

# DAS RAD

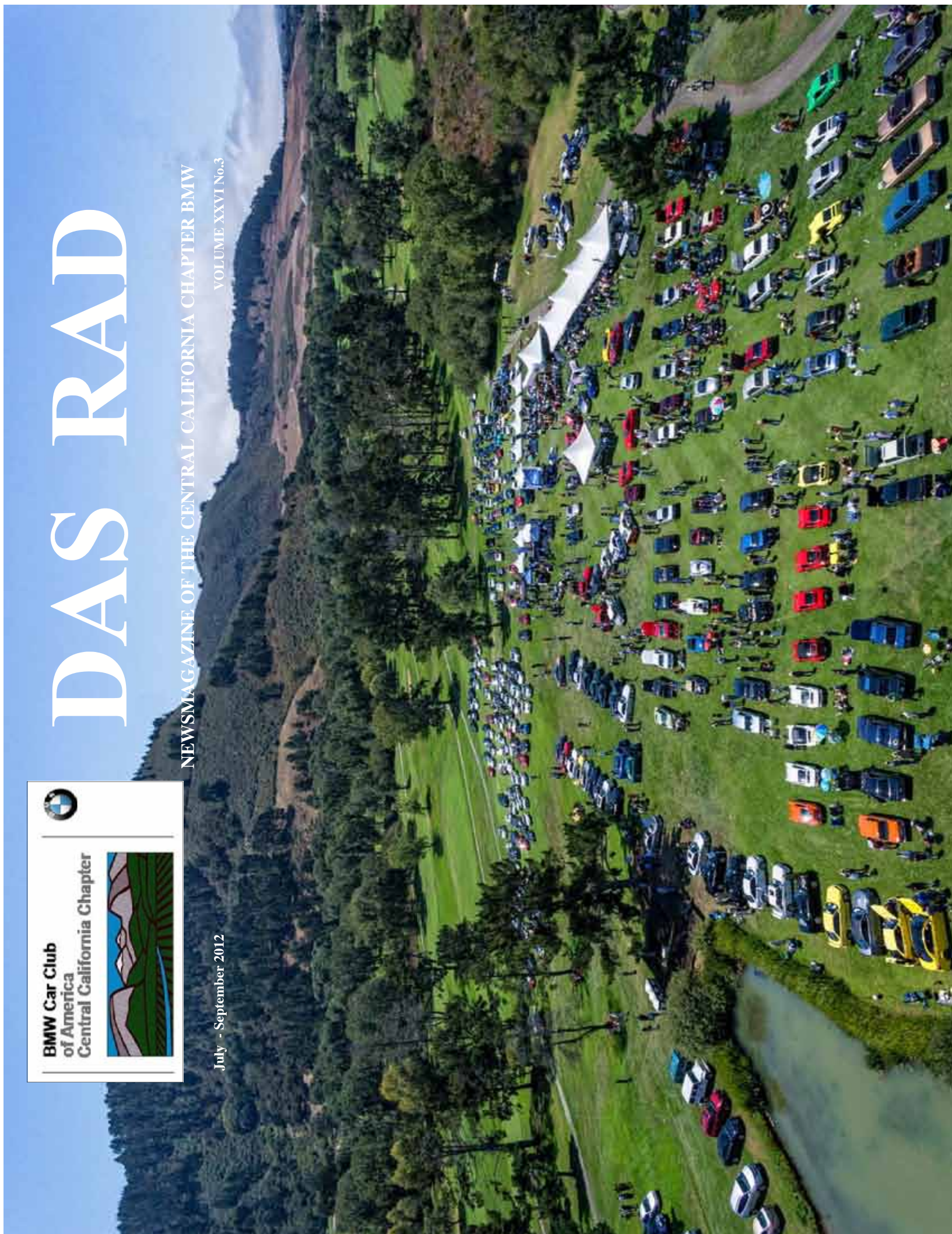
NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHAPTER BMW

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of America  
Central California Chapter







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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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### President's message...

