

Tentative 2013 Schedule

Check online at www.motorcitybmwcca.org for the most up-to-date schedule

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January

February

March

20—kickoff dinner at Logan's Steakhouse on the grounds of Oakland Mall

April

27—spring thumb drive

May

05- car control clinic/ autocross

June

01- Detroit grand prix BMW car corral

21—one day high performance drivers school at Waterford Hills

16— EyesOn Design gathering

July

Summer tour—13 concours d'elegance rumble-seat picnic— 28

August

street survival school-24

September

two day high performance drivers school at Grattan Raceway— 27-29

October

November

K2K karting enduro-tbd

December

holiday party and annual members meeting-04

• Note: italicized events are not affiliated with the MotorCity Chapter BMW CCA and are for information only

For more information about upcoming events please contact us

MotorCity Chapter of the BMW CCA

Board of Directors

President	David Wong	248.245.7621	president@motorcitybmwcca.org
Vice President	Dan Cleary	586.665.1488	vicepresident@motorcitybmwcca.org
Vice President	Horst Reinhardt, Jr.	586.991.2455	vicepresident@motorcitybmwcca.org
Treasurer	Randy Perry	734.786.0232	treasurer@motorcitybmwcca.org
Secretary	Kyle Albert	248.739.2116	secretary@motorcitybmwcca.org
Newsletter Editor	Horst Reinhardt, Jr.	586.991.2455	newsletter@motorcitybmwcca.org
Driving Events Chair	Gary Davis	734.308.7299	drivingevents@motorcitybmwcca.org
Membership Chair	Paula Albert	248.739.2116	membership@motorcitybmwcca.org
At-Large Director	Ross Hotz	248.423.5573	director@motorcitybmwcca.org

Volunteers

Dealer Liaison	Rob Roy	xxx	dealer@motorcitybmwcca.org
Activity Director	Open	xxx	activities@motorcitybmwcca.org
Web Master	Phil Taylor	586 484 8600	webmaster@motorcitybmwcca.org
Events Registrar	Open	760.507.1602	registrar@motorcitybmwcca.org
Volunteer-at-Large	Bob LaMontagne	231.534.4585	atlarge@motorcitybmwcca.org

MotorCity BMW CCA P.O. Box 2174 Farmington Hills, Michigan 48333-2174

MotorCityCourier Pit Crew

Editor-in-Chief	Horst Reinhardt, Jr.	586.991.2455
Publisher	H Media	586.991.2455
Contributing Writers	Any Member	328.760.2002
Photography	Any Member	540.318.1600
Printing Services	Copyrite Printing	586.774.0006

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mately 850 copies.



Last year, over 5,000 teenagers died in motor vehicle crashes, the leading killer of American youths aged 16 to 19, accounting for more than 40 percent of fatalities in that age bracket. To reduce this number we developed Tire Rack Street Survival, a non-profit, national driver education program aimed at teaching teens the skills they need to stay alive behind the wheel.







rants & ramblings summer reading list

ne of the great pleasures of summer is settling down in a favorite shady spot outdoors and immersing yourself in a good story while the scent of lilac swirls about and a refreshing cocktail dances on your tongue. Of course if you're like me, the same can be said of winter— replace the garden furniture with an easy chair and the cocktail with something a bit stiffer and delving into a good book is equally satisfying. And thus I share with you what I read this past winter as suggestions for you this summer.

This is a *car* club and I happen to be a *car* enthusiast so my recommendations will be limited to, well, *car* books.

First up is a compilation of essays originally published by David and Charles, Limited in the U.K. in 1970 and then republished by the SAE in 1992: "Automobile Design, Twelve Great Designers and Their Work" edited by Ronald Barker and Anthony Harding. It's a wonderful illustrated collection of essays by subject matter experts on the work of famous and not so famous automotive pioneers. It portrays innovative designers like Henry Leland, Hans Ledwinka, Harry Miller, Colin Chapman and Vittorio Jano as people, emphasizing their backgrounds and character as much as their designs.

Not a fancy book by any means the pictures and illustrations are all black and white and look like they were photocopied a few times— but well worth the price of admission if you're at all interested in the singular personalities that moved automotive design and engineering forward. Speaking of personalities, "Carroll Shelby, the Authorized Biography" by Rinsey Mills and published by Motorbooks is the definitive biography of the biggest of them all.

Written with the full cooperation of Carroll Shelby, this book delves deep into the man's life, from his childhood in Texas,

I cannot forget to plug our own book, "Occasional Crisis of Conscience: an Automotive View of the World". Ten years worth of the best *Courier* columns...

joining the Army Air Force during wartime, early businesses (including his stint as a "chicken farmer") on through his racing career as a driver, team owner and collaborator and finally on to car builder.

