



NewsWerks

The official newsletter of the Iowa Chapter BMW CCA

Volume 6
Number 1

Happy New Year

IN THIS ISSUE

A Final Word

Annual
Meeting
Registration

Board of
Directors
Ballot

Miles in the
Mini

Annual
Holiday Party
and Charity
Event Report



DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, January 18th, 2004
2:00 pm

Karting Fun at Sprockets Karting Center

2134 108th Street, Clive, IA, Just south of Hickman Rd.
a few blocks east of the I-80 /Hickman Rd. interchange.
Other Sprocket Dates - Sat, Feb 21; Sun, March 14; Sat, April 17

Saturday, January 31, 2004

CHILI COOK-OFF AND LUNCH

Coe College - Clark Alumni House
College Drive
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Several club members have been bragging about their chili recipes, and since everyone has their favorite recipe, we decided it was time for a friendly competition and besides it gives us a great reason to get together!

All members are welcomed to attend for a great chili lunch and a chance to vote. If you would like to have your chili included in the "competition" just bring a big pot of it with you! The club will furnish the beverages and crackers!

Please **RSVP by January 25th** to Mike Bengé, Chairman at mbenge@mchsi.com
RSVP if you will be attending to enjoy the lunch and if you plan on making your killer chili recipe for others to enjoy!

Directions to Coe College can be found at www.coe.edu

Saturday, February 28, 2004

ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET

Stoney Creek Inn & Conference Center
5291 Stoney Creek Court, Johnston
(515)-559-2065

5:30 pm - Reception

7:00 pm - Dinner and Program

This years Annual Meeting and Banquet will again be an informative, fun and prize filled occasion. The committee has been working hard to secure lots (and I mean lots) of door prizes and a great guest speaker!

Don't delay-Reservations are due February 15th!

See back page or visit the the club website at

www.bmwia.org to register and pay online!

A limited number of rooms have been blocked at the Stoney Creek Inn-please call the Inn directly, by 2/15 and mention the Iowa BMW Club for a special room rate.

Last Word...

Oh no, you are not getting off that easy, but this will be my last issue as Editor of the NewsWerks and I wanted to sum up my chapter experiences of the last few years.

I have been involved with this from the very start when I went on an e-mail campaign to try and find out why Iowa did not have a chapter of the BMW CCA and how we could get one started. That was 1999 and 5 years later not only do we have a chapter but I am proud to say we have a very successful chapter with a variety of events and have been recognized numerous times at the national level for innovation and leadership. It has been quite a wild ride so far and I look forward to helping take your chapter to even greater heights, with your support. And support has been what this chapter has been about. From the original 5 board members of whom many are still heavily involved it has been both a labor of love and initially a big dedication of time and money. As we look at our situation now we are in a great position financially, have a good variety of both social and active events and a core group of about 100 members from our total of 717 that are very active.

There have been many ups but also a few downs. From the start we knew that BMW retailer support would be necessary to make our chapter successful. I think we are in a good place with that now and we hope to further those relationships in the years ahead. BMW makes great cars with obvious passion and with an enthusiast's eye towards engineering and performance and product support is crucial.

Our successes have been many. Our annual meetings have become our most well attended event and legendary even outside of Iowa for the array of door prizes we gather for our members. This year we hope to take this event a step further with a nationally known speaker that will be sure to pack the house. Our other social events have a core group of regulars that we enjoy visiting with. We now have several driving schools under our belt and I was very excited to see so many first timers come out to play. An unbelievable amount of time and effort has gone into these programs and from the feedback we have received we are headed in the right direction. Another goal for me would be for more of our members to become involved with driving events of all kinds. I know we can build on our success with driving schools and branch out from there and offer events for both the novice and experienced driver. I hope developing events in those areas will be my next Iowa Chapter assignment. Our community and charity efforts have not only been extremely successful but have garnered national recognition and awards. And we have made a difference in our community. Something we can all be proud of!

It has been an honor and privilege to work so closely with so many quality people in growing our little group to the large and successful full-fledged BMW CCA Chapter we now have. I want to thank each of you for the support and friendship shown through thick and thin. I have met so many great people and have made many good friends, in five years, not just in Iowa but across the country. I feel proud to have contributed to many of the events and programs that have led to our success. I leave your NewsWerks in very capable hands and look forward to contributing articles regularly.