... from Deb Warner

August is a very busy month of me – family functions, vacation and the best BMW event of the year! If you missed this year's Legends of the Autobahn, the nation's premier German marque concours, you missed an incredible show! I won't go into details, because I am certain the editor will cover that for me. But I can tell you, now is the time to plan for next year, because 2013 will be an extra special August! Not only will we host the Legends of the Autobahn, but our event will be the kick off for O'fest 2013! Yes, we begged and BMW CCA listened – the biggest BMW club event of the year is coming to the west coast! If you have never been to O'fest, like me, then we are all in for an incredible week-long amazing time in Monterey! We will be receiving details very soon, and will pass them along! Very exciting events for Central Cal in 2013, hope to see you there!

As the year winds down, we are gearing up for our Tire-Rack Street Survival School for teens on September 8, Semi-Annual Fall Colors Tour on November 10, and the Holiday Party, December 7! All events will be spectacular! So come out and play with us!

### 2012 Calendar

**Oct 3** Monthly meeting  
Marie Callender's, Fresno

**Nov 7** Monthly meeting  
Same as above

**Nov 10** Fall Colors Tour (day trip)  
Details at Nov meeting or sooner

**Dec 7** Holiday party/officer installation  
Sunnyside Country Club, Fresno  
Invitations and ballots will be sent out soon!  
RSVP's are a must!

**Remember, NO MONTHLY MEETING IN DECEMBER!**

### Elections...

Please be advised that nominations are now open for all officers and board member positions. If you are wishing to run for an office or board member position or know of someone who is interested, please contact Eddy Funahashi or Rick Kapheim to discuss the details. Nominations will close on Oct. 24 in order to have time to print and mail ballots. Eddy's and Rick's contact information is located above. Thank you.

**Please vote!!!**

**Photo credits...** The aerial photos on the cover and on page 2 were taken by Tip Weiss. This is the second year he has done the Legends of the Autobahn's aerial photographs. They provide a wonderful view of our 'sprawling' venue at Rancho. If you wish to view all of the pix he took at our event go to [www.aircamphotography.com](http://www.aircamphotography.com). 2011 and 2012 events are both viewable. You can purchase any of his photos online. Here's how he did it →



## Editor's Corner...

I don't know why, but this issue was particularly hard to 'get off the ground'. There was so much to write about and so many pictures to consider. But, oh well, what's done is done...

I have taken the liberty of combining a couple of issues (this one and the next, which will be out sometime before the Holidays) that will include coverage of the rest of the Monterey weekend as well as the other Central Cal eventful events, namely the wild autocross held at the Visalia airport and the Street Survival School held at the Fresno fairground in early September. I will be soliciting pictures and some text from some of you who were at these events, so be prepared to submit when asked... (?) Sounds funky but...

I do get some satisfaction from working this 'rag' but darn it, sometimes getting motivated to 'get it done' is the big obstacle. Once I get started it generally gets finished pretty quickly. So I thought you might be interested in where all this creativity is created and put forth onto/into the mysterious ether we call electronic media via key-stroking, mouse-clicking and photobucketeering... I give you...in all its glory... Wayne's work station... and yes, that is a laptop from the stone ages... runs on coal... Uses small stone inserts in the USB ports. Have a laugh...



...and enjoy this one on me! W

## Membership Report

As of Sept 5 we have 290 members, including 249 primary and 41 associate members.

### New Members:

Hugh Allen	Lemoore, CA	
Andrew Hall	Hanford, CA	
Todd Hower	Ripon, CA	WELCOME ALL!

## 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

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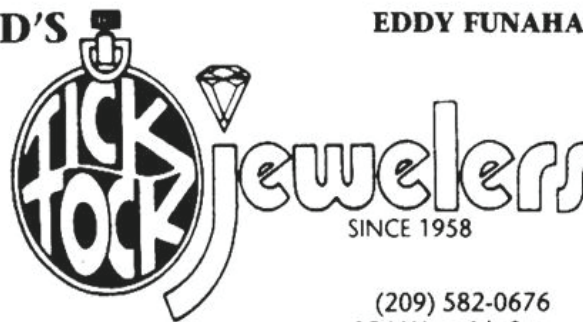
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AD SIZE	SINGLE ISSUE	FULL YEAR
OUTSIDE COVER	\$ 200.00	\$450.00
FULL PAGE	\$ 175.00	\$375.00
HALF PAGE (COLOR)	\$ 150.00	\$400.00
HALF PAGE (B & W)	\$ 125.00	\$325.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 100.00	\$275.00
BUSINESS CARD	\$ 50.00	\$125.00

