

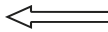


Meet your 2012 Board of Directors

Standing (L to R) Eddy Funahashi, Greg Belemjian, Chris Donnelly, Deb Warner, Richard Koch, J R McConnell, Mike Splivalo, Jeff Willers, Frank Vasquez

In front, Dave Warner, Wayne Wundram

Not pictured, Terry Eidson, Richard Nielsen, George Aguilar

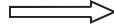


BMW Wins Daytona!

The No. 01 Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates TELMEX/Target BMW Riley ended 24 hours of hard fought sports car racing at the 51st Rolex 24 At Daytona in the same position from which it started: First.

Starting from the pole-position, CGRFS co-drivers Scott Pruett, Charlie Kimball, Juan Pablo Montoya, and Memo Rojas completed 709 laps in the twice-around-the-clock endurance classic at the Daytona International Speedway to secure the famous pyramid-shaped trophy and Rolex watches. The car led a total of 420 laps and set the fastest lap of the race at 1:41.177 minutes on Lap 180.

The victory is the second overall Rolex 24 win for BMW with CGRFS. The first win came in 2011. Since the program began in 2010, the combination has combined for the GRAND-AM Daytona Prototype Manufacturer's championship in 2010 and 2011 and the Team and Driver titles (Pruett and Rojas) in 2010, 2011 and 2012.



Did you know that you can drive pretty much due west from Visalia, CA, on Hwy 198 and an assortment of the fun back-country roads, travel through an Army base full of moss-covered oak trees, dodging tanks and half-tracks on the way, cross over the Coastal Mountain Range, and drop down to one of the most beautiful sections of Highway 1, the Coast Highway, about 40 miles south of Big Sur? Want to hear more? Come to the Meet and Greet I will be happy to tell you all about it!

Dave Warner

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Unless there is an emergency, please contact chapter personnel only between the hours of 6 to 9 PM. You may send emails at any time. Thank you.

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Statement of Purpose

The CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHAPTER of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc., is an independent group of BMW owners and is not associated with the manufacture, importer, or dealers of BMW automobiles. Open Board meetings are held as announced in this publication. DAS RAD and DAS KAMMRAD are publications of the Central California Chapter and are provided only for the members of the Central California Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc. The ideas, opinions and suggestions expressed in these publications are those of the several authors, and no authentication is implied or expressed by the editors or publishers. Any suggested modifications to BMW automobiles within the warranty period may void the warranty. Articles submitted are subject to editing. Contents may not be reproduced without expressed written permission except by the BMW CCA and its chapters.

Come to the meetings!
Add to the fun!

Message from the President....

What can we do to get you to an event?

Central CA Chapter BMW CCA is the small chapter that can! We have around 300 members, but only see about 10% of those members. We want to change that! We love our BMWs, and we know you love yours too! This year we have some small events, some big events and a couple of huge events planned! Come out and join the fun!

We have several events planned, from brief get-togethers like Valentines' Brunch, Cars 'n' Coffee, and Bimmers and Burgers, to driving events like Teen Street Survival, Auto-crosses and High Performance Driving Schools, to our famous "Legends of the Autobahn" concourse in Monterey in August – hopefully something for every budget. Check out the calendar listed below, and note that the National Oktoberfest is in Monterey this year – this is a rare opportunity to attend this annual event on the West Coast! Don't miss it!

We've also changed the monthly meeting format this year! We no longer have a stuffy meeting, but have a less formal Meet and Greet! (With prizes!) Please join us on the first Wednesday of each month, at Marie Callender's on West Shaw and Marty. Our new Web site is under construction and should be updated very soon! Also, if you have an idea for an event, email it to me. We want you to meet you and your family! Yes, bring your kids, because we know they grow up and become BMW club members!

Hope to see you soon! Looking forward to a wonderful 2013! Deb Warner

Editor's corner....

Well, here we go ... Starting off the new year with a new look. Let me explain...

My apologies for a Das Rad that has a radical format. Some circumstances are beyond my control and some are within...

For the short term (hopefully ONLY this issue) this format (obviously) is a very condensed Das Rad. This is due to several things... Financial considerations are a part of this.

We are also trying out a new printing service (in an attempt to augment the financials).

You will note that there is a very obvious lack of advertising in this issue. This I hope will be temporary.

One thing that was not in short supply was text, stories etc that were contributed from some of our members. I greatly appreciate this effort! But due to the space limitations in this issue I was not able to include everything submitted.

Please be patient with me and this evolving scenario. It should be under control by next time! Happy reading! Wayne



Monthly meet and Greet!

February 6, 2013

Marie Callender's at Shaw and Marty in Fresno
Dinner at 5:30PM / Meet and Greet at 6:30 PM
Meet other BMW enthusiasts, bring your friends and your BMW
Have dinner and conversation and 'kick some tires'!
Discuss current BMW trends, activities and club events
Hope to see you there



We are on Facebook!

email danddwarner@att.net

Other Stuff...