It has truly been, My Pleasure...

Doug

2003 BOARD

OF DIRECTORS

Dana Schrader
President
d-schrader@mchsi.com

Mike Bengé
Vice President
mdbenge@mchsi.com

Dave Trachtenberg
Secretary
david.trachtenberg@mchsi.com

Fred Bell
Treasurer
fourbells1@mchsi.com

Scott Smed
Events Coordinator
scotts@berglanlandandcram.com

Jason Smith
At-Large Eastern Iowa
jsmith@turenorthcompanies.com

Greg Maitre
At-Large Central Iowa
mjm466@aol.com

Dave Brennan
Past President
dbrennan@netins.net

Doug Wittkowski
Newsletter Editor
wittawerks@se-iowa.net
641-891-3571

DISCLAIMER

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

The Editor of the NewsWerks seeks material suitable for publication.

Send submissions to:

*Martha Wittkowski
wittawerks@se-iowa.net*



Investment Advisory Group

Financial Planning and Wealth Management Services

- + Asset management
- + Tax planning
- + Risk management
- + Retirement/estate planning

Fredrick A. Bell CFA, L.C.
Certified Financial Planner™

4090 Westown Parkway, Suite A-3
West Des Moines, IA 50266

(515) 226-1656 (800) 524-0464
fredbellcfa@mchsl.com

Securities offered through EDI Financial, Inc. Member NASD, SIPC, MSRB

BALLOT FOR 2004 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All members and associate members, in good standing,
may cast a ballot

- President: Dana Schrader, Urbandale
- Vice President: Mike Bengé, Cedar Rapids
- Treasurer: Fred Bell, West Des Moines
- Secretary: David Trachtenberg, Des Moines

Directors-at-Large: vote for three (3)

- Greg Maitre, Clive
- John Meek, Dubuque
- Scott Smed, Mason City
- Doug Wittkowski, Pleasantville

Return ballot by February 15th, 2004 to Iowa
Chapter BMWCCA, PO Box 42113, Urbandale, IA
50323 or bring your completed ballot to the Annual Meeting

MEMBER NAME _____

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER _____



EuropeanMotorcars

DES MOINES

EuropeanMotorcars Des Moines is a sponsor of the Iowa Chapter BMW CCA.

Their large selection of new and previously owned BMW's along with a facility second to none in the upper Midwest makes it **THE** BMW retailer for Central Iowa.

**BMW CCA members receive many benefits when doing business at
EuropeanMotorcars Des Moines.**

**20% discount on parts, accessories and lifestyle items
10% discount on service labor**

*In order to receive these discounts you must present your
BMW CCA Membership card at the time of ordering parts or service!*

**Complimentary one year membership in BMW CCA
to all customers who purchase a new BMW**



**9999 Hickman Road, Urbandale
515-278-4808**

or on the web at www.eurocarsdesmoines.com



THE 2003 HOLIDAY PARTY.....



Folks from Cedar Rapids, Mason City, Osceola, and the metro Des Moines area attended the Annual Holiday Party this year! Everyone had a great time and we even had a special guest, Patches, from Animal Lifeline of Iowa.

*He enjoyed meeting everyone and he and the other dogs and cats at the shelter send a big **THANK YOU** to the club members for supporting the shelter. In total, club members donated \$350 and over \$400 worth of items from their wish list.*

The winner of the complimentary nights stay at Stoney Creek Inn was Brandon Anderson and Lynne Bell was the winner of a \$50 gift certificate from EuropeanMotorcars Des Moines.

Dan Kruse



Dan Kruse BMW has earned BMW' NA Center of Excellence Award
the highest ranking of combined sales and service customer satisfaction.

Master Technician Dave Baumann has been with Dan Kruse for over 30 years!
BMW NA ranks Dave the #1 BMW Master Technician in the entire Midwest region.

Experience Dan Kruse BMW for you next BMW purchase, service or parts need.
Discounts to BMW CCA members.
New Showroom is under Constructions.

How does this small BMW Center in Dubuque, Iowa service and sell so many BMW's?
Why do our customers come from as far as Chicago and Des Moines?
Come in and find out!

645 Century Drive, Dubuque, Iowa 52002

Dave Ackley BMW Sales Manager
dave.ackley@mail.dankruse.com
1-800-373-2277 ext 250

Buy your BMW parts online.