The above rates are for a full year, include at least four issues of the DAS RAD, and may include additional issues or acknowledgement in the KAMMRAD. The contract period is for the fiscal year Jan 1 thru Dec 31. The advertisement must be paid by Jan. 1 to be included in the first issue. You may make changes to your ad provided the changes are requested before the copy deadline. The editor will advise you if there will be any additional charges for the changes made to your ad



# A Legendary Legends.....

## German Car Clubs hit their 'marques'!

I'm going to try something different this year. I'm actually going to write this story within a week of the event. When it actually gets to press remains to be seen. So here goes...

Being an 'insider' to this event and intimately joined to it, one gets a different perspective than the average participant or casual onlooker who 'drops by' to see what's going on. I look at it as a big jig-saw puzzle, literally taking the previous year's event, putting the pieces back in its box the day after the event. That box is then, the next day, shaken up and all the pieces are thrown on the table to begin putting it together again for next year, only there are twice as many pieces and there is a whole new picture to put together. That's the way the 2012 Legends of the Autobahn just about a year ago. And the way LOTA 2013 now begins.

This was our 4th year at the beautiful Rancho Canada Golf Club, and the 3rd for Legends of the Autobahn as it is now known. After the very successful 2011 edition, our event organizers made a decision to invite the Audi Club of North America to join the other three marques. And a great addition they now are! Welcome, Audi... glad to have you aboard!

Eight to ten months ago, all the club representatives met in Monterey to begin the task of bringing this year's event together. Discussions included, number of cars we could accommodate, food, judging areas, corral areas, special car areas, the biergarten (thanks Spaten!) entry and exit areas, overflow parking, trailer parking and all the other pieces of this grand puzzle. Site plans were considered and then finalized, as well as numbers of tents, tables, chairs and signage etc, etc. The registration process was determined and marketing plans were considered... and before we knew it, Thursday, August 16, was upon us and this big puzzle had to be pieced together, in life size on the grass at Rancho.

And on that day, a small army of VERY dedicated volunteers from all the clubs descended on the grass and set up this glorious event. Not without some angst along the way, like wondering if the Zagato would actually show... and as it happened, Legends served as the venue for the North American debut of the Zagato roadster. What an honor! We were holding our breath on that one. Seeing it there Thursday afternoon allowed the 'blue' to dissipate...

As word has spread about the event, so has its popularity. Although very modest compared to the more well know golf venues for the 'other' crowds, we generated support and interest to twice as many vendors this year, and have already had inquiries from new vendors for next year. Another piece of this puzzle coming together.

So, by 7:00PM Thursday, the stage is set and ready for the final puzzle pieces... cars and people...And we got 'em!

Cars started to enter the site before 7 AM. And, thankfully, most of the early arrivals were either concours cars or special display cars which occupied the center stage of our site. With the help of several registration teams to handle the onslaught of corral cars, we did not have any significant bottlenecks worth mentioning. Field coordinators from each club helped park the concours cars in their respective class areas... by design, they were all mixed this year. And the corral area, managed by Central Cal staff and Monterey High Schoolers was parked with laser-like precision. The special display car area, dominated by the Zagato and its 'cocoon' served as a central focal area with other 'heritage' cars including the BMW M8 and several very significant Audi race cars. There were also a couple of unique BMW motorcycles as well.

Now you may not know this, but this is 'supposed' to be a private club, 'members only' affair. And in all due respect it is. Technically, all the cars you see on the grass are either active members of one of the four clubs, or cars owned by new members, signed on that day.

All the people you see milling about are not necessarily car club members. Our event has been unique on the Monterey peninsula in that we do not charge for spectators! Estimates are that we may have had close to 1500 'walk in' types that were free to come and go throughout the day. And adding that to the registered entrants ( we had over 450 cars at the close of registration) we could have easily had close to 3,000 ( and likely more) venture onto the grass through the course of the day. Quite a difference from our first event with about 120 cars and 300-400 people... We have come along way. I am waiting for the overhead photos from this year as I am writing this. Can't wait to compare to last year.



