**BMW Car Club** of America **Kansas City** 



**Special points of interest:** 

• President's Corner

• Red Barn Farm & Weston Rally!

• Teen Street Survival

• Hallett Event Recap

• Oktoberfest Concours d'Elegance

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# AilePost





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Want to stay up to date on the latest happenings in the BMW "welt?"

Please go to our website to be added to the KC BMW Club announcement email list. We'll use this list to notify you of upcoming exciting events and other club news.

http://www.kcbmwclub.com

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## The President's Corner

Bv: Mike Staub

Can it be Fall? The year has flown by so far. After a Spring Street Survival put on by our SCCA partners, the unbelievable car/driving extravaganza Flat Out Classic, Annual Picnic, Winery Tour and another successful No Excuses 5 DE, we've had quite a year!

A huge thank you to Joe Myers for organizing the Winery Tour, Angel Hall and Hugo Becker for organizing the Annual Picnic, and the DE/Car Show/Autocross team of Ryan Staub, Greg Lippert, Angel Hall, Tim Gerrity and Chris Conant for pulling off not one, but TWO events this year! Everything's in order for a repeat performance of both events next year. The team assures me that as unbelievable as Flat Out Classic was this year, next year will be even bigger and better! I can't wait!

While I'm on the topic of Flat Out Classic by the time you see this everyone should have your September issue of Roundel, our national monthly publication. Turn to page 66 for a full several page article and pictures on Flat Out Classic written for by our very own California to Kansas City transplant Jonathon Lawson. Well done Jonathon! Take a well deserved bow.

And speaking of Californians, if anyone questions the quality of our events or DE venues let me do a shout out to our friend Blaine McNutt, a DE Instructor who joined us this year at No Excuses. Blaine is a first class Instructor who lives in Los Angeles. His instructing resume includes multiple entries from the world class tracks Infineon and Laguna Seca. This is the third or fourth time he has joined us for No Excuses! He had signed up last year but was absent due to a bike wreck just prior to the event, but that didn't stop him from joining us again this year! A heartfelt thank you Blaine.

With all the above events, the year must be over, right? WRONG!

John Fickel is busy organizing an October 6 Street Survival. We limit the schools to 30 students. It takes almost 2 volunteers per student to pull these events off, so please contact John about helping. There are jobs available regardless of your skill set. You may just help to save a life! Brad Rein is organizing another All German Car Show. This is our chapters' premier car show and we always are in the running to be the biggest marque there! Whether you want your car judged or not, please shine up your car and attend. Brad Rein is also organizing another Weston Orchard cruise. Details on all of the above are in this issue. I hope to see you at all these events.

The Annual Dinner will be in January. Look for more information and a special invitation in December. Elections...... You are REALLY tired of reading my column aren't you? Then find me a replacement! Haha Seriously, I think we have a couple good people with interest

in serving as President next year, but we are always in need of new blood on our Board of Directors. It is a very rewarding job and really doesn't require that much time. If you would like to serve or want to nominate someone else, please contact any BOD member and they will forward



the information to the nominating committee. Simply said, WE NEED YOU!

I've served as President for three years, Vice President for two, Activities Director for 3 years and BOD member at large for a few more years. To say serving the club is a passion for me would be an understatement. It has been very fulfilling, but I am ready to turn over the leadership keys to someone else. I've already announced I won't be Event Master for Flat Out next year. As I had much to do with the creation of Flat Out, I don't plan on walking away. If I'm wanted, I'll stay on as Co or Assistant Event Master, just not the lead role. I stepped back from being Event Master at No Excuses this year and Greg, Ryan, Angel, Tim and the team made me proud! Well done. As with Flat Out, if 2013 brings forward a new President, I don't plan to walk away from leadership/management of the chapter as long as you all still want me. I'll still serve the chapter, just not in the key role.

Third Thursdays. A few months ago we moved Third Thursdays to Longbranch Steakhouse at the NW corner of I-35 and 87<sup>th</sup> Street in Lenexa. It feels like the membership hasn't found us yet. Attendance has been considerably below our norm. Please come join us and give the new location a chance. It's a nice venue for our group. Have a better idea for a permanent location for Third Thurdays? Please share your idea with any BOD member, but please remember, the bulk of our membership lives south of I-435 and on the Kansas side.