This excellent book also delves into Carroll's life away from cars including his many health issues, his entrepreneurial failures and successes and love of globetrotting (including his time in Africa). It is truly a lively and well written deep dive into the man's life.

A slightly less ambitious book which makes up for its lack of detailed copy with a lot of wonderful color photography is "Derek Bell, My Racing Life". As the title suggests, it's almost all about Derek's racing career. I've been a fan of Derek Bell for many years by way of the machines he drove and races he raced. I'm a huge fan of endurance racing and Bell is the consummate endurance sports car driver. He has won the Le Mans 24 Hours five times and the Daytona 24 three times. He's driven everything from Ferraris in Formula One to Vauxhalls in the WRC but his drive in the Rothmans Porsche 962 in the 1987 Le Mans elevates him to worthy of hero worship in my mind.

Written by Derek Bell along with Alan Henry and published by Haynes Publishing, "My Racing Life" is a top quality book filled with some truly great photography and just enough prose to leave you wanting for more.

As I write this we're only a month away from the aforementioned Le Mans 24 Hours endurance race in France. The series of books that fall under the title "Le Mans: The Official History of the World's Greatest Motor Race" will definitely hold you over until race day. Each volume takes an in depth look at a decade of 24 hours— I have 1970–79 and 1980–89. The books are filled with stats, full race reports and interesting sidebars on some of the smaller teams. Quentin Spurring is the author and the series is published by Haynes.

Finally, I cannot forget to plug our own book, "Occasional Crisis of Conscience: an Automotive View of the World". Ten years worth of the best *Courier* columns by Dave Seemann, Randy Perry and yours truly— available for sale at Amazon.com. What better way to enjoy a Michigan Summer?







BMW of Ann Arbor supports the MotorCity Chapter of the BMWCCA

As a member of the BMWCCA, you are entitled to special pricing in every department at BMW of Ann Arbor. Just present your membership information for your BMWCCA discount.

Now offering up to 20% off parts for all BMWCCA members!



The NotorCity Summer Tour

That's right--we're taking the wraps off of MotorCity's first annual *Summer Tour,* planned together with the Michiana Chapter and set

for Saturday, July 13!

We'll rendezvous in the morning just west of Ann Arbor and take winding back roads to a unique winery in central southern Michigan for a private visit. Then more back roads to a local (and legal!) distillery to see how vodka is made. And to complete our educational tour, we'll take a short drive and finish the tour with a visit to a brewery, just to make sure we've covered all the bases. Finally, a short walk will take us to The Common Grill in Chelsea for great food and conversation.

Thanks to Lane McEnaney, General Sales Manager, we'll be meeting at 8:30 in the morning at BMW of Ann Arbor at 501 Auto Mall Drive just off Jackson Road, in Scio Township, west of Ann Arbor. We'll have coffee and donuts, do registration, tour the cars and shop, talk about life and BMWs and MINIs, and be on the road by 9:15 to our first stop, which is just about an hour away by the back roads.

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Concours d'Elegance Rumble Seat Picnic





Join us for our seventh annual Rumble Seat Picnic at the 2013 Concours d'Elegance of America at the Inn at St. John Sunday, July 28th

Come Celebrate Automotive History & Heritage at the 35th annual Concours d'Elegance with your friends at the MotorCity Chapter of the BMW CCA. We will meet up for a pot-luck breakfast at **Hines Park Wilcox Lake Recreation Area** at the crossroad of Hines and Northville.

We ask you to bring a light dish or beverage to share for the pre-event picnic from 8:00 to 9:30 am.

We will then caravan to the event.

Please R.S.V.P. to Paula at secretary@motorcitybmwcca.org or 248.739.2116





BMW and Pininfarina are two of the most tradition-swathed names in the motoring world. Each is a byword for cutting-edge technology, style, dynamics and aesthetics. With the BMW Pininfarina Gran Lusso Coupé, the two time-honoured companies are unveiling the outcome of their first collaboration at the Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este 2013. The BMW Pininfarina Gran Lusso Coupé is a one-off and represents the exclusive interpretation of a luxurious BMW Coupé as seen through the eyes of Pininfarina. Working in close consultation, the two design teams have created a new automotive persona brimming with character and ready to join the high-end luxury class – typically BMW while sporting the distinctive signature of Pininfarina.

