



NEWSWERKS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA CHAPTER BMW CCA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2005

IN THIS ISSUE:

**Second Annual Day
at the Ballpark**

See Page 1

2005 Councours & Picnic

See Page 3

The Ms are Coming

See Page 5

**2005 May Scenic Drive
Photo Contest**

See Page 6

Calendar of Events

See Page 8

**Automotive Thoughts
on Turning 50**

See Page 10



New Look, Fresh Content, Same Great Publication

Newsletter redesign jumpstarts new chapter in publication's history

From a one-page newsletter in 1999 to the beautiful publication you see before you now, *NEWSWERKS* has definitely evolved.

Wow, now this is high rent and not just a great new look for *NEWSWERKS* but also professional editorial and design help from our friends at VIVAMEDIA and our own Iowa chapter member Nannette Rodríguez. That's right, the newsletter redesign worked just like every other member-driven effort in the last six years, a club member stepped up and we now have a state-of-the-art publication produced right here in Central Iowa. Nannette is president and executive creative director of VIVAMEDIA, Des Moines' only full-service, multilingual advertising agency. The firm has donated its services to help us produce a better newsletter for you. Thank you VIVAMEDIA!

Second Annual BMW CCA Iowa Chapter Day at the Ballpark

by: David Trachtenberg

The Second Annual BMW Club day at Principal Park in Des Moines was held on Sunday, August 7th. The day started out early with our Board meeting in the Cub Club. Around 11 a.m., we were off to the parking lot for some tailgating – thanks to our favorite chef, Don VanLengen.

By this time, we had displayed some of our fine BMW's in front of the stadium for the Cub fans to view. Some great cars were present, including Gene Nelson's 1987 6 series and Joe Hansen's Laguna Seca Blue 2003 M3.

Don had prepared some great munchies – as usual. The tailgating menu included beer brats, jerk pork, corn on the cob, and some

wonderful salads and desserts. Many attendees brought a side dish, so nobody went away hungry.

Once 1 p.m. came around, it was time to clean up and head into the park to see the Cubs beat up on the Tucson Sidewinders. Our seats were wonderful – right behind home plate, with a great view of the Capital. Unfortunately, we were in the bright sun, and started to bake.

The Brighton's had the right idea and grabbed some seats up in the shade. Soon, we all followed, and watched the game in shady comfort.

Member Marketplace

Pre-Owned Vehicles, Parts, and Accessories for Sale by Club Members

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1995 BMW M3, concours show car, rare individual with many special features 22k miles
THE BEST! – www.eurowerkzlc.com

1998 BMW M3, 5 speed, all options, special order Imola Red with black leather. 46k miles. NICE! –
www.eurowerkzlc.com

2001 Porsche Boxster S, 6 speed, Meridian Silver w/ black interior. 23k miles
www.eurowerkzlc.com

2000 BMW 323Ci WBABM3349YJN85600 Silver / Black Leather, 29k miles, CPO. Premium, Sport, and Cold Weather packages, CD Changer, Navigation, Xenon, Steptronic, no mods or track. Extremely nice, all records and manuals. \$25,000. Contact Dale at 515-238-9118.

1985 BMW 535i, 5 speed, LSD, 151k miles, white with burgundy leather. NEW: tires and rims, Bilstein sport suspension, rotors and pads plus many other new parts and upgrades. Runs great, ready for autocross or daily driver. Best offer. Call or write for details. Contact Jack at 515-277-8562 or jalارش@hotmail.com

PARTS & ACCESSORIES FOR SALE

Set of 4 E39 Five Series Borbet Sport wheels w/ Yokohama A032R 235-40-ZR 17 tires. Wheels are in good condition, tires used for three driving schools. One or two schools left. \$500 plus shipping. Also have set of Hoosier 245-40-17 R Compound. Contact Mike evenings at 515-253-0483 or mwskrcn@mchsi.com

Set of 4 15" steel wheels & BMW wheelcovers in good shape for E36 3 Series.
Fitted with 185-65 Blizzak winter tires w/ some tread left \$100 OBO. Contact Steve at 402-690-8655 or stevewilliams@ced9671.com

