

ULTIMATE TIMES

NITTANY BIMMERS CHAPTER BMW CCA

July 2012 - VOLUME 22 #3



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www.nittanybimmers.org
(check us out on Facebook too!)

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of America
Nittany Bimmers





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Check-out Our Club on the Internet at:
www.nittanybimmers.org

If you have not visited the Nittany Bimmers web site recently, you should.

Here is what you will find there:

NEW

Car Club Network - A video network with channels for Autoweek TV, Haggerty CCTV, Mini, Grand Am, and Nittany Bimmers. Our channel gives us a place to publish videos for our club members. Channel contents are updated frequently. A BMW channel is in the works.

CURRENT

Calendar - All planned club events and activities are listed on the calendar with dates, times, and a link to event details. Get the latest on what is happening in the chapter right here. As things change, the updates are posted here. Our newsletter is published quarterly but our calendar is updated as things unfold.

Upcoming events - The next event or two is highlighted complete with links to the event details.

Event sign-up form - Want to participate in an event? It's easy to sign-up using our on-line form.

Photos - Slide shows with pictures from recent events appear on the home page. See a picture that you like? Download a copy for yourself.

Classified ads - Looking for something? Have something to sell? Use the classified ads. They're free.

Newsletters - Electronic copies of the club newsletters are available here, from the current to as far back as 1998. Current newsletters will appear here even before you get your copy in the mail, and the electronic copy is in color.

Links - Looking for something for or about your BMW? Check the Links page. Here you will find links to many useful sites including local dealerships, BMW CCA, parts suppliers, other car clubs, and driving schools and racing. If you have a favorite link that you would like to share with the Nittany Bimmers, send it to webmaster@nittanybimmers.org.

Officers/Contacts - Want to know who to contact about something? Look at the Administration page for a complete listing of club officers and their contact information.

WHAT'S COMING

Club Store - The board is working on establishing a club store where you will be able to buy merchandise with the new club logo on it. Hats, shirts, jackets, etc. Watch for it.

Harry Albright
Webmaster

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CLASSIFIEDS

Have your **BMW "FOR SALE"** items listed on our chapter webpage: www.nittanybimmers.org

To post classifieds, email: classifieds@nittanybimmers.org.

Ads are posted for one month. If the item(s) are sold please email: classifieds@nittanybimmers.org so the site can reflect the item(s) as sold.

The Hotel Hershey hosted the second annual Elegance at Hershey on June 8th through June 10th. Proceeds from this event went to three organizations: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), the AACA Museum and the AACA Library.

This three day event includes the two day Grand Ascent on Friday and Saturday. The Grand Ascent, *“Pays homage to the history of racing in Hershey, Pennsylvania, featuring cars from the early 1900s to 1962 like the ones that charged up the winding back road of The Hotel Hershey. This spectacle of vintage race cars in motion consists of open-wheeled cars, sleek envelope-bodied sports cars, small displacement sports racers and classic home built creations.”*

The Grand Ascent (aka The Hershey Hill Climb) had been around for several years, but about 3 years ago it ended due to a management change at the Hotel Hershey (our club did attend this event prior to its abrupt ending.) During those years, you could participate in the hill climb if your car was at least 25 years old. Now the event is driven more towards cars that are at least 45-50 years old (with many cars being even older than that.)

During the event’s 3 year hiatus, there was yet another management change at the Hotel Hershey. The most recent management wanted to bring the event back but first needed to make renovations to the Grand Ascent track. These renovations were primarily for spectator and driver safety. Everyone involved in the decision making process must be pleased with the renovation results because it was announced during this year’s event weekend that The Hotel Hershey had just renewed the event contract for several more years.

“The highlight of the weekend’s events happens on Sunday, with The Elegance, an invitational show with some of the country’s finest cars displayed around the formal gardens and reflecting pools of The Hotel Hershey. The hand-picked cars represent what many consider the formative years of the automobile through the immediate post-World War II golden age.”