With the BMW Pininfarina Gran Lusso Coupé, the BMW Design team took up exclusive design aspects such as luxury and elegance and fed them into a creative exchange with long-established specialist car designer and manufacturer Pininfarina. In this elaborately created one-off, the renowned companies BMW Group and Pininfarina joined forces to bring an idea to fruition: "The appeal of this collaboration with Pininfarina is that you get another, very different and special angle on facets like luxury and exclusivity," notes Karim Habib, Head of BMW Design. "The Italian company, after all, has always been a byword for these criteria in particular, demonstrating time and again its keen sensitivity and exceptional finesse in these areas. In Pininfarina we have found the ideal partner to lend shape to this vehicle concept." "The result of this cooperative venture is far greater than the sum of its parts," says Fabio Filippini, Head of Design at Pininfarina. "When two such tradition-rich and experienced brands join forces to turn a vision into reality, something utterly new and exciting emerges. From start to finish, this project was defined by a mutual respect for the identity of the other company."



Engine of the Year Awards

The BMW Group has extended its run of success in the International Engine of the Year Awards by recording two more class wins. The company's latest distinctions in the globally renowned competition came courtesy of two drive units which bring sporty performance characteristics to current BMW and MINI vehicles in particularly efficient style. In a repeat of last year, the 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine with BMW TwinPower Turbo technology fitted in models including the BMW 1 Series, BMW 3 Series and BMW 5 Series finished top of its displacement category. And the 1.6-litre four-cylinder MINI TwinPower Turbo engine from the MINI Cooper S went one better, celebrating its third class win in a row. The Engine of the Year Awards were presented on 5 June 2013 at the Engine Expo fair in Stuttgart.

Instantaneous power delivery and a level of efficiency unmatched by any rival were the cornerstones of the BMW Group's successful showing in the Engine of the Year Awards. The winners in each category and overall are decided by an international jury, made up this year of 84 motoring journalists from 35 countries. The company's success in two categories of the International Engine of the Year Awards represents further evidence of its globally recognised development expertise in the area of drive system technology. Since 1999, the BMW Group has racked up over 60 class and overall wins in the competition.

BMW TwinPower Turbo technology once again provided the key to success in the 1.8 – 2.0-litre displacement class. In the winning BMW fourcylinder engine this package of technology comprises a twin-scroll turbocharger, High Precision Direct Injection and BMW Valvetronic fully variable valve control. The 180 kW/245 hp version of the engine is used to power the BMW 328i, BMW 528i, BMW Z4 sDrive28i, BMW X3 xDrive28i and BMW X1 xDrive28i.



Courtesy of BMW NA

The other class conqueror in the BMW Group's engine line-up also won over the Engine of the Year Awards jury – for the third consecutive year – with its impressive balance of sports performance and economy. The 1.6-litre four-cylinder MINI TwinPower Turbo unit, again the dominant force in the 1.4 - 1.8-litre category, boasts twin-scroll turbocharging with an overboost function, direct petrol injection and valve control based on the Valvetronic system. Its maximum output of 135 kW/184 hp enables the MINI Cooper S to accelerate from 0 – 100 km/h (62 mph) in 7.0 seconds and deliver average fuel consumption in the EU test cycle of 5.8 litres per 100 kilometres (48.7 mpg imp). This highly efficient drive unit is now also available for the MINI Cooper S Countryman and MINI Cooper S Paceman, where it can be combined with the ALL4 all-wheel-drive system.

Waterford Hills

Road Race Course One Day Friday, June 21st Performance

Our One Day High Performance Driver's School at Waterford Hills Road Race Course is the perfect venue for beginners and experts alike. It's cheap, it's local, it's only one day. If you've never been on the track and would like to give it a try, this is the school to attend.

Registration is quick and simple at www.motorsportreg.com. If you have questions, check out the forums at our club website at www.motorcitybmwcca.org via Classic and Vinta

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Date:All Day Saturday August 24thFees:\$75 per student (includes 1 year BMW CCA membership)Where:Faith Christian Assembly Christian Church
25201 Outer Drive, Melvindale, MI 48122



"Your son or daughter, niece or nephew, neighbor or friend will be gaining some valuable skills to better his or her driving techniques on the road at the Tire Rack Street Survival School. Parents are welcome to stay for the school all day if they wish. You will be able to listen to the instructors in the classroom while they are teaching the students. The instructors will be available throughout the day to answer questions you might have about the course events students are going through."-- www.streetsurvival.org

Open to all licensed or permitted drivers Registration: at www.streetsurvival.org

We have organized the course to go beyond the standard driver's education curriculum; to show new drivers some of the physical limits of their car and themselves in an open and safe environment. The course is a combination of class-room and real world vehicle exercises. And you do not need to own a BMW to participate— all are welcome.

