

bimmerimmer

July/August 2012

BMW Car Club
of America
Badger Bimmers



Inside...

- E30 Gathering • 9th Annual BB Car Show
- Bimmer in the Barn • ALMS Car Corral
- Ladies' Tech Session • Fall Touring



bimmer immer

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Cover Photo: The E30 Gathering

Photo by Tim Jason



2012 Calendar

We will no longer be running classified ads in the *bimmer immer*. They will be listed only on our new Web site (www.badgerbimmers.org). To submit an ad, simply click on "Enter a Classified" under the "Members" heading on the right side of the home page, and fill out the simple form.

August 9	Board Meeting – 6:30 pm, Concours Motors, Board Room
August 14	BMW Cruise Night at The Highland House, Port Washington Rd., Mequon
August 17-18	Badger Bimmer Car Corral @ ALMS race, Road America (See Web site for details.)
August 20	DE Day at Blackhawk Farms Raceway
August 25	Ladies' Tech Session, European Auto House, Mequon, WI (see page 9)
August 25	Masterpiece Car Show <i>Concours d'Elegance</i> , Veterans' Park, Milwaukee
September 13	Board Meeting – 6:30 pm, Concours Motors, Board Room
September 17-23	National <i>Octoberfest</i> at Mid-Ohio Race Track
September 28	Advanced Driver & Instructor Day at <i>Road America</i>
September 29-30	<i>OktoberFAST</i> Driver School at <i>Road America</i>
October TBD*	Board Meeting – 11 am, Enterprise BMW, Appleton, WI
October TBD	Fall Car Clean-up, 10am - 2pm, Salvaggio Auto Design, Port Washington, WI
November 8	Board Meeting – 6:30 pm, Concours Motors, Board Room
December 13	Board Meeting – 6:30 pm, Concours Motors, Board Room

January 12, 2013 Annual Holiday Party and Membership Meeting

*Exact date to be determined

Board meetings *generally* are held on the second Thursday of each month. They start promptly at 6:30 pm. Board meetings are open to all members. The Board encourages members to attend.

Beginning April 12, 2012, monthly Board meetings will convene at 6:30 pm in the Board Room at Concours Motors • 5990 N. Green Bay Ave. • Glendale, WI.

Please consult the monthly Calendar (above) for exact locations and dates.

News of Note...

OktoberFAST DE at Road America

Registration for our annual event at Road America is now open at motorsportreg.com. This year's event is scheduled for September 28th through the 30th. Friday is reserved for instructors and advanced students. We will also hold an instructor clinic on Friday.

Our primary sponsor again this year is WeatherTech. Please support them just as they are supporting our event.

More information about the event is available on the Badger Bimmer Web site. Tech inspections for the event will be done again this year at Kummrow Automotive. If you are interested in getting your car inspected, visit our Web site for more information.

In the last few years *OktoberFAST* has been full with a wait list about a month before the event. As of August 5, we still have a few spots available in most run groups. So please check our Web site as soon as you can. **bj**

Last Blackhawk Farms Drivers' School

Registration is open for the last of this summer's driving schools, August 20th at Blackhawk Farms Raceway near Rockton, IL. We're currently in need of more instructors for the event. If you are interested in instructing at the event, send an e-mail to **Mike Clemens**. Check the Web site for more information.

Fall Foliage Touring

A Kettle Moraine Adventure

Join us for a fall touring spectacular this **October 6th!** A driving delight in a visual paradise!

We will meet at one country club to begin, and at another to conclude — with a late lunch in historic **Elkhart Lake**, at one of its more famous resorts or restaurants.

In between, we will explore the colorful hillsides and valleys of the countryside in and around **Kettle Moraine State Park**. There are long gentle slopes and forest glens surrounded by lakes and streams. There will be great vistas with open roads and sweeping curves. But there will also be tightly confined, intensely wooded, winding roads to let us explore European driving at its best.

We will assemble at the north side of the parking lot attached to **Rolling Meadows Golf Course** just southwest of Fond-du-Lac.

Here is one of the southern entries into Kettle Moraine Park. Notice the sign that says "curves"?



Gee, isn't this exactly what BMWs are for?

Within the Park, there are occasional little, quaint stores and shops to provide some fascination — and perhaps take a little break in all that driving.



The "Parkview General Store" is just one example.

On a special stretch of the "Kettle Moraine Scenic Drive," just south of Greenbush, the road becomes winding and hilly and forested and mysterious — and sometimes dark as a tunnel — but it's all deciduous, so it should be a real treat in October! Just pretend you're going through *Der Schwarzwald* in Germany, and you'll get the idea.

Finally, we'll end up in historic Elkart Lake, the home of Wisconsin sports-car racing.