Introducing the smartest BMW store on the worldwide web. Simply enter your Bimmer's year and model; we'll show you only those parts that fit your car (plus universal stuff such as Zymöl). You'll get exactly what you need, even if you don't know the BMW part number. Log on and give it a try. It's just like driving your BMW – fast, safe and fun.

bavauto.com

Same-day Shipping • Best Price Guarantee



Phone 800.535.2002 • Fax 800.507.2002

WANTED! CLUB MEMBERS TO HELP WITH EVENTS

Your club is planning many great events for 2004 including

Annual Clean Car Concours
Picnic
Teen Safety School
Driving School
Rally or Fall Color Tour
Holiday Party
and several Tech Sessions

If you would like to get involved and help with an event or have an idea for an event please contact

Scott Smed
Events Coordinator at
scotts@berglandandcram.com



By Doug Wittkowski

1K in BMW's cousin

There I was at a BMW financial services auction in Atlanta, Georgia with no return airline ticket home and a plan to buy a couple BMW's for the EuroWerkz inventory. I had my eye on several, but as the day went on I was, so far, car-less. I had also earmarked two Mini Cooper's that were coming up for sale. That plan went better and at the end of the day I had a very nice nearly new Mini Cooper S to drive home. One thousand miles home in a Mini? What was I thinking? I wrote the upcoming experience off to getting to know the Mini better and a chance to write this article, so here goes...

First we should try and settle the question of "Is the Mini a true BMW". It is designed and manufactured by BMW but does it have the quality of a BMW, the sophistication of a BMW and most importantly the soul of a BMW? Yes, yes and maybe yes is the short answer. The MINI is a cool car no doubt, still the hottest new car being sold in the United States, with waiting lists common in many parts of the country. On the used car market they sell as soon as they are offered for prices approaching and exceeding new in some cases. So demand is there and I can see why, as I am not sure I have ever driven anything that attracted so much attention. But was it warranted? Yes, it is cute as a button. Great fun to drive, but does it's content live up to the attention. Yes, it is mostly a BMW in content although the engine is joint venture between BMW and Daimler Chrysler. This S model has the supercharged engine and it is a nice compromise of 4-cylinder economy and 6-cylinder performance. My only complaint would be that it is a bit too obviously a 4 cylinder as it is a bit harsh at mid RPM, not bad mind you, but not quite BMW smooth. The Power is fabulous and this is a seriously quick little car as long as you keep it in the power band, which is easy to do with a very close ratio 6-speed transmission. All BMW's need a transmission like this. Mechanically the only thing I would like to see is a lower axle ratio to make even better use of all this power around town. I understand the thinking here though as I'm sure fuel mileage was the ultimate goal, and it was reached with mid 30's on the highway and right at 30mpg around town. Heck, on the highway my bladder could not out-last the gas tank on the Mini and I found myself hoping it would use more fuel, so I could get a rest stop. Handling? Forget-about-it, this car sticks like glue in all but crazy corner speeds and while testing at my usual spots I found it as capable as anything I have driven including BMW M cars, 911 Porsches, etc. etc. On the highway the steering might be just a bit too quick as there didn't seem to be any room for even the slightest steering wheel movement but I quickly became used to it in a short time. When asked to do the impossible you then are reminded that it is front wheel drive with a bit of torque steer and under-steer but this car is very easily brought back under control and is a very nicely balanced package, not a high speed standout like a BMW, but this car would be a fabulous auto-croser.

But can a person survive with this car everyday and on a long distance trip? Absolutely! Being nearly middle-aged and with my share of back problems the thought of this car for a continuous 1000 miles had me a bit worried, but it was honestly no problem at all. I especially appreciated the almost unbelievable roominess of the cabin, the very comfortable seats and the XM radio this particular car had, a very nice option for long trips. This car as a daily driver? A great choice! The car is naturally stable with its wide track low center of gravity but at the same time feels very safe even at mid 80's through downtown St. Louis among a herd of semi trucks. It has plenty of power, gets great gas mileage, is as cute as they come, and is priced in the \$20's. What's not to like?

But is it a BMW? It is fast, has great handling, much better than average fit and finish, and is a true drivers car. Add to that the fact that it is already becoming a cult-car and is in high demand. I'd say the jury is still out on the soul of the Mini but certainly do not bet against it. What a great car!



