

River City Bimmers
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www.rivercitybimmers.org

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BMW Car Club
of America
River City Bimmers



Der Fahrersitz

The Newsletter for the River City Bimmers

July - September 2011



Oktoberfest!

October 10-16
Barber Motorsports Park
Birmingham, AL

Details within!

Memphis' Finest!



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Oktoberfest Schedule of Events

Monday, Oct 10

Registration	Renaissance Resort (Hoover Ballroom)	noon - 9:00p
Vendor Area	Renaissance Resort (Hoover Ballroom)	noon - 7:00p
BMW Test Drive signup	Renaissance Resort	4:30p - 5:30p
Concours Judging Meeting	Renaissance Resort	6:00p - 7:00p
First Timers' Briefing	Renaissance Resort (Hoover Ballroom)	7:00p - 9:00p
Welcome Reception		

Tuesday, Oct 11

Registration	Renaissance Resort (Hoover Ballroom)	8:00a - 4:00p
BMW Test Drives & Signup	Renaissance Resort	9:00a
Vendor Area		noon
Concours (staging)		4:30p - 5:30p
Rags down		6:00p
Concours Awards		
TSD Rally Meeting		

Wednesday, Oct 12

Registration	Barber Motorsports (Credentials Building)	6:15a - 5:00p
Odometer Gears TSD Rallye		8:30a
Driving School	Barber Motorsports	7:30a - 5:00p
Club Race School		8:00a - 5:00p
BMW Test Drives & Signup		8:30a - 4:30p
Michelin Gymkhana	Barber Motorsports (upper paddock)	9:00a - 5:00p
Michelin Try Me Program	Barber Motorsports (upper paddock)	9:00a - 5:00p
Car Control Clinic	Barber Motorsports	8:00a - 5:00p
Vendor Area	Barber Motorsports (lower paddock)	10:00a - 5:00p
Casino Night	Renaissance Resort (Hoover Ballroom)	7:00p - 10:00p

Thursday, Oct 13

Registration	Barber Motorsports (Credentials Building)	6:15a - 5:00p
Driving School	Barber Motorsports	7:30a - 5:00p
Club Race School		8:00a - 5:00p
Bridgestone Autocross (all except BMW M3, 1M coupe)		
	Regions Park (Hoover)	8:00a - 5:00p
Car Control Clinic	Barber Motorsports	8:00a - noon
BMW Test Drives & Signup	Barber Motorsports	8:30a - 4:30p
Vendor Area	Barber Motorsports (lower paddock)	10:00a - 5:00p
Reception	Barber Motorsports Museum	7:00p - 9:00p

Friday, Oct 14

Registration	Barber Motorsport (Credentials Building)	6:15a - 5:00p
Driving School	Barber Motorsport	7:30a - 5:00p
Club Race		8:30a - 5:00p
BMW Test Drives & Signup	Barber Motorsport ()	8:30a - 4:30p
Vendor Area	Barber Motorsport (lower paddock)	10:00a-5:00p
Bridgestone Autocross (M3, 1M coupe and race cars only)		
	Regions Park (Hoover)	8:00a - 5:00p
BMW NA Banquet	Renaissance Resort (Hoover Ballroom)	7:00p

Saturday, Oct 15

Registration	Barber Motorsport (Credentials Building)	6:30a - 4:00p
Driving School	Barber Motorsport	7:30a - 6:00p
Club Race		8:30a - 6:00p
BMW Test Drives & Signup	Barber Motorsport	8:30a - 4:30p
Vendor Area	Barber Motorsport (lower paddock)	10:00a - 5:00p

Sunday, Oct 16

Registration	Barber Motorsport (Credentials Building)	6:30a - 10:00a
Driving School	Barber Motorsport	7:30a - 6:00p
Club Race		8:30a - 6:00p
Vendor Area	Barber Motorsport (lower paddock)	10:00a - 2:00p

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Welcome New Members!

Ray Byer, Memphis, TN
Kenneth Fox, Memphis, TN
Brent W. Hardaway. Memphis, TN
Steven Shrider, Little Rock, AR
Jeffrey L. Brann, Germantown, TN
Larry Johnson, Memphis, TN
Shell Snell, Memphis, TN
Michael McDaniel, Southaven, MS
Patricia McDaniel, Southaven, MS
Ryan L. Munn, Tupelo, MS
David Brooks, Arlington, TN

We rely on National Office for this information, so if there's a misspelling of your name or location, please drop a line to otto99@roadfly.com so we can make sure we have the correct information.

Please join us at an autocross or at one of our mostly monthly dinner meetings. And join us on Facebook so you don't miss out on any upcoming event!

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Car Control Clinic

Our Car Control Clinic is a non-competitive event intended to allow drivers to experience the attributes of car control at and beyond the limit, in a safe and controlled environment. The Clinic will help you improve your driving skills while learning about car dynamics.



Club Racing School

The BMW CCA Club Racing School is an intensive 2-day course designed to transition the intermediate-to-advanced high-performance driving school driver from high performance driving events to open lapping days and/or club level racing. It is also an excellent school for those students looking for a new experience and who are interested in developing their skills past the what can be taught at a regular Driving Event.

