

**BMW Car Club
of America
Kansas City**



MilePost

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Special Points of Interest:

- **President's Corner**
- **Butler/Bimmerworld Bash**
- **Weston Fall Rally and Red Barn Farm**
- **E36: A Place For Real Cups?**
- **Photo Bomb Pages**



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The President's Corner

by Mike Staub

I'd like to give a big welcome to the newest member of our Chapter's leadership group, Bob Young. Bob is the new Vice President of the Springfield Subchapter. We haven't forgotten our members in Souther Missouri, so look for upcoming events in your area soon. If you want to help get things rolling, contact Bob or me, as we would love to have your help.

Exhausting and spectacular! I can't think two better words to describe the No Excuses High Performance Driving School (DE) and Instructor Training School (ITS) at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit just a few days prior to this writing. What a great time! I am so proud of our KC team and our event partners at Sunbelt Chapter. Driving Events Coordinator and Chief Driving Instructor Ryan Staub, Co-event Master Greg Lippert, and Registrar Angel Hall, please take a well-deserved bow. Faithfuls of our DEs have grown to expect as much fun and excitement off track as on, and this year followed that tradition to great heights. Two years in a row we have shown up with Saturday dinner numbers that the hard-working staff at Kilkenny's in Tulsa had a hard time accommodating. Boisterous bench racing, joking and storytelling rang throughout the Irish Pub.

An intense 2-day ITS preceded the DE this year, and was headed by CCA ITS Facilitator Ron Bibb from Lone Star Chapter and our own Chief Instructor Ryan Staub as the Candidate Mentor "Wrangler." Ryan made sure Candidate Mentors were in the right place at the right time and that everything proceeded smoothly on track. There are only a few CCA ITSs throughout the Country each year and this was the first time we have hosted one. Even though there is a very careful vetting process for Instructor Candidates, the national pass rate is only 66%. I am very proud to say that 87.5% of our candidates passed!

It is my honor to announce KC Treasurer Justin Rutherford is now a member of the instructor ranks. Joe Myers, Matt Sweeney, and Jordan Van Ry joined the instructor ranks from



our local chapter as well.

Local chapter member and past President Alan Staples not only served as an Instructor Candidate Mentor, but the CCA Driving Events Committee has also asked him to be an ITS Facilitator in training.

Congratulations gentlemen!

I would like to thank the Lone Star Chapter who, for the second year, was a non-equity partner in the event. Texas plates were all over the paddock! Regional Driving Events Coordinator and Lone Star member Bruce Heersink made a very nice contribution to our ITS from his regional budget, and he has also challenged us to host a Club Race at Hallett next year. Hmm... Did I mention the word "exhausting" above? Haha! We shall see.

It's not time to call it a year yet! There are still many events to enjoy before the snow flies. As this hits the mailboxes we will have just completed the September 21 Street Survival at Kansas Speedway and the September 22 All German Car Show. Look for pictures and articles in the next issue of Milepost. A date hasn't yet been established, but look for an announcement in the next issue of Milepost for a January or February date for the Annual Dinner. Crowds have been growing at our First Saturdays events at Panera on Shawnee Mission Parkway, so don't be left out. Stop by, have a coffee, and say hi.

I'll close the column on what seems to be a common challenge for our chapter, or all chapters to be honest. Volunteerism! There are several ways you can help your chapter other than just showing up to events. The simplest form is to be a volunteer at an event, and help the Event Chairs with a multitude of duties. They are always quite appreciative for any help. The next step is to volunteer to chair an event. Sound scary? It's not. We have a checklist we have put together and will usually team you up with someone who has experience chairing events your first time or two. Once you've help with or chaired some events, and are feeling really brave, volunteer or run for a seat as an Officer or Member at Large on the Board of Directors!

We are always looking for new talent. Talk to me or any of the other Officers or Board Members for more details.

Keep the shiny side up!

///Mike



Upcoming Events and Activities

December

Do it Yourself, and Save Money!

DIY Winter Prep Session

Join us at DIY Auto Repair in Olathe to prepare your car for the upcoming winter season. Change tires, replace fluids, or whatever size job you need.

We'll have our event chairperson there for the scheduled times, but you're always welcome to stay later.

Watch for the DIY thread in the events forum at:

<http://kcbmwclub.com/forum/>

Once the thread is live for this event, be sure to post what jobs you'll be doing, or with which you may need help.

Please see the ad on page 2 for the address, hours and fees.



January or February

Annual Dinner

The date and location are yet to be determined, but watch KCBMWclub.com, our club forum and the next issue of Milepost for details to come.

Guaranteed to be the greatest Annual Dinner since the last one!

Calendar

NOTE: Many activities below are tentative. Please visit: <http://kcbmwclub.com/forum/> for the latest and most up-to-date information about all upcoming events.

Oct	5	First Saturdays, Panera
	17	Third Thursdays, Zarda
Nov	2	First Saturdays, Panera
	21	Third Thursdays, Zarda
Dec	7	First Saturdays, Panera
	TBD	DIY: Winter Prep. Session
	19	Third Thursdays, Zarda
Jan/Feb		
	TBD	Annual Dinner

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Butler & Bimmerworld Bash + KS Speedway

by Jonathan Lawson



If you missed the inaugural GRAND-AM race weekend at Kansas Speedway, then you missed out on some good times. Luckily, though, you'll have the opportunity to

make up for it when they come back next summer. If you missed out on James Clay's 40th birthday bash at Butler C&D, however, then you truly missed out.

