

Gemutlichkeit

Newsletter of the Old Hickory Chapter BMW CCA



Oct, Nov, Dec 2011

Presidential Address

As unbelievable as it is, another year comes to an end. Since we all advance one notch older each year, it seems that the months and years fly by faster and faster. One thing is for certain, time will continue, and we will all grow older. Does being older mean being wiser? It most certainly does! With age and wisdom comes reflection and appreciation.

I am very appreciative of every member of the Old Hickory Chapter BMW CCA. I recognize that each member is not just a statistic, but an individual that has a passion for BMW's and the "Joy" that their BMW contributes to their life.

I am very appreciative to every member that has contributed in any way to our success during the past year. Our members have much to be proud of through efforts to promote safe driving by teens in the Tire Rack Street Survival Program. Our members can speak with pride of our first ever Performance Driving School. Our members can be assured of good times at our club drives and other social activities.

My thanks to all of you for making the Old Hickory Chapter a strong and noteworthy club dedicated to the pleasure and passion of owning a BMW.



Grüß Gott!!

The new 2012 3 series is going to take some time to grow on me...

So I do this every time a new design comes out, albeit a 3 series, 5 series or any series. Right away I do not like the new design changes on the 3 series also known as the F30. If you know BMW chassis lingo, yes they dropped the "e" line and have begun to denote their series with an "F". Sigh....

So I have looked at a lot of picture of the new 3 series from all angles and lines and I am not really impressed yet. They seemed to have softened up the lines even more, and of course the 3 series has grown once again and the look is starting to blend with the 5 series. No distinct look in my opinion I think the hood looks a little odd too due to the fact that it's pushed farther back and I definitely do not like the flat front bumper that unfortunately the European pedestrian laws has forced the BMW engineers to abide by.

Off to the engine. Hmm, let me think? What was the one thing that pretty much sold me on a BMW the first time a drove one?? Oh yeah, the silky smooth naturally aspirated inline 6. Ja, das is gone for ze 4cyl turbo diesel! Now, I'm sure the engine is very good and it claims better output numbers than the n52 engine but something about not having 6 Bavarian cylinders lined up in row as an option in just wrong.(the inline 6cyl offered is the twin scrolled turbo variety)

So I will give it some time to grow on me but I'm sure glad I have the last production year of the e90 and will for several more years to come. I don't know, maybe a 5 series is next in line for my 2018 European Delivery?? Only time will tell.....

Tschüß....and Gutes Neues Jahr!

*Newsletter Editor, Ron Steurer
Old Hickory Chapter BMW CCA*

Murray's Musings.....

MURRAY'S MUSINGS- Gratitude

During Oktoberfest in Birmingham this year, I suffered an unfortunate and sudden injury as a result of abrupt winds from a quick moving storm front. I ended up with a 2 inch gash in my right temple from a tent awning that got caught in the wind, rolled over my vehicle, (vehicle uninjured), with the frame of the awning smacking me soundly in the head. Since it was raining profusely during this occurred, I headed to the nearest vendor shelter where I proceeded to expel large volumes of blood from said gash. I ended up being transported by ambulance, (first time ever by the way), to the nearest hospital. I got stitched up in the hospital, and preceded back to the Oktoberfest activities...end of that story, beginning of another.

This occurrence took place mid-day during the first autocross session of O'Fest. Several Old Hickory Chapter members were in attendance at the event along with me on this particular day. Needless to say, after my injury, the resulting chain of events were pretty much out of my control and I was in the hands of many kind souls that tended to me and provided comfort as I was being prepared for transport to the ER. I want to specifically thank my fellow chapter members who provided much needed assistance in my time of need. Ken Wilkens followed the ambulance in his vehicle and provided moral support while I was in the Emergency Room. He was there as I checked out to provide me a ride back to the hotel. Ken, I've already said it, but I really appreciate what you did for me, and you did so by giving up a chance to continue to participate in the autocross. I owe you a trophy for your help. Thanks.

I also owe a debt of gratitude to Randy and Joani March, Jackie Hardy, and William Hafley. They got to deal with my abrupt departure by loading all my crap back into my car and getting it safely back to the hotel. Thanks to all of you for helping me out in my time of need. It makes me

proud to be associated with such unselfish fellow chapter member.

Return of the 4 Cylinder 3 Series

Word is that BMW USA will make a turbo 4 cylinder available in the 2012 model 3 Series. This would be the same 4 cylinder currently available in the 2011 Z4 and 528i. When offered in the Z4, it had been over 12 years since BMW had offered a 4 cylinder in the USA. In short order, the 4 cylinder BMW is going from non-existent, to mainstream in the BMW product line.