There were several celebrities at the event including Honorary Chairman/Honorary Grand Ascent Race Director, Wayne Carini. You may know Wayne from his current TV show, *“Chasing Classic Cars.”* I happen to be a huge fan of Wayne’s. So, it was a treat to get to meet Wayne in the pits and talk to him for a few moments. His TV crew was following him around recording his activities. Expect an upcoming episode of *“Chasing Classic Cars”* to include The Elegance at Hershey.

Another celebrity, of personal interest, attending the event was Dick Vermeil. Football fans of the club will remember Dick as coach of the Philadelphia Eagles, St. Louis Rams and Kansas City Chiefs. Being a delusional Eagles fan, it was simply awesome to say hello to Coach Vermeil.

This was a great event. I hope that it continues to grow and receive more local and national notoriety. Harry Albright, our webmaster, has placed additional pictures and video from this year’s event onto our club web page. I hope you get a chance to visit the site. Enjoy!

For more information, please visit the official webpage:
theeleganceathershey.com

Excerpts for this article came from the event’s official program:
“The Elegance At Hershey 2012.”









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1ST Annual Nittany Bimmer's Autocross

- Where:** Harrisburg Farm Show Complex parking lot
Address: 2300 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, Pa 17110
When: July 28th 2012
Time: 9:00am
Cost: This will be a fully club-sponsored event. No cost.
Needed:
- Current membership
 - Sunglasses
 - Two-way radio
 - Empty trunk and floor
 - Sneakers or driving shoes- No open toe shoes
 - Drivers side floor mat removed
 - Current Drivers License

On July 28th 2012 the Nittany Bimmers will be conducting their first autocross-style driving event. This event is geared towards being a friendly welcoming environment for members to experience an autocross style track in a closed safe atmosphere.

After speaking with numerous members, it is obvious that many of you are seeking a track-style event without the intimidation factor of some of the areas larger organized venues. Everyone, from a seasoned vet to a track rookie, will be working on a different learning curve, so a welcoming attitude is mandatory. This event is for members of all driving skill levels and talents. There will be informal timing during all runs, but focus will be on learning the basics of how your BMW handles around a track of cones.

The track design will include a number of challenging aspects that will give you a true feeling of what your BMW was built to do. We want to focus on smooth transitions rather than speed, and the track will reflect that. This is a great opportunity to see if the sport of autocross racing is for you.

We have 5 acres of empty parking lot reserved for our use at the Harrisburg Farm Show Complex building. This is a proven autocross pad that many of the areas other car clubs utilize for this same purpose. This is scheduled as a rain or shine event, so please plan accordingly.

Whenever a driver is not driving the course, he/she will be working the course by replacing fallen cones, timing other drivers or providing guidance over two-way radios. The number of runs any one car has throughout the day will depend on the number of cars and the amount of time a car takes to complete a run. Numerous runs are a guarantee.

A drivers meeting and mandatory walk of the track will begin at 8:45am.

Again, this day is designed for everyone involved to have some fun with his or her cars without the fear of being the days' 'rookie'.

To RSVP, please do so by visiting www.nittanybimmers.org and completing our online event registration. For planning purposes, please be sure to include the make and year of your BMW. Any questions please email event coordinator Devin Madonna at: devin.Madonna@nittanybimmers.org.

Charity Drive: Orchids of Light Foundation

Club members, rev up your engines on August 18th and join us as we cruise along the beautiful and twisting back roads of Lancaster and Chester counties. This is going to be a charity drive for the Orchids of Light Foundation: www.theorchidsoflight.org. We're rallying for the future of thirteen Global Communities and helping them achieve their Sustainable Dreams. Your participation will help drive poverty out of these thirteen communities around the world and you'll have a fabulous time as well. Your \$25.00/person donation may not seem like a lot to you but when you understand that most of the people the foundation supports live on less than \$2.00 a day, you can see very quickly how your donation makes a significant difference.