Here are some 'tidbits' you might have missed, and one you do not want miss....

see below!



Congratulations to CCC member, instructor and racer Tom Bell for winning BMW CCA Club Racing's 2012 Sportsman of the Year Award! Tom will receive a plaque, a plaque will bear his name at BMW NA's lobby and he get's \$1000! At the track, Tom is always smiling and having fun. He goes out of his way to help racers when ever possible. He is also the focal point for many of the social part of Club Racing weekend. Congratulations Tom!!!



BMW's at Monterey 2012

In case you missed it, BMW was well represented in various classes at the 2012 Monterey Motorsports Reunion. Most notably was the first in class (Group 1A) win by John Fitzpatrick in his 1939 328 shown above.

Other notable finishers included Henry Schmitt (1978 M1 Procar) 6th place, Steve Walker (1973 CSL) 17th place, Ludwig Willisch (1975 CSL) 24th place and David Murry (1980 M1 Procar) all in Group 6A. Unfortunately the IMSA GTP shown —> broke during practice and did not compete.

Also Steve Walker finished in his 700S in group 5B and Jeff Gerken and CH DeHaan finished in their 2002's in Group 7B.

They don't build them like they used to!



2012 Sweetheart's Brunch

Sunday, February 10, 2013

11:30 AM

Visalia's Vintage Press Restaurant



A Special 'Treat' for your Sweetheart awaits...

Choose from 3 entrees:

Stuffed French Toast / Chicken Sausage and Poached Eggs / Classic Eggs Benedict

\$27 (includes gratuity and tax)

You MUST RSVP by February 8th

Wayne Wundram, bmwayne@aol.com Deb Warner, danddwarner@att.net



2013 Calendar

Feb 6	Monthly Meeting, Meet & Greet! Marie Callender's, Fresno. Dinner 5:30
Feb 10	Sweetheart's brunch. 11:30 AM Vintage Press Restaurant, Visalia RSVP by Feb 8. Details this issue.
Feb 23	Bimmers and Burgers at Noon In-N-Out Burger 8010 N Blackstone, Fresno
Mar 6	Monthly Meeting, Meet & Greet
Mar 17	Cars and Coffee, Euro Sunday Frank Vasquez for info.
April 3	Monthly Meeting, Meet & Greet
April 20	Day Trip to Sequoia Park (details to follow)
May 1	Monthly Meeting
May 19	Auto-cross at Visalia Airport (Don't miss this!)
June 7	Driving School at Buttonwillow

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Rick's Ramblings..... Rick Kapheim

Ok.....This is your assignment for the coming month. You are to go to your nearest BMW dealer (I know, you are like me and hang out there all the time already.) and test drive the X-1. This little critter comes in two wheel drive and all-wheel drive (I go for the all-wheel drive,) 4 cyl-turbo and 6 cyl turbo. The four banger has a great 8 speed automatic while the six makes due with the durable six speed auto. One reason to stay away from the two-wheel drive is that it has electric steering and the all wheel drive does not. While I have driven many vehicles with worse electric steering, you will feel the difference. The 4-banger was a hoot to drive and handled great in the San Jose Traffic. This vehicle is much lower than the X-3 and you really feel the center of gravity in your favor as you clip that apex hungry for the next corner. You feel the bumps more than in the X-3, but most of the time it is in a good way (Wet auto-cross anyone?). You can spec out a nice one for about 36,000 or so and then go crazy and the sky is the limit!!!! I am glad that they gave this X-1 a separate personality from the X-3. The X-3 is great, but you really deserve to drive both back to back if you want to see what BMW is up to these days in all wheel drive fun vehicles. After you finish your assignment, give the X-1 your grade.

Read all about it!!! The new Tesla got the Automobile of the year (Automobile mag.) and Motor Trend Car of the year! I know, we are BMW people to the core but it is always nice to see the home team do well also. Whenever I get to the San Jose area, which is more often lately as my favorite daughter has moved there, I tend to end up at the Tesla showroom. Funny, I am usually the only person in the room who is not working there that does not look like he is an engineer. The owners have a lot of passion for their cars and love to talk about their vehicles. These new cars are fast, can carry people the distance, and use no gas. Now when teachers like me can afford one this will be the game changer that it wants to be.

My brother Chris has this great idea, that the two of us each get a Porsche Boxster (Red) and drive across the country at some time when we are older. Mine will be manual and his will not. Now my brother is not a car guy usually (Although he did have the coolest cars in high school thru his upper mid twenties) he is smitten by the Boxster. I am too. I was lucky enough to drive last years' model at a track this last spring and I was in heaven!!!! This years model is revamped to even more goodness. Now my question is this. I am sixty-one and still feeling young, but what is the time line for the red roadster? Don't get me wrong, I love my little red one series but I am a planner my nature. I think I will go on the Porsche web site (again). I may have to have a few more talks about this with my brother. Sounds like fun.

In the mean time drive safe, but just drive.

ED'S EDDY FUNAHASHI



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