In the 3 Series, the 2.0 liter 4 banger engine will be badged as a 328i. The same designation the 3 series carried with the 3 liter, 6 cylinder and similar to the designation of the 4 cylinder 5 series called the 528i. Confused? ..so much for the numeric designation correlating with the engine size, but that's pretty much been a topic for debate for other BMW's through the years.



Road & Track

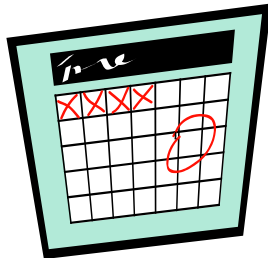
The return of the 4 cylinder to the USA in the Z's and 5's really didn't get all that much attention from the broad spectrum of BMW followers. There most certainly was a marketing plan involved by placing the 4 cylinder in the 5 series prior to the 3 series. I'm thinking the 4 cylinder in the 3 series will grab much limelight since the appeal of the 3 reaches much further than the Z or the 5, the core BMW following will be more exposed to this engine.

The engine has impressive specifications; 2 liters, 240 hp @ 5000 rpm), 260 lb./ft torque @ 1250-4800 rpm, twin scroll turbo, direct injection, double VANOS, minimal weight with one of the highest power to weight ratios for any engine on the market anywhere. Just what is needed in today's mpg enhanced atmosphere. BMW claims 34 mpg in the 3800 pound 528i and 32 mpg in the 4000 pound 528ix. I would think mpg in the 3 series will exceed those numbers considering the weight will be a few hundred pounds less.

The BMW community has spoken, BMW has responded, but will the BMW community be receptive? Only time will tell.

Calendar of Events

Upcoming Events of Interest



Post-Holiday Club Gathering



*Join us to celebrate the New
Year with your
Old Hickory Chapter BMW
CCA
Friends- Old and New!*

**WHEN: SATURDAY, JANUARY 7TH
2012 1:00 P.M.**

**WHERE: Lane Motor Museum
702 Murfreesboro Pike
Nashville, TN 37210**

If you've never been to the Lane Motor Museum, you're in for a real treat. This local museum has a collection of vehicles representing over 45 marques from practically

every continent of the world with many unusual and unique vehicles. If you have been here before, be ready to see different vehicles because they are constantly adding and rotating the vehicles being shown. For more info on the museum, go to:

www.lanemotormuseum.com

The Club will provide ham and/or turkey and soft drinks. (BYO adult beverages) If your last name begins with A - P bring an appetizer, vegetable, or salad; Q - Z bring a dessert to share. Bring a \$20 gift if you wish to participate in the "dirty Santa" type exchange.

So that we can plan accordingly please let us know **by Jan 2** if you plan to attend.

Murray 615- 351 0879 or
mcrow@oldhickorybmwcca.org
Jackie 615-496-7624 or hardyjd@comcast.net



Oktoberfest 2011 was well worth the wait. For the first time in several years, Oktoberfest actually took place in October. The previous O'Fest had taken place in August of 2010 in Wisconsin, meaning there was 14 months between events. This year's event was about as close to home as it will ever get, taking place in Birmingham, Alabama, with the track events taking place at Barber Motorsports Park.

Attendance, no I should say participation by Old Hickory Chapter members was considerable. Our chapter participated in practically every event with some bringing home trophies, and everybody bringing home memories. Mike Gillespie came home with 1st place in his category in the Concours. Fearless Joani March placed second in her class in the Autocross with Ken Wilkens scoring a 3rd place in his autocross category, shaming several other competitors with his 335d. David & Lora Yando tied for 1st place in the fun rally as well as giving it a valiant effort in the TSD rally.

The week flew by with all of the activities on the schedule. The Concours was slightly hindered by rain, but still allowed for



Hanging out at O'Fest: Jackie Hardy, OHC, Pete Punzmann, from TX, Cindy & Jim LaRoche, from VA, & Randy March, OHC.

display and judging of some magnificent vehicles. The Gymkhana was a highly contested event, especially since the participants were competing for a set of tires. All in all, the week was great which leads to next year.....2012.



Oktoberfest 2012

Mark your calendars! It has been recently announced that Oktoberfest 2012 will be in Columbus, Ohio September 17 through September 23, 2012. The track events will be held at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in nearby Lexington, Ohio. The host hotel has not yet been announced. To stay up to date on O'Fest 2012, check this website: www.bmwccaofest.org
Hope to see you there.



Our own Jackie Hardy behind the wheel at O'Fest leading the pack!

Membership Update

Welcome to our new members over the past few months!