We will be leaving from Burle Business Park, 1000 New Holland Ave. in Lancaster at 9:30AM as we make our way first to St. Peters Village in Warwick Township and then on to Wyebrook Farm (<http://wyebrookfarm.com/>) located on 355 acres of Honey Brook Heaven to listen to some live music, enjoy some wonderful food and change the world. It's BYOB to pair your favorite wine with the amazing food. Our hosts suggest a red zinfandel to accompany their burgers! We'll get a brief introduction and explanation from The Orchids of Light Foundation and they will be available for questions during the afternoon. 100% of the money we raise will go to the communities Orchids serves and your contribution is tax deductible. Make checks payable to The Orchids of Light Foundation. We will collect during registration (9AM) on the 18th.

Please have a full tank of gas and bring your two-way radios. This ride will be about 75 miles to our final destination so plan for a full day event. This is also scheduled as a "rain or shine" event. Please register using the Nittany Bimmers Website "Event Sign-up." Wyebrook Farm and market is open until 6:00 PM.

So come join in on the fun and take a ride to celebrate local and global sustainability.

Contact Woody Tobias for more info: 717-629-4827 - Cell
 Woody.Tobias@alcoa.com

RECAP: Jack's Open House - 2012

Special thanks to Jack and Tina for having the club at their shop in June. The event was well attended as it is every year. It is one of the Club's favorite events. As always Jack's tips on car care were fantastic.

Ryan Mock, from Taylor Made Detailing, held a detailing discussion that had surprising information. Did you ever use lacquer thinner on your car?

Jack and Tina took this event over the top with the food- unbelievable! For those that missed it, the event will be same time next June - mark it down!

Fun Rally & Buffet

October 27TH, 2012

Good fun, good food, and BMWs. That's what you will have on October 27th if you participate in our Fun Rally and Buffet event. We are offering a two for one deal this time. You have the option of participating in the Fun Rally and the buffet, or just joining us for the buffet. The Fun Rally will start mid to late morning and take about two and a half hours to complete. Cars will depart from the start at one to two minute intervals. The destination check-in for the Fun Rally will be the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg. (<http://www.countrycupboardinc.com/>) There will be prizes for the winners. If you do not want to participate in the Fun Rally, you will have a buffet only option to join us for the lunch buffet at the Country Cupboard restaurant.

The Country Cupboard is a unique destination. Not only does it have a fine restaurant, but it also has several shops including: flowers, greenhouse, specialty foods, "Country Delights Deli & Bakery", "Celebrate the Seasons", and "Country Home and Interiors." Have fun on the rally, enjoy a scrumptious lunch, then search the shops for that special treat or gift before heading back home. The Country Cupboard is right along US Route 15 for easy access to some express routes home. Or, if you prefer a more scenic drive, there are alternatives to take you in just about any direction you want to go.

Hopefully, there will still be some foliage to brighten the drive. The route for the Fun Rally promises all good paved roads through some very scenic areas of central Pennsylvania. To make things more interesting, you will have a list of questions to be answered along the way. The questions will not be too difficult, but you will want to have a navigator/observer along to guide you along the route and find the answers to the questions. When you check-in at the start of the rally, you will be given a set of instructions and a list of questions. The instructions will enable you to navigate the route to the destination. The questions will relate to things along the route. When you check-in at the Country Cupboard, your questions will be scored and prizes will be awarded to the top finishers. This is not a time, speed, distance event. You will have to stay on course to answer the questions, but the only thing scored will be the questions.

Complete details will be available on our web site as the time for the event approaches. There will be no cost to enter the Fun Rally. The only cost will be for the buffet. So, please plan to join us for a scenic fall drive, good fun, and good food.

Harry Albright
Webmaster

RECAP: Summer Drive - 2012

On June 23RD Tom and Deb Caskey twisted us through some exciting roads in PA and Maryland to the Oregon Grill. They sure do know their way along those back road twisters. We started out in Wrightsville and went along the river and then through the farmlands of Maryland. The scenery was beautiful.