Track Tires and Wheels New BF Goodrich Comp T/A R1's 235/245/45/17.
[New] mounted on excellent stock E36 M3 double spoked staggered wheels, picture available, \$1,000 shipping included. Contact David at 319-362-9076 or djiruska@yahoo.com

MARKETPLACE REQUIREMENTS

- Marketplace ads are free to club members. Send your ad to: wittawerks@lisco.com
- *NEWSWERKS* is published six times per year and ads must be received by the 10th of the month for placement in the next issue. Please include your membership number.
- Members may also post their ads on our Chapter Web site forum at www.bmwia.org

NEWSWERKS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA CHAPTER BMW CCA

NEWSWERKS is published by VIVAMEDIA, Inc. for the Iowa Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Dana Schrader
d-schrader@mchsi.com

Vice President

Mike Bengé
mbenge@mchsi.com

Secretary

Dave Trachtenberg
david.trachtenberg@mchsi.com

Treasurer

Fred Bell
fourbells1@mchsi.com

Events Coordinator

Scott Smed
scotts@bergländandcram.com

At Large

Doug Wittkowski
wittawerks@lisco.com
641-891-3571

At Large

Brian Smith
brianm3smith@hotmail.com

At Large

David Brighton
dwbrighton@yahoo.com

At Large

Don VanLengen
dvanlengen@mchsi.com

Newsletter Editor

Martha Wittkowski
wittawerks@lisco.com
641-891-7977

Past President

Dave Brennan
dbrennan@netins.net

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

To become a member of the Iowa Chapter BMW CCA visit our Web site at www.bmwia.org

Please submit material suitable for publication to:
Martha Wittkowski at: wittawerks@lisco.com

2005 Summer Concours & Picnic

by: David Trachtenberg, Chairman | photographs by: Dana Schrader and Kolin Brighton



Following last years Concours, I mentioned that we have had only one good weather year in five for this event. For that reason, we decided not to do the Concours in April, and combine it this year with the July picnic. I mean, how bad could the weather get in July? Well, can you say 100 degrees with a heat index of over 115?

The summer picnic/concours was held this year at Easter Lake in Des Moines. My trusty assistant Mike Bengé and I arrived early to scope out the parking lot for the event. Soon after, the Wittkowski's and Don VanLangen arrived to start the cooking process for the picnic. By the time we unloaded the supplies from the vehicles, we were all soaked from the heat. What are the chances of scheduling an event on the hottest day in years?

Were we going to let a little heat stop us from checking out some great cars, and stuffing our faces with some of Don's best food? NEVER.



For the last few years, we couldn't imagine that the food could be any better, but each year Don surprises us. We delighted in some awesome BBQ, marinated chicken, some great salads and delightful deserts, all thanks to Don, Stacy and Martha. Of the 50+ people in attendance, I don't think anyone went away with an empty stomach. Usually, pop and beer are the favorite beverage choices. This year, we should have charged big bucks for water – it went so fast, you would have thought it was fine wine.

At the Concours event, due to the nasty temperatures, we didn't have quite the turnout that we expected. There were 13 BMW's that entered the event. This year, we also had a "distinguished" group of judges. In addition to our regulars (Mike Bengé and myself), we were privileged to have Dave Kienzle from Ultimate Detail of Iowa City, and Ralph Luna – the head painter at Faust Body Shop in Des Moines. It was great to have a couple of pros to help pick out the best of the best.

In addition to the awesome cars that entered the event, we were also excited to have a Ferrari and a Z8 in attendance. It's not every day that you see these rare vehicles. Personally, I'll pick one of these up for myself following my upcoming Powerball win.

As we were directing the entered cars to their proper places in the lot, something caught the corner of my eye. No way, was it possible? Somebody was arriving in a camouflaged BMW. Possibly a new model that hadn't been released? No such luck. It was Kolin Brighton, in his 1994 325i. The entire front end of this car was covered in blue painter's tape. Quite an interesting way to prevent bugs during the drive from Eastern Iowa. Kolin had spent days preparing his car, and wasn't about to have bug death on his baby.

continues on page 4



2005 Summer Concours & Picnic

continued from page 3

This year's Winner's Circle featured five BMW categories: Vintage (older than 10 years), Sedan, Coupe, M Cars, and Roadsters. In addition, we had a "People's Choice Award."