David Barnett	03 M3	Clarksville, TN
Tim Akers		Brentwood, TN
Michael Alley		Clarksville, TN
Daynd Baine		Crossville, TN
Robert Green		Jackson, TN
Michael Hinchion		Nashville, TN
Brad Hornsby		Nashville, TN
Shannon Kilkelly		Nashville, TN
Michael Reeslund	03 M5	Nashville, TN
C S Sewell		Jamestown, TN
John Souther		Nashville, TN
William Stach	01 740iL	Franklin, Tn
Michael Walters		Hendersonville, TN
Miranda Wendell		Franklin, TN
Darrell Atkins		Madisonville, TN
Sharma Burdick		Nashville, TN
Christopher Hayes	95 M3	La Vergne, TN
Stephen Kehred		Crossville, TN
Steven Reed	87 328is	Nashville, TN

Need Club Info? www.oldhickoryBMWCCA.org

Check the website regularly for club events as well as color digital versions of the club newsletter.

THE STEINWAY 7 SERIES

Nancy Allen, Client Advisor for BMW of Nashville, recently invited club members for a sneak-peek at the Steinway 7 series. The car, based on the 750LI, had been ordered by one of her clients and she was kind enough to stay at the dealership late so we could view this beautiful auto. Part of the BMW Individual program, 125 were manufactured, only 5 came to the USA, and all have been sold. Fully-optioned, the price tag is nearly \$200,000, about twice that of the 750IL. The following information is from www.Steinway.com.



“The luxury sedans of the BMW 7 Series express the aesthetics, quality and exclusivity which the exterior and the interior design are modeled in the colors of the piano keyboard and its contrast between black and white. “At the same time, the paint finish – which comes in a choice of black or white – and upholstery and surface materials are the result of a collaborative design and superior build quality that is unique worldwide and has been developed specifically for this special edition. “To ensure a flawlessly sparkling body finish, the luxury sedans undergo a highly complex multi-stage process. Once the basic black or white

paint has been applied; the body then receives three protective clear coats. Each individual layer is smoothed and polished by hand, resulting in a surface quality comparable to that of high-class piano lacquer and producing a similar sheen. Along with BMW Individual High-Gloss Shadow Line and 20-inch BMW Individual light alloy wheels, the car is visually enhanced by a gold-colored coachline running the full length of the vehicle. “Similarly, the interior features two different color concepts. In

combination with the Piano Finish Black exterior, the upholstery, door trim, center console, headliner and lower section of the instrument panel come in the color variant Platinum. For vehicles in Piano Finish White, the equivalent interior components are available in black. The stylish environment is rounded off with high-class leather seats, a headliner in Alcantara, black lambswool floor mats and interior piping in Piano Finish Black from the BMW Individual range. Exclusive details documenting the Steinway & Sons partnership are visible, for example, in the piano manufacturer’s gold lettering on the chrome



strip at the rear of the vehicle. Further references to Steinway & Sons adorn the headrests, two cushions for rear passengers and a cashmere blanket which are embroidered with the golden lyre as well as the exclusively designed BMW Individual High End Audio System.”

Bayerische Motoren Werke News



Lean BMW overhauls Mercedes-Benz market value

Mercedes-Benz parent Daimler celebrated its 125-year anniversary in January, enjoying a market valuation that was \$23 billion more than German archrival BMW. That gap has now all but disappeared, Bloomberg News reports.

Chris Woodyard writes in USA Today that Mercedes-Benz's lead over BMW has dwindled. Declining demand for some older models and the cost of introducing new, smaller cars will make it tough to rebuild that premium in 2012.



New X3 is driving BMW's growth in the US

Daimler "is big and takes a long time to change course," said Arndt Ellinghorst, a Credit Suisse analyst in London, who's followed the company for more than a decade. "Management seems to still think that the ship is impregnable, but it's clearly taking on water."

Though Daimler, based in Stuttgart, and its main rival now have similar market valuations, BMW employs less than half Daimler's 270,000 staff and generated 38% less revenue last year. The shrinking value gap mostly reflects Daimler's loss of leadership in the German luxury car

market. It also shows investors are assigning little value to Daimler's trucks business or to its stake in European Aeronautic, Defence & Space Co.

Daimler's most profitable division remains the premium auto business, and you can invest in that in its pure form in BMW," said Juergen Meyer, a fund manager at SEB Asset Management in Frankfurt.

BMW CEO Norbert Reithofer cut supply costs while expanding production in China and the U.S. and rolling out new models like the X1 compact SUV:

The company also underscored a reputation for innovation by developing an electric-powered city car that will be introduced in 2013, part of its goal to boost sales of BMW and Mini vehicles to 2 million by 2020 from 1.6 million.