And we will have earned our reward for a sporting adventure by sharing a wonderful lunch at one of the many fine restaurants frequented by famous drivers of the past!

We'll provide more details, including directions, in the next issue of the *immer*, but if you have questions or you'd like to sign up now, contact me at nmgom@earthlink.net or (920) 738-9548. **bj**

— B.E. Kressner

From the President

Mike Loos



A Little Miscellania...

As I leave for our family vacation, I want to update everyone on the impressive racing success being enjoyed by Shields Bergstrom. Recently he sent us this note, which I've edited a little:

Hi, Everyone—

So far, the 2012 racing season has been one of the best! In eight starts I have now won six races. I owe a lot of that success to YOU. Your help, support, advice have helped turn this racing season into a great one! I am really looking forward to heading back to Europe in August and I know that, thanks to your help, the success will follow as well.



Just for the record: on Saturday, June 30th, I was on "In The Pits" on CBS Sports Radio. I believe it was on 106.7 FM in most areas.

I had a fantastic opportunity to be interviewed by Larry O'Donohue and Rubens Barrichello's Indycar spotter. We covered a lot of topics but the focus was on racing in Europe, climbing up through the open-wheel ranks and the current F1 season. I hope you were able to hear me talk about racing and F1.

Thanks again for making this season a real special one for me and I look forward to seeing you soon!

Regards,
Shields Bergstrom

A few exciting events coming up soon: Don't forget about the special **Ladies-only Tech Session** on August 25 at the **European Auto House**. (See page 10 for details.) It's the first time the Club is trying this. We're hoping for a good turn-out because we'd like to repeat it regularly. Contact **Cindy Ansay**.

- There will be an *encore* **E30 Meet and Greet** — at **OktoberFAST** on Saturday, September 29th. So calling all E30 owners!! Come and drive your car at **Road America**. You are invited to do track touring during lunch and also have dinner with the group that evening. Gather with us for a mid-morning meeting prior to going on track. You **must** register for this in advance. See the Web site for further details. We're suggesting a \$10/car donation to benefit our charity, *Feeding America of SE WI*.

- If you can't make it to **Road America**, you may want to consider the **Kettle Moraine touring** that **Bernie Kressner** is pulling together for October 6 (see page 4). You surely won't achieve track speeds, but you'd at least be able to experience the type of twists and elevation changes that RA is built on — plus the spectacular fall scenery and historic Elkhart Lake itself!

'Til next time...

bj



2012 Badger Bimmers' Car Show

Photographs by Darcy Yench

Here are the results of this year's car show hosted by Concours Motors.

Pre-1980s



1971 Blue 2002 Anton Steigerwald
2nd Place
1974 Blue 3.0 CSI Jim Kochan

The 1980s



1987 Grey 325es Tim Jason
2nd Place
1987 Red 325 ic Scott Simpson

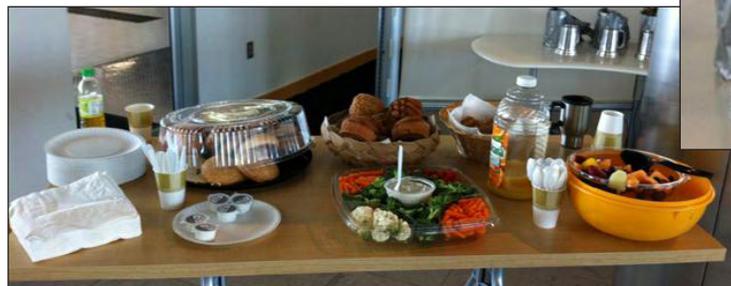
The 1990s



1995 Grey 325i
2nd Place
1998 Black 325i



Event organizers
John Morgan &
Bill Nicoud
(at the food table)





1990s

The 2000s

The People's Choice



1990s M3 T. J. Worley
1st Place
1993 231c Michael Schultz

2001 Red 325iT Kerry Sutton
2nd Place
2011 White 1M Mike Clemens

2011 White 1M Mike Clemens



The Trophies



Bill Nicoud offers directions on voting

That E30 Gathering



Report and Photographs by Tim Jason

The greatly anticipated E30 Gathering day was finally here! "Dad, you're weird," my 16 year old son Eric remarked as he set up his lawn chair in the empty, wet parking lot at Balmer Park. We had arrived an hour and fifteen minutes before the start of our very own E30 picnic. Excited and eager to know if anyone would show up, I pushed Eric and his E30 out the door a little early.

Two p.m. rolled around and the cars finally began

The best part was meeting the people behind the rides. Cars came from as far a way as Appleton and Illinois. Getting the word out on the social media was a big hit. This brought in over a dozen more cars. (Possibly future Club members.)