Several views of the 2012 LOTA event including Rick's "family" admiring the Zagato, several view of the special car area and most important... our Central California Legends Concours "Team". The event would not have happened without your help.

**Thank you!**



photo by Fred Larimer

## Rick's Ramblings.....

by Rick Kapheim

Monterey Weekend (Well, more than a weekend) !!!!!

It does not get much better: Cars, food, weather, and friends, this event has the whole package. Every year I get excited when I get my package of tickets and passes. I try to pace myself out, as there is so much to do. These are some of my favorite things about Monterey in August (In no order):

: The first sound on automobile engines screaming as I drive up the road entrance to the racetrack on Saturday. Always brings on a smile (In the confines of my car there may be some loud verbal yells as well.).

: Talking to the racers and owners behind the track. This is fun, the people are so animated and excited about what they are doing.

: The "Corkscrew!"

: Seeing the cars drive into the "Legend" event early on Friday morning.

: Talking to the owners of cars being shown at the Legend event. The people are rightly proud of their machines and want to tell you all about them. I like to hear the history of the car and how the current owners got them.

: Walking into the Chart-House on Thursday night and hearing Steve Johnson's wit.

: Dinner at Cafe Fina in Monterey on Saturday night.

: Running into friends throughout the event at Lover's Point, especially in the morning.

: Watching with pride as our "crew" yet again pulls it off with style.

This year as we were driving through the tunnel in Monterey I rolled down the windows to hear my exhaust (a ritual at this event). I noticed that the sound was even better than usual. I then noticed that at my seven was a Ferrari pulling up even with me. As we left the tunnel we gave each other the "nod." It is that kind of event. OK, On to other things...

BMW notes that they are not going to offer manual transmissions in the new M3. It seems that we have gone through this before with BMW. I can only hope that they change their mind (at least for the American market) and offer a true manual.

While it was great to have Audi at our event this year, (Legends) it is instructive to us that they are our future competition when it comes to performance cars that you can actually afford (I know this is relative) and drive on a daily basis. Audi seems to be doubling down on performance models across the range. The company seems to be hungry. You may be asking hungry for what? The answer is us, the drivers of BMW's.

I love getting new tires, and lucky for me they are not expensive on the 91 318is that sits in my garage (14 inch wheels!). I asked the owner of the car (my favorite daughter) if it was ok to go back to original spec size tires before I ordered them. The car just looks right with the retro tires (all that rubber in the wheel-wells)! As we do not autocross this car anymore it was the way to go. The ride is somewhat smoother and the speedometer is actually correct now! And that new tire smell in the garage, wait, I think I am getting dizzy!!!

On that note I think I will take the E-30 out for a spin. After all, you don't want to have that new tire smell for too long.

I know just the road.

Drive safe, but just drive.

## Another Stunning Pebble Beach Affair

I have been covering the Pebble Beach event for many years and it is always with great anticipation that I await to see if there are any BMW entries on their list. Alas, to my surprise, there were none. Unless you looked to the two wheeled types. And there were several of those in all their glory.

As always, I am truly amazed at the spectacle that year after year, never ceases to amaze. And this year was no different.

A 1928 Mercedes-Benz 680S Saoutchik Torpedo owned by Paul & Judy Andrews of Fort Worth, Texas, was named Best of Show at the 62nd Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, held Sunday on the 18th fairway of Pebble Beach Golf Links. The event showcased 220 cars from 33 states and 15 countries and raised \$1,077,220 for charity.

Other noteworthy classes of fine automobiles included a stunning display of significant cars owned by the Maharaja's of India. Many pre-war (some pre WW-1) Rolls-Royce, Packards and Delage examples were available for your viewing pleasure. Including, the whimsical 1910 Brooke 25/30 HP Swan Car (shown below) They did have a sense of humor!







The most elaborate hood ornament



The most elaborate use of brass under the hood



Stephen Tyler's Hennessey Venom GT



Absolutely the best ever utilization of Central California Chapter personnel at any Pebble Beach event!

## Sights around Pebble...

Beautiful bikes and... the Zagato graces the green!



Absolutely no clue.....



Best car "face"



A 'teaser' for next issue... Motorsports Reunion and Auction highlights.....





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