In the M category, Scott Hamilton (of 2004 People's Choice Fame) took the prize with his red 1989 M3. The Vintage prize went to Doug Wittkowski, with an amazing looking 1995 M3. The Coupe trophy went to Martha Wittkowski with a cool 1998 M3. The Roadster award went to Jeff Pomeranz, with a perfect looking blue 2000 M Roadster.

Once again, the Sedan category saw Kolin Brighton and yours truly fighting it out. Kolin with his 1994 325i, and my own 1991 525i – both black beauties. Kolin's hard

work paid off – he went home with the prize. I think next year, I'll invest in some blue tape.

To select the People's Choice Award attendees voted by placing dollar bills on the windshield of their favorites. The proceeds from the People's Choice Award and the fee for the event went to Variety Club of Iowa. This year, the favorite car was Jeff Pomeranz's Blue M Roadster. Congrats to Jeff.

Thanks again to all that helped make this a successful event. We've been through wind, rain, cold, and now brutal heat. What will next year bring?

Until then... keep driving.



The Ms Are Coming

by: Doug Wittkowski | images courtesy of: www.htvm.totalcar.hu and www.blog.livedoor.jp



The BMW M5 is here. The M6 is soon to arrive and details of the new M3 replacement are well known. E90 coupe body, 400 horsepower 4.0 L V8 and it should be quite a ride.

However, there is at least one if not two other M models in the works according to reliable sources that have seen them testing, albeit heavily disguised. And these two models could be what many of us have been looking for. Hey, we love 400 horsepower M3's for sure, but 400 horsepower and 4,000 lbs. does not a true all-out performance car make – just ask Audi or Cadillac. These other M models have the same

desirable under 10 lbs. per horsepower weight ratio, but total weight plays a huge part in overall performance. Just watch that hot little 2,000 lbs./ 200 horsepower Lotus Elise on the track whipping up on the high horsepower muscle-bound sports cars sometime.

Hey, we love 400 horsepower M3's for sure, but 400 horsepower and 4,000 lbs. does not a true all-out performance car make – just ask Audi or Cadillac.

There is much confusion on just what these M cars are to be and I have not been able to break BMW NA's code of silence to confirm the details. By the way, that is usually a very good sign that something very special is on the way.

So, what do we know and what are the strongest rumors? The first car is a derivative of the 1 series that was released in Europe last year. The M version however, will be a 2-door hatch rather than 4-door and looks to be powered by a 6-cylinder variant. The 1 series model is a big success and although the current 1 series as sold in Europe will not make it to the states a 2-door and M version of the car has a very good chance.

Lets call this the M1. Rumors say 2,950 lbs. is the target and a 300 horsepower straight six derived from the current M3 engine. Other rumors say turbos and superchargers are on the way, but if you do the math and look at the fact that the 1 series in Europe already has added the new 3.0L in the 130i, I'd say naturally aspirated is the prescription BMW will follow. That is good news again, as Turbo and supercharged horsepower is, well at least to my way of thinking, not the final answer. Lets see... an M1 @ 300HP @ < 3,000lbs. = Holy@%^\$# sign me up and find my helmet Martha!



Even more likely to make it stateside is the 2 series M car we will call the M2. Hatchbacks like the 1 series have never sold well here so this may well be the first car to tempt us in the very near future. Same dimensions and engine combinations are likely and this may well be, dare I dream, the BMW 2002/E30 M3 for the 21st century. Let us pray. Let us hope. Let us beg! Above are some doctored photos of what these cars may look like when they reach our shores. In my opinion, who cares what they look like? Keep those numbers above a reality, make them BMW solid and then start taking reservation names, as I predict these cars will be the biggest news to come from BMW M in decades.

