

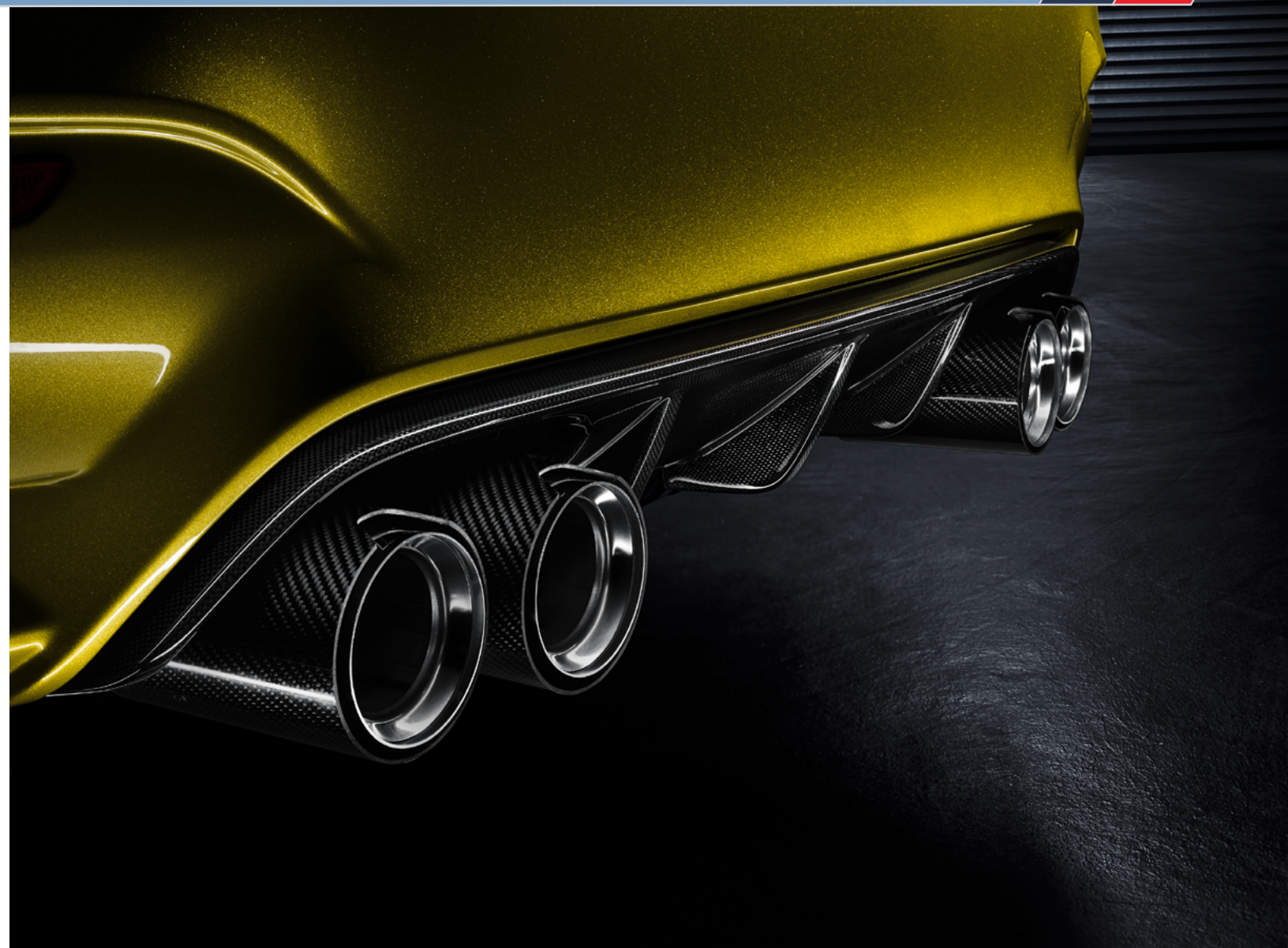
The Roadster

BMW Car Club
of America
Sandlapper



The official newsletter of the Sandlapper chapter of the BMW
Car Club of America

Autumnal Equinox, 2013



The President Travels - We Want Stories!

Vacation Tip - Why You Should NOT Take Your Bimmer On A Ferry

MINI Goes All Outdoors Oriented - Why Wouldn't They?

Sandlapper Superstar Of The Quarter: Tim Dennison

Ride Shotgun Home From California - Find Out How

Tip Of The Quarter - Don't Be A Moron

President's Corner

It's been a wide-open summer for many of our members. The annual CCA Oktoberfest in Monterey, CA was a wonderful experience. The temperatures were cool and the event was hot. Being there during the end of the Monterey Historics and transitioning straight in O'fest was fun beyond our wildest dreams.