I would like to extend thanks and gratitude to the almost 40 BMWs, including 25 E30 variations, that attended. For a first time outing, it was a great turnout. Thanks to Mike Loos and the rest of the Bimmer Board for contributing the great food and drinks. We must honor our grill master, Chris Allen. Not only did he shop and prepare our feast, he slaved over a hot grill for hours.

So, after reading about the enviable annual E30 picnics held on the West coast or East coast, we organized a suc-



to arrive. Instantly I transformed into the role of parking lot attendant, making sure everyone was lined up. Before long we had a great assortment of E30 cars. There were early big bumper cars in both convertible and hard top, also many later model plastic bumper beauties. Some of my favorites were the modified four-door versions. We even had a couple of E30 M3s.



cessful E30 picnic of our own. We hope to make this an annual event. Your thoughts are appreciated. **bj**



Bimmer in the Barn

Part 6

by Bill Nicoud



BMW makes great cars, no doubt, and the 2002 is certainly one of the most recognized, most enjoyable of the lot. Along with the very good, came some not so good — rust has always been a weak point for these fine cars. And now that the newest 2002 is over forty years old, really rust free 2002's are rare, indeed.

No Low-mileage Guaranty

Now you might think that a BMW that's seen only 38,000 miles should be a spotlessly clean, rust-free example of the '02. But I've been in this business long enough, and seen enough BMWs to know this was no guaranty.

I looked at this example pretty carefully, enough to know it was very clean for an '02, but not totally rust-free. The important areas like the floors, frame members, and shock towers, front and rear are very solid. The bolt-on panels, doors, hood, and trunk lid are exceptional. I knew the rocker panels weren't perfect, and the rear quarter-panels suffered from a rear collision early in its life, so these would have to be replaced to make this car as solid as you would expect a car with this kind of mileage to be.



Parts, Parts, Everywhere...

I was surprised to find rust in the front nose panel, and behind the front fender mounting areas. As I mentioned in earlier articles, I've been squirreling away parts for this project for years, so I had most of the parts to repair these areas. The parts I didn't have I was able to buy from BMW — yes, you heard correctly. Unlike many other manufacturers, BMW still supplies many replacement parts for older

BMW's through their mobile tradition program. These bits are not cheap, but when you're restoring a car like this and you plan to do it only once, you just breath deeply, spend your children's inheritance, and do it. (He's not getting that much anyway, and a little less won't matter, right?)



So the construction, or re-construction continues, with a lot more in store. But with each area repaired, and each step forward, I begin to get a glimpse of the other side. It's hard to be patient and I begin to have a better understanding of how anxious our customers get. Sure, those projects are more involved, but they proceed at a forty-hours-a-week pace, not eight-to-ten if all works well. I just have to stay focused, and keep my eye on that Caribbean Blue prize.

Stay tuned...

bj

ATTENTION: *Ladies of Any Age!*

Come have breakfast and bond with your Bimmer!

On Saturday, August 25, European Auto House, located at 11020 Buntrock Ave. in Mequon, will host a Ladies-only Tech Session for our Club. The tech session will begin at 9:00 a.m.

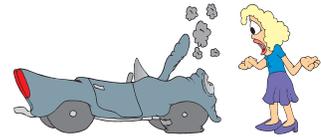


This event will be a wonderful opportunity to talk one-on-one with **Nathaniel Sumner**, a factory-trained BMW technician and owner of European Auto House.

A grouping of different models of BMWs will be on hand to help us go through the basics of car care. He will also cover more specific details about your own particular vehicles. So bring plenty of questions, too.



Please RSVP to **Cindy Ansay** at (262) 388-7384. Kindly leave your name, and the year and series of the vehicle that you will be bringing to the event.



bj

ALMS Car Corral at Road America

We are pleased to welcome BMW CCA members to the BMW CCA/Badger Bimmer Car Corral, at the *American Le Mans Series* event at the *Road America* in Elkhart Lake, WI, August 17-18 (Friday and Saturday). You must purchase your own tickets through *Road America*. The advance ticket purchase deadline is 4:30 p.m. Central time on 8/08/2012.

Weekend Ticket (3-Day) – \$85;
Thursday – \$20; Friday – \$25;
Saturday – \$55.

The BMW CCA Multi-Chapter Car Corral features preferred parking outside Turn 14, a hospitality tent, large screen TV, and a box lunch that will be provided on Friday and Saturday. Please notify **Darcy Yench** if you are planning to attend so we can have enough lunches. The BMW CCA Car Corral is sponsored by the Badger Bimmers and BMW NA.



bj

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