad rates

Full page	\$30.00 per issue	\$150.00 per year
Half page	20.00	110.00
Quarter page	10.00	55.00
Business card	6.00	30.00

Premium placements

Center spread, two pages	75.00	375.00
Half of back cover	40.00	200.00

Annual Meeting!!!

So, what are you doing January 22nd? All of us hope that we will be seeing you at the first annual "Annual Meeting". We have been hard at work organizing, worrying, begging for door prizes, planning menu's, and arranging a good time for Saturday January 22nd, the fun will begin in the early afternoon.

If you have not yet attended a meeting, this is the one you should start with. There will be Great Food, Great speakers, Great news, Great driving, and a Great time. Won't it be, dare I say GREAT?

The Amana Colonies Holiday Inn is a fabulous site for a banquet and meeting. It offers authentic Amish food, a beautiful facility that is easy to get to, an inside pool, hot tub, and recreation area.....fun for the whole family. That in itself will be a welcome site come the end of January.

Fred Bell, our treasurer, has organized a **free fun rally** for early afternoon around the Amana Villages that should prove to be a good time for driver and shopper alike. Come early for that event and get a chance at a very cool prize! Hey, attend for the dinner, attend for the prizes, attend to hear Satch make fun of us, attend for a getaway weekend. Whatever the reason, join us

.....*We cannot possibly have all this fun by ourselves?*.....

Send in your registration TODAY !!

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.

Send to: Doug Witkowski
863 Hwy. G-40
Pleasantville, IA 50225
wittawerks@se-iowa.net
515 842 5859