For the Historics, there were car events at almost every city and venue. Cars you typically only see in magazines were driving down the streets and sitting in the heavy traffic right next to you. It was a car lovers dream come true. The BMW Corral at Laguna Seca was big fun with unique cars racing on the track and resident in every corner of the pit areas. Many race and film celebrities attended celebrating the cars as well.

The CCA events were fabulous. Legends of the Autobahn was loaded with all types

German cars. There were many unique BMW's and displays that I've never seen anywhere before. The CCA concours was at a beautiful location populated with all types of fantastic BMW's. You didn't have to enter your car to be judged to thoroughly enjoy the event. You could spend most of the day just looking at the pristine examples of our cars.

The driving events at Laguna Seca were second to none. Driving a car at Laguna Seca was a "bucket list" item I was able to fulfill by driving my own M3 on the track. The corkscrew is unlike anywhere else I've ever been with the whole downhill portion of the track being big fun and quite the challenge. Now that was elevation change!!

There were rides in the BMW race cars available and Mike Renner never failed to

deliver a heart-racing circuit around the track. The M3 concept car was shown at a private reception in a hanger at the local airport and then was open for members to see at the track. Seeing it in person versus seeing it in the magazines was a great experience. The i3 was also there to climb into. It is much larger and more interesting than the pictures portray it to be.

I'll close out this part by saying that this was the best Oktoberfest event I've attended out of the eight events I've been to. This will be a hard act to follow.

We have a date for an autocross at the Performance Center. Be sure your email information is current at the BMW CCA website and/or you're a member of the Sandlapper Facebook page to be notified about it. We're soon headed to Maggie Valley for the Fall Mountain Drive. More on this and a trip to the Nurburgring in my next column.

See you around SC.

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Member Adventures

Words of wisdom from the newsletter editor:

Stay off ferry boats and away from small “scenic” islands.

While travelling, it's very easy to fall prey to those flashy brochures you see at gas stations and rest area that promise you new, exciting places to visit. Use caution though, sometimes these pamphlets don't live up to their promises. Case in point, while on an adventure north, I wound up thinking that hopping a ferry boat to Washington Island, off of the northern tip of the “thumb” of Wisconsin and floating in Lake Michigan, would be a great experience.

I was mistaken. Not only was the ferry ride long, having your car stuck on the deck of this massive boat make it a sitting duck for all kind of meandering ferry riders (and one really drunk woman, that's a story for a different time).

Getting to the island, always make sure you check when the last ferry leaves. I learned the hard way. Don't let THIS happen to you.



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Happenings

Euro Auto Fest

Come drool with us!

If you haven't had the pleasure of perusing aisle upon isle of exotic, well maintained European Autos, now's your chance to see what all the fuss is about. Euro Auto Fest is being held October 18th and 19 on the grounds of the BMW Zentrum (we all know where that is!).

In it's 18th year, the festival is promising not only some fantastic specimens of auto exotica, but also driving events, special exhibits and driving tours for all participants. Never before has there been so much to offer, and never before has there been more of a reason to get off your butt and make it to Euro Auto Festival. It's free, so you can't use money as an excuse. It's not far, so you can't use that for an excuse.

The featured marque is Ferrari, but more exciting, they will be celebrating 25 years of the M5 here in the United States. Now THAT should get you hustling.

Check out www.euroautofestival.com for more info!



Kurze Meldungen

Quick News

O'Fest 2014

Spend A Week At The Creek

The BMW CCA has announced the location for next years O'Fest after a bunch of banter, whispering and hoping for exotic (closer to home locations), we now know that it will only be a tiny bit closer to us than Monterey.

The event will be held in Beaver Creek, Colorado June 16 - 20. Nestled in a picturesque mountain area, Beaver Creek promises to be every bit as pretty as the pictures. Whip out your calendar and start making plans to attend now.



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Mini Matters

A tiny piece of our publication for the minis in our lives

Camping Anyone?

MINI Goes Wears Another Hat

Just when we thought that those clever folks over at MINI had thought of just about everything, they outdo themselves again. First it was a four-door MINI, now this. Rationality behind it is that MINI wants to take hold on the market of young, wild individuals that have a passion for outdoor lifestyle and "festival going", (their words, not mine).



The MINI Clubvan Camper is equipped with all the comforts of home, and in some cases, even more luxurious. A propane stove, a single sleeping sack and a hand held shower, what more could you possibly need on the road. Let's just hope you're travelling by yourself.