Calendar of Events

September 24 , 2011 - 8:00 am
Autocross
Millington Jetport

October 20 , 2011 - 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Flying Saucer, 1400 N. Germantown Pkwy.
Memphis, TN

October 22 , 2011 - 8:00 am
Autocross
Millington Jetport

November 17, 2011 - 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Flying Saucer, 1400 N. Germantown Pkwy.
Memphis, TN



Visit www.bmwccaofest.org for more information and to register online. There is lodging information on the Ofest site, and for more options, search online for hotels/motels near Leeds, AL, the actual location of Barber Motorsports Park. There are several places to stay withing a few miles of the park, and no doubt you'll find a lot in common with most of your neighbors!

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Why Do We Do It?

I was surfing one of the BMW internet forums the other day and the question that seemed to be most popular at the moment was “Can anyone explain what makes the e30 (substitute any model) so great?”

What followed was several pages of rabid support for , if you believe what you read, the finest example of automotive perfection ever produced. It was very much over the top even for a car that was one of the finest of its day. Statements such as “I would turn down a new 1M and pay for an e30 to drive” were not uncommon. Since the majority of e30 owners on such forums are younger than some of my shoes, I tend to give them some slack about such things. And the idea of arguing with a 17 year old on the internet seems pretty pointless. I never won an argument with my own three even in person even with the “because I said so” card to play.

Still the question made me think. Just why do automotive elite who own, drive, and in some cases are enslaved to the ultimate driving machine feel the way we do about our cars? Why do we buy them? Why do we pamper them? Why do some of us have

a fetish for collecting multiple sets of wheels to fit them? Do people, me included, really prefer old BMW's over new ones, much less new cars of other brands? Are new(er) BMW's bean counter specials designed by accountants instead of engineers (or worse, by French engineers) or are they still ultimate driving machines?

And this isn't just an exercise either. Lately my stable of “classic German automobiles” has been wearing me out financially, and spending way too much time off the road. A friend asked me the other day what I drive and I told him, whatever is running at the moment

So, speak up. What's so special about BMW's or especially your BMW? What do you like? What would you change? Do your friends think your are crazy because of your car or cars? Are you crazy? Let us hear from you and we will pass your words along. It's your chance to be a published author, read by a highly intelligent and well informed audience and by our membership.

RDC

Editor's Note

(usually a B flat, but some mornings low G's are possible)

Apologies are in order for the delay in mailing the newsletter this quarter. First, your ink stained wretch of an editor had surgery

Disclaimer

This newsletter is a publication of the River City Bimmers (the Chapter) and its contents remain the property of the Chapter. The Chapter is not connected in any way with BMW A.G. or BMW N.A. All information furnished herein is provided by the membership of the Chapter for members only. The Chapter assumes no liability for any of the information contained herein. The ideas, opinions and suggestions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and no authentication is implied. Unless otherwise noted, none of the information in this newsletter is “factory approved”. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce any material published herein provide full credit is given to the author and River City Bimmers, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED OR SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED.

Modifications within the warranty period of your BMW may void the warranty.

in mid-August (he's fine now, thanks for asking) which had a longer recuperative period than he had been led to believe. Then our printer folded his tent, and we had to quickly search out another vendor. At any rate, here it is, and we've tried to bring you as much Oktoberfest info as we can fit within these august pages. For those planning to attend, be prepared for several phone calls, e-mails, texts, posts to Facebook, carrier pigeons, etc.concerning photos and commentary for the next issue.

And on that topic, any of you 300+ members - most of whom we've never met or seen - feel free to send photos of your cars, events, whatever you have and we'll get them in the newsletter. It's your club, after all, and it would be great to see more of you on a regular basis, both in print and in person. Our dinner meeting schedule is being set up, so join us on Facebook for the latest news on events. So why not come up and see us sometime? ;-)

Greg

Oktoberfest!

It's Oktoberfest time again, and the 42nd annual gathering is at Barber Motorsports Park in Birmingham, AL. Beginning Monday, Oct. 10, a full week of activities is scheduled. The complete list of events and times are on Page 2, and more details about registration and lodging are included at the end of the article. Here's a brief look at some of the events in which you can participate:

Concours

You don't have to be a millionaire collector to buff up and enter your car in the BMW CCA Oktoberfest concours. The concours is not a contest of speed, but of excellence, and of course the best-prepared cars garner reward and recognition! But there is

room for other members, too, All the ones who think life is too short to spend so much time cleaning and waxing and rewaxing their cars. For those a little less compulsive than the Q-tip brigades, there is a non-competitive display class, where you can roll your BMW out without being judged.



TSD Rally

A TSD rally is conducted on public roads, at legal speeds with a driver and a navigator. There are different types of rallies, but in general the trick here is to get from point A to point B exactly on time. Competitors are split into several classes based on experience level and rally equipment. Don't be intimidated by the experts with their sensors on a non-driven wheel. People with just solar powered calculators or just using the OBC have finished near the top overall.



Gymkhana

Gymkhana events are time and/or speed events in an automobile. These can feature obstacles such as cones, tires, and barrels. The driver must maneuver through a predetermined "track" performing many different driving techniques. What separates gymkhana from traditional autocross events is that the gymkhana requires drivers to perform reversals, 180 degree spins, 360 degree spins, parking boxes, figure 8s and other advanced skills. Drifting is also encouraged where helpful or necessary.

Something wicked this way comes.

The New M5.



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Visit River City Bimmers online at www.rivercitybimmers.org or on Facebook. Post photos online on the website or on the Facebook page, keep up with meeting notifications, and get to know other members of our club. You can also follow us on Twitter. Comments are always welcome. Send an e-mail to otto99@roadfly.com with comments, suggestions for articles, or whatever's on your mind!

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