Volunteers are always needed, if you would like to participate, please contact the driving events chair, Gary Davis at email drivingevents@motorcitybmwcca.org or 734.308.7299





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Our Two Day High Performance Driver's School at Grattan Raceway near Grand Rapids is a real favorite of the pros. But don't worry, if you're a beginner you're welcome as well. Grattan is a track that offers it all, off camber corners, elevation changes and a big old front straight. Registration is quick and simple at www.motorsportreg.com. If you have questions, check out the forums at our club website at www.motorcitybmwcca.org



your turn at least BMWs don't have left handed lug nuts

Bob Elton

newsletter@motorcitybmwcca.org

here once was a time when significant numbers of cars had left handed lug nuts. The lug nuts on the left side of the car had reversed threads, requiring that they be turned clockwise to be removed. Most of these cars were Chryslers.

Back in the Paleolithic era, when I was just staring to mess around with cars, Chrysler actually advertised left handed lug nuts as evidence of their engineering superiority. All those ads must have had an effect, because I was determined that my first car would be a Chrysler. Eventually my ever patient parents let me bring home a dead car to tinker with, and I chose a 1954 Chrysler New Yorker. I held out for a New Yorker because New Yorkers had the hemi V8 engine. And yes, Chrysler had hemis over 60 years ago. My New Yorker even had a 2 speed automatic transmission, big news for 1954. That's 2 speeds, as in 1/4 of the speeds in a new BMW 3 series.

It wasn't long before I discovered some other Chrysler idiosyncrasies. Back then, all cars had points. Points, being mechanical and electrical devices, began to deteriorate as soon as they were installed. Guys were always fiddling around with points, adjusting them, and cleaning them. Imagine my surprise when I opened up the distributor on my old Chrysler, which was buried at the back of the engine under the windshield, and discovered that it had 2 sets of points. Not only were they each adjustable, they were adjustable relative to each other. After I adjusted them, the car wouldn't even start. This was when I discovered the value of a library card and the latest edition of Motors Manual.

Brakes were another Chrysler eccentricity. All cars had drum brakes back then, but Chrysler decided they had to use not one but 2 wheel cylinders in the front wheels. Inside the brake assembly, a steel tube connected the 2 cylinders. This tube could not be inspected without disassembling the brakes. After lots of New York winters, the tube could rust and fail without warning.

Since dual system brakes were quite a ways in the future, the results could be catastrophic.

Warning: this column refers to ancient automotive technology. Readers under 50 are advised to seek advice from elders to understand unfamiliar terminology

Chrysler's brake eccentricities extended to the shoes as well. Most cars had a simple star wheel adjuster that, when turned with a screwdriver stuck through a slot in the back of the brakes, could expand the shoes to take up for wear. Chrysler created a brake system that required 2 eccentrics for every shoe. That is, there were 4 adjustments at every wheel. Each of these eccentrics had to be turned in the correct direction to make the brakes work smoothly and evenly. And, just for grins, the front and rear wheel adjusters worked in different directions. And of course the right and left brakes were the direct opposite. There were no automatic adjustments back then: guys were adjusting brakes almost as often as they adjusted points.

All these cams and mechanisms left no room in the rear brakes for a parking brake mechanism. So Chrysler provided another complete drum brake on the back of the transmission. When the cars were new, they probably worked, at least somewhat. But age and grime usually rendered them useless in a few years. Johnstown, New York had a lot of hills, and a lot of winter. It wasn't unusual for a river of ice to form next to the curb. Applying the parking brake locked the driveshaft, but the rear wheels could still spin in opposite directions. It was not unusual to see a parked Chrysler gradually descending a hill with the curbside wheel slowly spinning backwards on the ice. Experienced Chrysler owners carried a brick to put under a wheel just in case.

Despite these eccentricities, Chrysler was the 2nd largest automaker in the world, at least through 1952. Apparently the buying public also fell for the "engineering superiority" image as well. No matter, they held 2nd place, well ahead of Ford, for more than a decade and a half.

We all know what happened to points, and drum brakes.

But left handed lug nuts? I suspect that some time, about 1970, Chrysler's chief engineer looked out the window of his top floor office in Highland Park, and noticed that the roads weren't littered with Fords and Chevys missing a left wheel, and decided that the decades old tradition no longer mattered.

BMWs may have their foibles, but at least they don't have left handed lug nuts.

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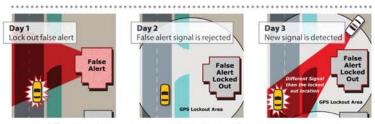
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