First Saturdays. As Third Thursdays attendance is down a little, First Saturdays seems to be increasing at the Panera at 103<sup>rd</sup> Street and State Line Road. Come join us! You don't have to stay all morning. Many people drop by, have a little to eat and/or drink, talk cars and then go about their Saturdays. Did you wake up a little late? There is usually still a good group of people there at 9:30AM. I hope to see you at First Sats!

Thank you to all the hard working people who made the first 8.5 months of this year great. I am honored to serve with you!

Keep the rubber side down and the shiny side up! ///Mike

## **Upcoming Events and Activities**

## **OCTOBER 20th**

#### **WESTON ORCHARD RALLY!**

Mark your calendar for an honored favorite event: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th

When we make our fall run to the Weston Red Barn!



Join us for a beautiful Autumn drive to Weston, Missouri to the Red Barn Farm for fresh country air and fun!

This event has become one of our chapter's favorite social events of the year as we take a scenic drive through the country and enjoy some fall run in Historic Weston.

This year, our destination is the Weston Red Barn Farm.

A trip to the Weston Red Barn Farm is like visiting a turn of the century working farm. In the spirit of preserving the American dream of farming, the Red Barn Farm offers visitors the opportunity to experience a real working farmstead, featuring traditional farm animals and crops, a country store with fresh produce, and a fall festival where families can come pick pumpkins and apples, and take a hayride while enjoying the country.

Afterwards, you're invited to explore one of the many fine breweries, dining, and shops in Weston!

We will meet at our Panera Bread location at 103rd & State Line at 8:00am and depart for Weston at 9:00am.

Please be sure to register for this event at <a href="http://kcbmwclub.motorsportreg.com/">http://kcbmwclub.motorsportreg.com/</a>

## **OCTOBER 21st**

## REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2012 GREATER KANSAS CITY ALL GERMAN CONCOURS 'd ELEGANCE!

## Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Hawthorne Plaza—119th & Roe

Join your fellow Kansas City Chapter BMW CCA members along with the Mercedes, Porsche, Audi, and VW groups for the annual All German show!

This is a premier, capstone event showcasing some of the area's finest German cars. Our club has always had a very strong showing and **WE NEED YOU** again this year.

Registrations are now open on <a href="http://kcbmwclub.motorsportreg.com/">http://kcbmwclub.motorsportreg.com/</a>

There is a modest \$15 participant registration fee for the event, and you must be a member to qualify for prizes, non-members are Display Only.

Dash plaques for every participant with awards for *Best In Class* for those entering for judging. There will also be Special Recognition and Judge's Choice awards.

Judged and Display-Only classes are as follows:

MY '04—'12

MY '92-'97

MY '98-'03

MY '86-'91

MY Pre-'85



## Hallet Motor Racing Circuit—Recap

#### by Angel Hall



Morning dances on the dew in the Mike Stephens Winner Circle like a galaxy of stars. The light peeks through the trees as birds sing in the country air. Soon, the first trucks and trailers will arrive for one

of the most anticipated events of the year—The No Excuses Driving Event at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit in Oklahoma

The day begins with warm greetings and coffee in the Finish Line Café, followed with friends catching up until the Event Masters and Chief Instructor kick off the day. No Driver's Meeting would be complete without the famous "Flag Demonstration" performed by the one and only Sami. ("This passing flag means there's a Race going on— and you ain't in it...")

Many new faces joined us for the 5th Anniversary of the No Excuses DE, some

who had never been involved in a car club before, and some who were long-standing veterans that were there for the very first one. Various makes and models of cars, but also a variety of skills on this very magical road course. As Registrar, I don't really experience the track the same way the driver's do. I get to watch them prove if it was having the desired effect—which is to say, are they getting better with each passing turn and straight.

There is classroom time, which lays very important foundations of why they come in the first place. No Excuses prides itself on having top-notch instructors and classroom sessions even for Advanced Students, so there is a little something for everyone at every stage of driving.

But in every driver, there is a story: How they got started, what they like and don't like to drive, when their first event was, and why they keep coming back for more. Sure the Saturday dinner is a treat, along with various best-friend antics in the pits—but there is something unique about Hallett. These moments are treasured keepsakes among friends who make this DE so special. The right mix of fun, friends, and drivers who are in love with DRIVING—for it's own sake.