J&J MOTORSPORT ***European Auto Service***

(319) 378-3797

1936 51st St. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Insert Simpson Motorsport business card ad here

Note: I added a border



European Motors, Ltd

Is a premier independent auto dealer and service facility. We specialize in BMW, Audi, VW and Volvo. Other makes we support are Mercedes, Porsche, Jaguar, Saab and Ferrari.

We pride ourselves on our personal service and that we were chosen Iowa's #1 Quality Dealer out of nearly 3,000 auto dealers.

Our service department boasts ASE Master Mechanic status and over 20 years of BMW experience. Our state of the art facility subscribes to the latest repair information including Technical Service Bulletins (TSB's). We strive to fix your car right the first time and within the estimated time and price we quoted.

We stock 40 hand picked European cars. All of our front line cars must pass a rigorous 90 point safety inspection before being offered for sale. We also add a 3000/3 month limited driveline warranty and a free Car Fax title search to these vehicles for your protection.

Looking for that special car? We have access to over 500, one owner BMW's every month, so we can help you locate just what you want.

5405 Center Point Rd NE
Cedar Rapids
800-868-9572 or 319-393-8496
www.euroltd.com

EUROPEAN MOTORS LIMITED

**Redeem this coupon
for a list of available TSB's
for your BMW**

(Technical service bulletins are manufacturer identified problem areas and prescribed solution)

*The Board of Directors will soon be selecting the **MEMBER OF THE YEAR** award winner.*

Awarded at the Annual Banquet, the winner is a chapter member, currently not serving on the Board of Directors. Criteria includes chapter involvement level, participation in events, and overall contributions to the chapter and it's member.

If you have a member that you would like to be considered, please contact any Board Member, by February 1st, with the members name and why you feel they should be considered.



**Performance Automotive, Inc
www.perfauto.com**



Deals for Wheels

CARS

1971 Bavaria Polaris silver/Blue vinyl 3.0L dual Webers. Great Interior, Strong Engine, Rusty Body \$500 obo Kent 515 246 1559

1976 2002 Sahara/Brown 4spd. Sunroof, many new parts. Drives very good, Needs minor body detailing and paint. \$2000 obo Jack @ 515 865 5691

1984 BMW 733i 106k miles, Beautiful Lapis blue over Blue cloth. 218h.p 6cyl. 5 speed, Sunroof, Original 14' wheels, complete European tool kit, first-aid kit, and fire extinguisher. Mods include Borbet wheels, RE71's, Bilstein Sports, K&N air filter, Bavarian strut tower brace. Never adult driven and enjoyed completely, concours winner, \$5500 obo. I will really hate to see her go...Scott Hamilton at scottyboy89@msn.com

1987 535is Overall good condition. It runs well but needs more attention than we can give it. One mild Iowa winter. \$3200 Obo, Jeff @ 515 276 2536

1997 M3 sedan auto White/Magma, No winters 30k miles Sunroof CD alarm super nice \$25k obo. Iowa location Andy 512 970 3734.

1997 M3 Sedan 5 spd. 150k miles Mobil 1 oil since new Cosmos Black w/grey cloth motorsports interior. Sunroof, forged wheels Supersprint exhaust, K&N Intake \$11k obo. stevewilliams@ced9671.com

1998 Z3 1.9 5 spd. Red/Black Loaded including CD changer. All service records with recent 45k service completed 43000 miles new Yokohama AVS ES100 tires Immaculate condition \$20k Dale at rupp11@msn.com or Drupp11@aol.com 515 238 9118

2000 323i Orient blue/Sand leather, 5spd, Heated seats, Sunroof, HK sound, CD, 17" wheels, 21k miles, Very Clean. Mark 515 299 2995, 515 669 6087, holmes1023@msn.com

1994 Audi 100 CS Quattro 114k well equipped and maintained. \$7750 Jim @ 515 981 5115

PARTS AND ACCESSORIES

Set of 4 BMW Roundel Cross Spoke wheels mounted with Michelin Pilot HX tires. 16x7.5 offset for all 3 series 1992 to current. Nice wheels and tires. \$800 rupp11@msn.com or 515 238 9118

BMW Fold Up Bike, 24 speeds, LIKE NEW. retails for \$995 aksing \$650. david.trachtenberg@mchsi.com

E36 winter tires and wheels, 4 Blizak WS-50 205/60R/15 tires mounted on Borbet type B aluminum wheels. 1 winter and only 3000 miles. Will fit all E36 318's 325's, 328's from 92 to 99. Priced at only \$450 + shipping....