"What our investors are telling us is the strategy that we embarked upon in 2008 is the right one," Ian Robertson, BMW's management board member in charge of sales said in a Bloomberg Television interview last week in Tokyo.

Daimler CEO Dieter Zetsche struggled to introduce smaller, cheaper Mercedes models to appeal to young urban consumers, because the underpinnings of the high-riding A-Class compact, which were designed for an electric powertrain that was never needed, were costly and lacked flexibility. The company also failed to challenge BMW's Rolls-Royce in the ultra-luxury segment, deciding last month to drop its Maybach brand.—Paul

Duchene/BMWCCA.ORG

BMW Gran Coupe: It's real, it's here, and it's #\$\$! gorgeous

Heir to BMW's Concept CS will debut at Geneva show

Okay: It was a stunner three years ago in Shanghai, but a no-show at the Frankfurt Auto Show in September, where we expected to see what BMW calls the 6 Series Gran Coupe—but which is clearly derived from the BMW Concept CS.

Now it's here. Take *that*, Mercedes!

The three-pointed star has been adorning a swoopy Mercedes four-door for several years now, and it is selling reasonably well despite the obvious pain of back-seat passengers over five feet tall. Abandoning all linguistic logic, BMW, too, has stretched the new Sixer coupe to add rear doors, and sure enough, they're still calling it a coupe, even though the very phrase "four-door coupe" gives purists a headache.



Migraine or not, the Gran Coupé is a stunner. The new 6 Series coupe—the real coupe, the one with two doors—pulled off the neat trick of being nicely proportioned despite its length (twenty-inch wheels helped significantly). The Gran Coupé, at a length of 197 inches (5,007 mm) and wheelbase of 116.8 inches (2,968 mm), is 4.4 inches (111 mm) longer than its two-door coupe sibling, mostly for the benefit of those back-seat passengers. At 74.6 inches (1,894 mm) wide, the car is 54.8 inches (1,392 mm) in height—four inches (102 mm) longer, 1.3 inches (34 mm) wider, and 2.8 inches (72 mm) lower than a BMW 550i.

Members-Only M School Set For February –bmwcca.org

Two-Day BMW Performance Center School February 4-5

BMW CCA members may take an exclusive two-day M School over the weekend of Saturday, February 4, and Sunday, February 5, at the BMW Performance Center near Greenville, South Carolina. "This is the perfect opportunity to challenge your driving skills in the M3, the M5, and the 'Littlest M,' the 1 Series M coupe," says BMW CCA executive director Frank Patek. But the opportunity won't last long; this trip is limited to 15 members.

Though the price has been discounted, members will enjoy the full experience. On the first day, professional driving instructors emphasize elementary high-performance driving capabilities by exacting precision and refining your skills. The slalom, handling track, wet skid pad, open roads, and timed-run course will challenge even the best driver to master the power of the various M cars. But don't worry if

this is your first time; Performance Center instruction is geared to drivers of all skill levels, from beginner to professional. All you need is a valid driver's license—and a passion to improve your driving skills set!



Day Two raises the stakes with advanced driving techniques, like trail-braking and smooth, demanding cornering transitions. Its helmets on as you take to the full length of the Performance Center's test track and handling course. To complement our driving experiences, you will enjoy the company of your fellow members at a members-only dinner in downtown Greenville Saturday night.

This unique weekend provides the perfect opportunity to meet other members from around the country who share your passion for the BMW marque, and who appreciate the exhilaration of mastering high-performance driving skills.

- Price: \$3,055 single occupancy* (price includes BMW CCA member discount)
- Two nights at the Greenville Marriott, with breakfast and complimentary beverage
- Saturday-night group dinner at an elegant Southern restaurant
- M-brand custom-painted helmet and jacket
- M-brand polo shirt
- Prices do not include airfare to and from Greenville, SC (GSP)
- Double occupancy price \$2,855 per person; \$500 for non-driving guest.

To register, please call 888 345-4BMW or contact Jackie Bechek.



Fast Formula 1 News



Vettel collects Formula One's biggest prize

After a year of triumphs Sebastian Vettel's closing reward came at the appropriately-named Kingdom of Dreams in New Delhi, India, host venue for this year's FIA Prize Giving Gala on Friday evening.

The 2011 FIA Formula One World Champion collected the coveted trophy from FIA President, Jean Todt, while Red Bull Racing team principal Christian Horner was presented with the 2011 Constructors' Trophy by Bernie Ecclestone. Jenson Button and Mark Webber also received awards for second and third places respectively in the drivers' championship.