The loudspeaker announces the first call to grid for the day, and cars are eager to break the peaceful breezes with the sounds of newly-tweaked engines and other modifications. Shiny paint and fresh vinyl numbers blur by the windows where I am, and I smile. I am home—Just as they are.

With every pass by the tower, it is like the moment after blowing out the birthday candles... wishing each one of them safety and confidence for the next lap—all weekend long! All of them have excellent instructors beside them to help see it through, so I'm not sure why I worry so much. :)



They have a support team inside the track and outside, too. Connie Stephens, and her son, Scott run one of the best operations in the business. They demand excellence, which I've come to admire about everyone at Hallett. It's comfortable to be there— and they do a fantastic job of making us always feel safe and welcome.

Between sessions, I catch conversations of technical talk, favorite laps, and friendships born and rekindled. People come and go grabbing a snack or two, then headed out

for the next go around, striving for performance perfection. They give it their all with open hearts and minds, and ready to try something different this time. Just a little more here and there. A little less in this turn. I love to hear them. This is like playing cars again—only bigger, much faster, and definitely cooler!

By mid-day, on Saturday, there is a group photo-shoot, of every-one's car that was in attendance. It was kind of funny from my perspective. I thought, "I'll have to ask Blaine McNutt if this is what a California highway looks like." I totally forgot to ask, but you can judge for yourself:



**Hallett Group Photo Shoot** 

## Thank you!

Your KC BMW Club Board would like to thank our members for making a positive difference in the community through your participation in our events hosted each year!

Please tell a friend, or bring a fellow BMW owner to one of our 1st Saturday meetings— the more, the merrier!

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## Club Merchandise Available Now!



This great shirt was designed by our very own
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## KCBMW Club Aims to Save Lives – Teen Street Survival By John P. Fickel

BMW Car Club of America Kansas City



The nationally-acclaimed, not-for-profit, Street Survival accident avoidance clinic will be taking place at the Metropolitan Community College Blue River Campus on **Saturday**, **October 6, 2012**. Please

note that you do not need to own BMW to attend.

One of the founding principles of our driving schools is teaching people how to drive safely. These schools are not about learning to be race car driver or driving faster. The goal is to learn how your car will respond in an emergency situation and safely navigate around or avoid an accident. Our ultimate goal is put an end to teens dying unnecessarily in automotive accidents. The cost is \$75 for the day, and lunch is provided. Graduation from the program often earns discount automotive insurance rates.

Registration is available here: <a href="http://www.streetsurvival.org/school-schedule-registration/">http://www.streetsurvival.org/school-schedule-registration/</a>

Driving is a daily activity that we take for granted. Few people realize driving is one of the most dangerous things that they do on a daily basis. Fewer people realized that a car traveling at just four mph has more energy than a bullet. That's a lot of responsibility for adults and more so for a teenager. A lot of you can testify that a little caution, preparation and training can mean the difference between getting into an accident and avoiding one.

Last year, over 5,000 teenagers died in motor vehicle crashes. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading killer of





youths aged 16 to 19, accounting for more than 40 percent of fatalities in teens. To reduce this number, Tire Rack Street Survival® has developed a non-profit, national driver education program aimed at teaching teens the skills they need to stay alive behind the wheel.

The school's objective is to reduce deadly car crashes involving teenagers by providing them with, a controlled setting where they can gain invaluable experience in car control. A knowledgeable instructor is at their side at all times helping them understand how important experience is over guessing when the unexpected happens on the road. The instructors volunteer their time and talents to help teenager drivers gain such experience. It is through the generosity of our volunteer instructors, we are able to run these events.

After taking the class, the students will become more observant of the traffic situations.. They will learn to look far enough ahead to anticipate unwise actions of other drivers. As the students master the application of physics to drive their cars, they will make fewer unwise driving actions themselves. They will understand why they should always wear their own seatbelts, and why they should insist that their passengers wear seatbelts, too.

The club needs all types of volunteers to the run the event. If you can't volunteer, the club also needs help in spreading the word about the event. Please talk to relative, friends and co-workers who have teens about attending the event.