We dined out on the patio which was just wonderful. A top notch place with great food. I am including their information because it is well worth the trip.

Tom and Deb have led us on some fantastic drives through the years. We hope to see you at one.

The Oregon Grill | 1201 Shawan Road Cockeysville | (410) 771-0505 | www.theoregongrille.com

CALENDAR - 2012

We are actively working on finalizing dates for all events on the 2012 Calendar. Please visit the chapter webpage (www.nittanybimmers.org) for updates on all events. If you need further information or would like to suggest or coordinate an event, please contact: Devin Madonna - 717-576-2214.

July Club Autocross

When: Sat, July 28, 9:00am – 3:30pm

Where: Farm Show Complex Parking Lot, 2300 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

August Bimmers & Bread

When: Saturday August 11, 8:30am – 9:30am

Where: Panera Bread, Mechanicsburg, PA

Orchids of Light Drive

When: Sat, August 18, 9am – 6pm

Where: Burle Business Park, 1000 New Holand Ave, Lancaster, PA

September Tech Session & Membership Meeting

When: Sat, September 8, 9am – 12pm

Where: TBD

Oktoberfest & Chapter Car Show

When: Saturday September 22, 9am – 1pm

Where: Sun Motors - Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA

Sun BMW has asked us back to do another car show to show the customers the changes in BMW models over the years. Please clean up your car(s) and bring them to the show! The car show will be from 10 am to noon. Their clients will vote on their favorite cars and Sun will give out 3 prizes.

The Sun Motors Oktoberfest will be celebrated with German Food, Beer, and Music.

October Membership Meeting/Tech Session

When: Sat, October 13, 9am – 1pm

Where: Jack's Aero & Auto

Street Survival School

When: Saturday October 20, 7am – 5pm

Where: Sun Motors - Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA

Fun Rally

When: Sat, October 27, 10am – 2pm

Where: Start in South Central PA

November Social Event

When: Saturday, November 10, 2012

Where: Lancaster Area

Bimmers & Bread

When: Saturday, November 17, 2012

Where: Panera Bread, Mechanicsburg, PA

December Membership Meeting & Election results

When: Sat, December 1, 2012, 6pm – 9pm

Where: Lancaster Brewing Company, Harrisburg, PA

Bimmers & Bread

When: Saturday, December 15, 2012

Where: Panera Bread, Mechanicsburg, PA

Please visit the chapter webpage (www.nittanybimmers.org) for more information and further updates on all events.

Nittany Bimmers Newsletters Electronic Option

The BMW CCA operations manual has been recently updated to reflect a change to the chapter newsletter format policy. Previously all newsletters were to be printed and mailed unless a member proactively notified their chapter that they would accept an electronic copy. As of now the default method of newsletter delivery is electronic, however if a member requests a hard copy his/her chapter must deliver it in that format.

How are we going to know who wants a printed vs. electronic newsletter? Within the membership database each member profile has been set to show their newsletter delivery preference. At any time a member may change that preference to “printed” or “electronic”. To do so the member must log into the National Website, visit the Manage Account area and click “Email Preferences”. The monthly Chapter Export and Mailing Label reports will both have a new field named “Newsletter Preference” and will contain either “EMAIL” or “USMAIL”, depending upon the member’s preference.

Your board is evaluating how to proceed. Going electronic would save time and money. If your chapter decides that its preferred method of newsletter delivery is electronic it will pick a date on which it will begin electronic delivery and inform the national office of that decision. At that time chapter members with email addresses will have their delivery “preferences” shifted to “EMAIL”. This decision will be announced chapter members and will explain to them that at their option they can request a printed newsletter.

NOTE – Those members who do not have email addresses will NOT be moved to electronic delivery. They will continue to receive a printed newsletter. Watch for more information in future newsletters and on the Nittany Bimmers web site.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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