2005 May Scenic Drive Photo Contest

Club members take to the road and deliver some great images



Above: "Boothill" by Tom and Judy Williams

Bottom Left: "People" by Martha Wittkowski

Bottom Right: "Cars At Rest" by Don and Stacy VanLengen

Next Page: "Cars in Motion" by Perry Grant



European Motorcars



Mercedes-Benz



European Motorcars Des Moines is a Proud 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 European Motorcars Des Moines:

20%
discount on parts,
accessories and
BMW lifestyle items

10%
discount on
service labor

FREE
1-year membership to
BMW CCA with any NEW
BMW purchase

European Motorcars • 9999 Hickman Road, Urbandale • 515-278-4808 • www.eurocarsdesmoines.com

Calendar of Events – September 2005

Events, Club activities and all happenings BMW

Saturday, September 10

Street Survival™

Safe Teen Driving Program

Southeast Polk High School Parking Lot

8325 NE University Ave, Runnells, IA

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Street Survival is a unique hands-on driving experience that puts each student (ages 16 to 19) behind the wheel of his or her own car with a trained instructor. The instruction takes place on a closed, wet-down parking lot, so teens can experience emergency driving situations in a controlled environment. We teach skid control, emergency braking, and accident avoidance among many other driving skills. Space is limited.

We also have a limited number of spaces available for adults.

For more information contact Event Chairman, Fred Bell at

515-457-7849 or fourbells1@mchsi.com



September 17-23

OktoberFest

The Premier Event of BMW CCA

for more information log on to

www.bmwcca.org

October

We are working on a "Drive" for October.

Watch the Web site for details

Saturday, November 12

Annual Holiday Party

Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center

Johnston, Iowa

Saturday, January 28, 2006

Third Annual Chili Cook Off

Clark Alumni House, Coe College, Cedar Rapids

Updated information will be posted on the website as it becomes available. Be sure to check for current information at www.bmwia.org

If you would like to receive event reminders via e-mail please send your e-mail address to: wittawerks@lisco.com

DAN KRUSE
PONTIAC • NISSAN • BMW
www.dankruse.com

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 BMW for over 30 years.

BWM North America ranks Dave as the #1 Master Technician in the entire Midwest Region.

Experience Dan Kruse BMW for your next BMW purchase, service, or parts need.

Discounts provided to BMW CCA Members.

How does this small BMW Center in Dubuque 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.

Troy Sprenger, BMW Sales

Dan Kruse BMW • Pontiac • Nissan • 645 Century Drive, Dubuque, Iowa 52002 • 1-800-373-2277

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



Financial Planning and Wealth Management Services

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

Over 20 years as professional investors.
Chartered Financial Analyst and
Certified Financial Planner™
designated staff.

Fred Bell
3725 Greenbranch Drive
West Des Moines, IA 50265

(515) 457-7849 (800) 524-0464
fredbellcfa@mchsi.com

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

BMW

Mercedes-Benz

J&J Motorsport European Auto Service

Owner – Jack L. Kramer

(319) 378-3797

1928 51st St. NE • Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Simpson Motorsport Inc.
Jim Simpson
319-351-1269
Iowa City, IA



**PURCHASE THIS AD SPACE
CALL US AT
641-891-7977**



**PURCHASE THIS AD SPACE
CALL US AT
641-891-7977**

Automotive Thoughts on Turning 50

by: Brian Smith

When did it start, this interest in things automotive? I have a very hazy memory of sitting in my dad's lap when I was perhaps four, as a friend enthusiastically demonstrated the accelerative capabilities of his Allard. And I was along when my dad purchased the 1962 Gran Prix – I do remember sitting in the front seat of the old car (Studebaker?) while dad negotiated, and riding home – mom could just see the top of my head over the dashboard. The automotive seed had sprouted (or the automotive virus had propagated) before my 10th birthday, but why? Was it watching sports cars at Greenwood Roadway (the remains are still visible to the east of Highway 65, a few miles south of Indianola) – Ken Miles drove one of the factory Cobras. Should I thank – or blame – my dad's TR3? I remember him struggling to drive it up our ice-covered driveway, and the rather cramped quarters that winter when he drove me, my brother, and a piñata to elementary school.