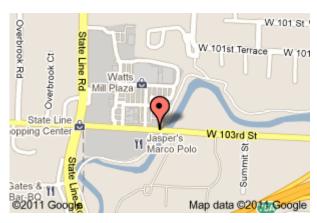
**CALL FOR INSTRUCTORS**: Please contact John Fickel if interested in instructing for this event!

## 1st Saturdays Panera — Come Join Us!

First Saturdays are at the Panera Bread Café at 103rd & State Line.

Please join us along with our Audi and Porsche friends at this fun location!
We encourage everyone to bring a friend and any potential new members who might like to join our group!

1128 W 103rd St Kansas City, MO 64114



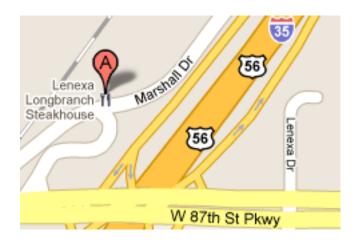


## 3rd Thursdays—Longbranch Saloon!

Our 3rd Thursday events are now at the Longbranch Saloon at 87th & I-35 @ 6:00pm!

Please join us in the reserved party room at Longbranch for our usual Thursday fun and delicious food!

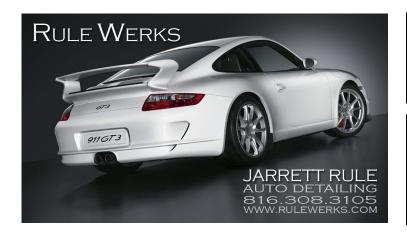
We're looking to keep this going—so why not bring the family along?



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We have the reserved room off to the side—come on out for some delicious food and fun!

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#### ...continued from page 5:

On Sunday, we had parade laps that were a lot of fun! Even those who aren't into the 'spirited' performance driving can still say they experienced Hallett for the Parade Laps! Even those with convertibles can enjoy the wide open blue skies for this part of the event.

Evenings with dinner party gatherings, late night antics with some of the usual culprits only bring me to the conclusion that these guys are more than just drivers. Deep down, they're brothers and sisters. Many are just

really big kids, but there's no harm in that. They drive hard, they play hard. It's all part of the appeal of the trip. Memories are shared and replayed in thoughts and subsequent stories, but everyone has their own versions. I can't wait to hear how they see this year's event—Next year.

All of those who attended have my deepest thanks and respect, so I set out to thank each and every one of them: in writing. I could thank everyone in a post, a tweet, an email—and those are nice... but not for these ladies and gentlemen. They deserved something a little more refined and sincere. I know they could have spent their weekend doing other things—but I was thankful they came out. The House of Hallett wouldn't have been the same without them.

The trip home even has adventures of it's own. Beautiful twilight skies across the prairie, open fields for miles in golden splendor. Then the peace is broken in giggles when I think about Greg Lippert wearing the 'Cone Hat', and Jeff Goman being silly for the camera. The Road. The Track. The Friends. In a word- Hallett. One of the best events of the year, and one I wouldn't miss for the world. I hope for anyone who missed it that we'll see you there next year. We've saved a spot at the table for you!



## An Attendee's Perspective... Email sent in from Devin Cox

#### "Angel,

I just wanted to let you know that I had an absolute blast! This was by far the best track day I have ever had on four wheels...

I wanted to note that Xavier was an excellent instructor and far exceeded my expectations. He was calm and

precise and said only what needed to be said, so I was not overwhelmed by what was going on. He also provided positive feedback when I got it right, which really underscored what I did to get things "right" and helped me reproduce those conditions on the following laps.

The classroom instruction was great as well, and handled in a very efficient manner. I learned some things, which I already knew, but they were presented in a different light and this helped me refine those techniques when on track.

You of course were a pleasure to deal with and I appreciate your time/help in getting me situated and accommodating my last second changes. It was very important to me to have that day, as it was the last plans me and my best friend made before he so very abruptly departed this earth.

All in all, this was the safest, best HST/HPDE event I've ever been to, and I look forward to #6.

#### Best Regards, Devin Cox"

Devin—I can't thank you enough for letting me share your email. From all of us on the team, we extend our sincerest condolences for your loss, and were delighted that you came to celebrate your friendship by attending the event with him in spirit. We're honored to have even been some small part of that with you. - Angel





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