The week of motorsport mayhem started with James and the Bimmerworld team showing up early in the week for race preparations, but also to celebrate Clay's 40th birthday with old friends and new at Butler C&D in Merriam. And celebrate we did!



It was a higher-than-expected turnout, too, which is always good to see, and it proves how great the KC BMW Club camaraderie is. Of course, so many people showed up that if you showed up fashionably late, you missed out on the Butler-supplied Oklahoma Joe's BBQ. Not that I'd know anything about that, but believe me when I say that I'll never show up 15 minutes after a start time again. At least not when food is involved.

It was great to see familiar faces as well as several new people in the mix, and it was

equally great to see and spend time with the Bimmerworld team and, of course, James Clay the birthday boy.

In fact, even the Bimmerworld crew enjoyed the time spent, as one of them decided to seize an opportunity to show James' face just how great the birthday cake was, up close. Retaliation for the attack was just a can of whipped cream away, but the weapon of choice had already given off its last blast prior to James pulling the trigger. I have no doubt reparations were made at some point between leaving the Kansas City area and arriving at home in Virginia.

Bimmerworld drivers Gregory Liefoghe, Tyler Cooke and James Clay were the the first of many weekend celebrity drivers to graciously add their autographs to the HANS devices to be auctioned off with proceeds going to Street Survival.





Club member who attended the events at Kansas Speedway were treated to up close and personal views of all the race teams in the paddock, and our well-connected liaison Ryan Staub made sure that we got to have some good meet and greet sessions with our favorite teams and drivers. Based on the photo above, it seems Ryan Staub even took it upon himself to give a few drivers some pointers on race craft...

As for the racing, there was some great action across the board. The BMW corral offered probably the best seats in the house due to our view of the entire track, but we also had the benefit of having the greatest group of people to watch some races with.

As for Bimmerworld's race, they actually did surprisingly well considering how things were looking for them early on. Despite having bad gearing for the speedway, which had them between gears just about everywhere, and despite dismal starting positions on the grid (22nd for #81), the 81 and 80 cars still managed a very respectable 5th and 6th finish respectively.

We're already looking forward to the GRAND-AM race next year, and now that we've seen the lay of the land, it can only get better. We hope you join us, but we can't guarantee the weather to be as picture perfect as it was this time around.

As always, watch your *Milepost* and kcbmwclub.com for information as the date gets closer.



Weston Fall Rally and Red Barn Farm

by Jonathan Lawson

It's that time of year again! Time for our Annual Weston Fall Run to the Red Barn Farm—with Scavenger Rally!

By the time this issue reaches you, the annual KC BMW Club Weston Fall Rally and Red Barn Farm

Picnic will be just a couple of weeks away. If you've been before, you'll likely be signed up to go already, but if you've never been before, don't miss out! It's one of the highlights of our local club membership.

The picnic will be on October 5, 2013 at Weston Red Barn Farm in Weston, MO, but the drive and Fall Rally will start at 9:30 a.m. from our First Saturdays location at Panera Bread, 10606 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Shawnee KS 66203.

Join us on our pilgrimage to this family event, which is guaranteed to have something for everyone. The scenic drive to Weston has always been a club favorite, and this is the perfect location to pick out your fall pumpkins and delicious apples!

If you're looking to enroll in the "text rally," you'll need to register beforehand, and be sure to arrive at Panera no later than 9:00 a.m. to get your instructions. Anyone is welcome to show up earlier for breakfast and socializing.



The rally will start at 9:30 a.m. and participants will need a fully charged mobile phone with text messaging enabled, as well as a full tank of gas. There will be checkpoints during the rally with clues given via text message, so it's

highly recommended that you have a navigator to assist you.

Full signup instructions for the rally, as well as information regarding the non-rally drive and picnic itself are available and updated on the club site, our forum, and on our registration page at <http://kcbmwclub.motorsportreg.com>.

Registration closes on Thursday, October 3 at 11:59 p.m., so sign up now, and don't miss out on the last great driving event of the year.



E36 Real-World Upgrade: Cup Holders You Can Use!

by Jonathan Lawson

Sure, most people wanting to modify their BMWs are looking for either more power, better handling or simply individualization. Anyone who's been in an E36 for more than five minutes knows that there's one thing they're severely lacking, however, at least if they've tried to bring along a cup of coffee or bottle of water.

As great as the E36 chassis is, the cup holders were like a bad joke the Germans wanted to play on the U.S. customers. It wasn't until small energy drink cans came along that anything could fit in them, so they've ended up being left empty, or holding sunglasses, phones, or just being used as tiny trash cans on the road.

Over a decade later, there's finally a worthwhile solution. Real cup holders. I mean, the kind that can actually hold cups! Coffee on the go? No problem! Medium-sized water bottle? You betcha!

Thomas Hancock, president of Origin Equipment, has an OE-looking replacement that clicks right into the factory tray, and

even utilizes replaceable rubber tabs to hold things still (replacements are included).

Now, when I say they "click right in," that's not entirely accurate. It does take a little bit of quality fun time with a marker and a Dremel to cutaway some plastic bits in order to make room for the wider base, but it's a small price to pay to quench your thirst on a road trip.

I'd suggest making easy-to-see marks with something that stands out more than a marker before cutting, and be sure you cut off enough plastic to get fitment correct, but it's a relatively easy and fun project overall, and a way to tell our favorite Bavarians, "Hey, it may have taken us over 10 years to find a real solution, but check this out!"

This is a genuine drop-in replacement for the worthless factory units, and at just under \$40, plus shipping and 30 minutes of your time to install, it's absolutely worth it: <http://www.originequipment.com/products/oe36cupholder> (Watch for installation details on the forum.)



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