After a year of triumphs Sebastian Vettel's closing reward

It's great to be here in India at the FIA Gala to collect my second Drivers' Championship Trophy," said Vettel. "I have had the trophy in my house all year and didn't want to give it back, so this means a great deal to me. It's hard to put into words how it feels to win again; the team stayed focused and made few mistakes and I would like to thank them for all their impressive efforts. I would also like to thank Renault who worked so hard all year. The history of Formula One means a lot to me and it's special to know that we are now somehow a part of that."



“

Vettel famously never led the 2010 championship until the last day of the season. In 2011 he led from the first day to the last. Along the way he scored victories in Australia, Malaysia, Turkey, Spain and Monaco, at the European Grand Prix in Valencia, in Belgium, Italy, Singapore, Korea and India. He only finished off the podium twice during the 19 races, took a record-breaking 15 pole positions and three fastest laps. Here in India he became the youngest man to record a grand chelem: taking pole, victory, fastest lap and leading every lap of the race.

Vettel's successes were mirrored by those of Red Bull Racing, for whom Mark Webber added another victory, seven further fastest laps and three pole positions. The championship tables, however, do not tell the full story of a season in which many of the individual races were closely-fought between the defending champions and their rivals. Vettel, Webber and the team's management often attributed their accomplishments to the efforts of those at the Red Bull Racing factory and the excellence of their pit crew, regularly timed as the fastest in F1.

“It's phenomenal what the team has achieved this year,” said Horner upon receiving the Constructors' Trophy. “To win 12 races and take 18 pole positions and 27 podiums to defend our title is something we are very proud of. I would like to thank every member of the team, including Mark and Sebastian for all their hard work. Receiving the award tonight is fantastic and a great end to what has been an incredible year. Seb's achievement of becoming a double Formula One world champion is incredible; the fact he is the youngest ever to do this is testament to the exciting young talent that he is.”

Among Friday evening's other award winners was FIA Institute Honorary President Prof. Sid Watkins, who revolutionised safety and medical standards in motorsport. Watkins received the FIA Academy Gold Medal for Motor Sport, joining a prestigious list of previous recipients including Sir Stirling Moss, Mario Andretti, Sir Jack Brabham, HSH Prince Rainier and Michael Schumacher.

The FIA Gold Medal is awarded to an individual that, either through exceptional success, or outstanding effort, has made a substantial contribution to motor racing. The recipient is selected by the FIA Academy, which is made up of eight senior members of the FIA and its national automobile clubs.

"I'm very proud of the safety developments that have been achieved not just in Formula One but across all levels of motor sport through the work of the FIA and FIA Institute," said Watkins. "It is an honour to have been awarded the FIA Gold Medal and to be mentioned amongst those great names and I'd like to thank the FIA Academy for acknowledging my small part in racing history."

Jean Todt, FIA President, said: "I would like to express my heart-felt thanks, emotion and warmth to Sid from everyone in the motor sport community and FIA family. This FIA Academy Gold Medal for Motor Sport is in recognition of his outstanding achievements in motor sport and safety throughout a 50-year career."

Final Drivers Top Ten Championship points:

01 Sebastian Vettel	392
02 Jenson Button	270
03 Mark Webber	258
04 Fernando Alonso	257
05 Lewis Hamilton	227
06 Felipe Massa	118
07 Nico Rosberg	89
08 Michael Schumacher	76
09 Adrian Sutil	42
10 Vitaly Petrov	37

Final Constructors Top Five Championship points:

1 RBR-Renault	650
2 McLaren-Mercedes	497
3 Ferrari	375
4 Mercedes	165
5 Renault	73



P. O. Box 3072
Brentwood, TN 37024-3072

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Old Hickory Chapter Officers

President – Murray Crow

E-mail mcrooldhickorybmwcca.org

Vice President – George Richter

E-mail griechter@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Treasurer – William Hafley

E-mail whafley@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Secretary – Darien Hobbs

E-mail dhobbs@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Newsletter Editor – Ron Steurer

E-mail rsteurer@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Membership Chair – Tom Tomlinson

E-mail ttomlinson@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Member at Large & Website Admin. Tyree Peters

E-mail tpeters@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Board Member at Large – Randy March

E-mail rmarch@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Board Member at Large – David Yando

E-mail dyando@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Activities Co-Chair – Jackie Hardy

E-mail jhardy@oldhickorybmwcca.org

Activities Co-chair – Mike Gillespie

E-mail mgillespie@oldhickorybmwcca.org

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