In May of 1965, we listened to the radio broadcast of the Indianapolis 500 (no live television then) – it's odd to remember the excitement I felt as Jim Clark dominated the field. The automotive bug was firmly installed – Jim Clark became my first and only true driving hero. I suffered during the 1966 Formula 1 season when his Lotus was not competitive – does anyone else remember the heavy and complex BRM H-16? He spun – twice, I believe – at the 1966 500 driving an evil-handling machine. The Cosworth engine's arrival in Formula 1 in 1967 led to great rejoicing, and a 1/12 scale model of Clark's Lotus 49. That model joined a large plastic automotive fleet, one that began with a 1965 Impala convertible, brush-painted light blue as a reasonable facsimile of our purchase from Bob Brown Chevrolet. Our car model building fervor was fueled by a new friend when we moved to Connecticut. He too was an avid modeler – and his father worked for the Automobile Competition Committee for the United States (ACCUS). Chevrolet loaned him a Corvette for a year – we were in awe. Their five car garage (what would you give?) contained other automotive rarities, or at least oddities – a late '50s Bentley (gorgeous woodwork), a Triumph Herald, and an aluminum-engine Olds.

So, at an impressionable age, I had fallen in with a bad crowd. Although we rarely visited the city, we did defy it to attend "Grand Prix." In our minds, very little could compare to the crescendo of an entire grid of F1 engines, revving as they awaited the start. (Aside – if the movie ever makes it to DVD, it will demand a wall-sized screen and an audio system that can crack cement.) Twice we braved the Long Island Railroad to glory in the New York Auto Show. We craned our necks as we rode up the escalator, and leapt when the first thing we saw was a racing Porsche. But we loved the

production cars too, as evidenced by the promotional literature we still retain from those years. Our tastes were eclectic, covering the mainstream Detroit products (with an oversampling of GM's wares) to the somewhat more unusual (Citroen DS wagon). The young teenage years also were a time to see the darker side of the automobile. About 30 minutes before journeying to the 1968 New York Auto Show, a friend called to tell me that Jim Clark had died in Germany. I assumed it was at the Nurburgring, one of his favorite tracks, at least according to Jim Clark at the Wheel. Later that week I learned that he had died in a Formula 2 race at Hockenheim. I still feel a cloud at any mention of that place (and I still know that his crash was due to anything but driver error).

In 1969 we were bound for Texas – but first we needed a new family car. I shared my dad's sadness at the sale of the Gran Prix – perhaps this was my first emotional connection to a car? Larsen Ford in White Plains, New York sold my parents a Country Squire – the big wagon. Somehow my dad could ignore the slightly used 427 Cobra that sat on the other side of the showroom, offered for the princely sum of \$6700. We made it to Dallas, and by July 1970 it was time for the 1965 Impala convertible to go. We went with dad to Van Winkle Pontiac to look at the new F-body – the 1970? Firebirds. Bruce and I took turns sitting in a white Trans Am with blue custom interior. Realists, we knew dad was most likely to buy the Firebird Esprit. But then one evening I was sitting at home with mom and my brother, and as it was time for dad to arrive home, dishes began rattling in the kitchen cabinets – he'd bought that Trans Am! Fortunately mom was not in our path as we raced to the garage. The Trans Am remains in my brother's possession, as Dad's enthusiasm for the car (known for good reason as "The Beast") waned many years ago.

These are some of the memories of my formative, pre-ownership years. As I look at our automotive fleet now, we have two cars that earn their keep, and three that alternately bring joy or despair (often cycling rapidly between those emotions, particularly during mechanical work). I sometimes wonder where I went wrong (to quote Bugs Bunny: "I knew I should've made that left turn at Albuquerque!") to arrive at this end. But my main motivation in writing is not really to understand why I arrived at this peculiar car nut place. My hope is that you will use these thoughts as inspiration to share your automotive memories with those around you. Hey, you're among friends – share what brings us together.

Why do we love BMW fans?

Because they're passionate about what they drive.
Just like we're passionate about what we do.

Proud to be BMW CCA - Iowa Chapter's advertising agency.



VIVAMEDIA

IN MARKET. IN LANGUAGE. IN TOUCH.



8435 University Boulevard Suite 5 Des Moines, IA 50325-1035 | 515.225.2466 | www.virtualviva.com



Only the best need apply.

**Pre-Owned Vehicles.
Performance Approach.**

Fine Pre-Owned European Automobiles
Performance + Replacement Parts
High-Performance Tuning

BMW • Ferrari • Mercedes Benz • Porsche

EuroWerkz

Your local connection.
www.eurowerkzlc.com
641.891.3571



IOWA CHAPTER BMW CCA
PO BOX 42113
URBANDALE IA 50323