Bad news, though, for those of you that might like one. Sales ended after only 50 units were shipped and sold in the US. There are still MINI options for the outdoorsy, festival going gypsy in you such as the Countryman ALL4 - at least that one has a roof mounted tent.

My advice, get a hotel room.

Did You Hear...

MINI goes into outerspace, and happens to pick up some hitchhikers.

MINI should be respected, not just for making an agile car that handles like a professional basketball player, but for going over and above the call when it comes down to creative marketing. You might remember a few months back they broke the world record for fitting, well, lets just say limber individuals in one of their cars, but now they've gone out of this world.

In a clever marketing ploy, a MINI was outfitted with a UFO hovering above the roof line, the words "Not Normal" on the bonnet and the driver and passenger dressed as aliens. This went over well with the Roswell crowd, but for those of us that aren't into space aliens and science fiction, it was a bit much. This hasn't been the first time they've done it, and certainly it won't be the last. The aliens haven't landed here in America, they've stayed across the pond, but keep your eyes peeled, you never know what might land in our own back yards!

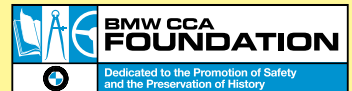
-Thanks to trendhunter.com for the first "sighting"



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The Sandlapper Superstar Of The Quarter: Tim Dennison

Our Sandlapper "Superstar Of The Quarter" goes to Tim Dennison for taking over as our fearless coleader and new Chapter Vice President. Tim victoriously obtained the seat from Trip Binford

Tim has shown lots of talent on the track, lots of participation at meetings and most importantly has a really good attitude about meeting new people. Tim has been leading the Upstate region of our chapter, and if you haven't had a chance to meet him yet, you're missing out!

Beyond being a great all around guy, he's got a great taste in modifications to his Mini. If you need some sage advise on what to do and why to do it, just ask Tim. He'll give you some pointers, but he won't let you borrow his lift.

Congratulations, Tim!

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1971 BMW 2002 Race Car This 2002 is an authenticated replica of the Miller and Norburn 2002 raced in the IMSA series in the early 70's. Russ Norburn has seen the car and a letter of authentication is included with the car. A no expense spared ground up restoration was completed in 2008. This car is the sister car of the 64 car driven by Nick Craw in the 70's. This car is in excellent condition with "show quality" paint. One of the most competitive Group 8 cars in SVRA. Very recognizable. Powered by a VAC Motorsports 2.0L motor built in 2008. (864) 238-5973 or littlebit5973@gmail.com Price: \$45,000

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Must Have...

A look at one of our Sandlappers going to adopt a shark

No, not a real shark, but a slang shark.

Our chapter is always travelling, adventuring and jumping into exciting new and exciting driving challenges. Our very own newsletter editor - Nikki Weed, also featured columnist for Roundel - has found herself in a very unique circumstance. After writing a piece for the magazine about being a big fan of the old 6 series E-24, a man in California contacted her and offered to give, not sell, give it to her.

So, what would you do? Take it of course.

Instead of taking the easy way out and just having the car shipped, the shark and Nikki are going to become ambassadors of the CCA and The BMW Foundation. She's going to be stopping in several towns across the southern part of the country having "meet and greets", concours events and a driving event or two. Be sure to follow the adventure on her website devoted to the travel and consider becoming a contributor by clicking on the speedometer picture on the side of the home page. You will receive stuff, it's not a donation, it's buying a pass to ride shotgun across the country with Nikki.

www.nikkiweed.wordpress.com



Tip Of the Quarter:

“OBJECTS IN MIRROR” REALLY ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR

We have all, or at least most of us, been driving long enough to have noticed that perhaps we have some weaknesses in our driving ability. Of course, nobody is perfect, but there isn't any reason to blame ignorance for your little accidents.

Case in point, remember that little message on your side mirror that reminds you kindly that the mirror is curved in such a way that all objects are deceitfully closer than might appear. It takes just a second to snap your head and make sure that the coast is clear before proceeding about your business. Doing this will result in you not “ignorantly” bumping into something you might not want to encounter, like your bosses truck (true story)



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Monthly Meetings

Columbia Area - 1st Tuesday of every Month, Location To Be Determined

Charleston Area - 2nd Thursday of every Month, Queen Anne's Revenge, Daniel Island

Rock Hill Area - 2nd Thursday of every Month, Luigis Pizza An Italian, Rock Hill SC

Upstate Area - 3rd Monday of every Month, Quaker Steak, Greenville

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Contact the newsletter editor for more information at pepitaweed@gmail.com. Advertisements must be ad-ready and are subject to the chapter's discretion. We publish quarterly, (January, April, July, October) and advertisements must be submitted by the 15th of the preceding month to be included.

Newsletter

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