Also **Soundgate BMW to Sony CD changer adapter** allows you to connect a Sony CD changer to all pre-wired E36 BMW's. Was \$140 new-asking \$80. I also have a **Sony 10 disc changer and E36 mounting bracket** for \$125 or both for \$185 + shipping. Contact Dennis at jarchow-dennis@johndeere.com or 319 833 9087

4 Winter tires 225 16 Pirelli 210's on Borbet Type T wheels for E 39 5 series. Very clean with 60-70% tread remaining. \$550. Contact Stu Lehr at 515 208 1121 or photon4@aol.com

4 Bridgestone WT-05 winter tires 225/45R17 mounted on MSW alloys. Fits E36 M3 & E46 w/ sport package perhaps other models-\$500. **Hardtop rack** for E46 with cover-\$200 and **Wind Deflector**-\$250. Contact Al 515 270 0933 or awj0933@mchsi.com

WANTED

1988-91 325/525 M20 inline 6 cylinder engine with or without transmission. Dylan at 515-993-3844

Classified Ads are free to club members. Send your ad to wittawerks@se-iowa.net. The NewsWerks is published six time annually, ads must be received by the 10th of the month for placement in the next issue. Please include membership number.

Members may also post their ads on our Chapter website forum at www.bmwia.org



EuroWerkz, LC

Fine European Car, Parts, and Tuning



Contact Doug at 641-842-2295 or wittawerks@se-iowa.net

-or see us soon at-

www.EuroWerkzlc.com

How the car business should be done...



Beginning with a 4th of July family picnic on the grounds of the Huntington Ritz-Carlton and fireworks, Oktoberfest activities will fill the days with driving activities and social events. Not to be overlooked is the largest Vendor Exhibit Hall in our 34 year history of the BMW CCA Oktoberfest as we take over the entire Exhibition Building at the Pasadena Conference Center.. Event sponsors and exhibitors will provide an on going series of Technical presentations.

Our headquarters hotel for Oktoberfest 2004 will be the Hilton Pasadena. Our satellite housing facilities will include the Huntington Ritz-Carlton, the Pasadena Westin, and the Sheraton Pasadena.

Socializing with friends, new and old, will be a snap with evening receptions in the Exhibit Hall and among the fountains surrounding the building. Several other food based events are also planned for the week, Friday evening we will take over the entire Ritz-Carlton for dinner before the theater style Awards presentations and program for the lucky 1100 ticket holders. Many new BMW's will be drawn in the BMW CCA Raffle during the awards presentation.

Driving schools on the track, such as the California Speedway at Fontana, or Car Control Clinics as well as Autocross, High Speed Slaloms, and Rally events will provide ample opportunity to enjoy the sheer joy of driving your BMW. For those who also like to display the artistry of the marquee, we will conduct the Concours D'Elegance on the grounds and in the gardens at the Ritz. The numerous museums in the Pasadena area, along with various special tours, will provide fun for the entire family through out the week.

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT www.bmwcca.org/Oktoberfest2004/



**PO BOX 42113
URBANDALE, IA 50323**

**Volumne 6
Number 1**

*Happy
NewYear!*

**Reservations must
be received by
February 15th.**

**2004 ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET
RESERVATION FORM
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2004
Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center
5291 Stoney Creek Court, Johnston
515-559-2065
5:30 pm – Reception with Cash Bar
7:00 pm – Dinner and Program**

**Mail in this reservation
form with your check to:**

**Iowa Chapter BMW CCA
PO Box 42113
Urbandale, IA 50323**

Cost is \$25 per Member, associate member & others within the Members household.
Cost is \$35 for all others. **After February 15th cost is \$50 per person.**

*We plan on attending the Annual Meeting and Banquet:
Please print clearly the names of those attending.*

Number of Reservations _____ at \$25 each Number of Reservations _____ at \$35 each

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ BMW CCA Membership Number _____

You may also register and pay on-line at our website www.bmwia.org