



3RD Annual Flat Out Classic April 26-27, 2014

Car Show, AutoX, AutoX Clinic and High Performance Driving School

The Midwest's premier Automotive festival is a weekend filled with fun: Car Show, AutoX Clinic, AutoX, and High Performance Driving School with the region's best instructors.

Advanced solo students are welcome on Friday the 25th. Heartland Park is a true "driver's track" and this Spring event is the perfect way to start the 2014 season.

Join automotive enthusiasts from the entire central US at Heartland Park of Topeka, KS. Connect with old friends and make some new ones over a great KC BBQ dinner.

**Presented by the Great Plains, Kansas City, St. Louis and
Sunbelt Chapters of the BMW Car Club of America.**

Please visit www.flatoutclassic.com for all event information.

Factoid: When was the last time you checked the air in your spare tire, assuming you still have one? The only thing worse than a flat, is two flats.

Cars and Coffee

Held the first Saturday of every month at
Northpark Mall, 12100 N. May,
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
8:00 to 11:00 am

www.coffeeandcarsokc.com

REMINDERS

Sonnenflecke Is Now Digital

As noted in the last Sonnenflecke, we have transitioned our newsletter to digital format.

We'd like to remind you of a few aspects to consider during this switch. If you received this newsletter in the mail it means that you don't have an email on file with the club. We encourage all members to register an email because we are increasingly advertising events, promotions, or updates digitally; so those of you without an email are missing out. To update your email address head over to the National website www.bmwcca.org If you would still prefer to receive your newsletters via mail you have the right to do so. Newsletter preferences can also be changed on the national website. In making this decision, we ask all members to keep in mind that printing and mailing costs are considerable. The Sonnenflecke staff is excited to bring you more videos, pictures and links in future editions. Stay tuned!

Oklahoma BMW CCA License Plates Take Two!

We apologize for being repetitive, but we are talking about license plates again! If you would like a BMW license plate for your BMW (or any car) please download and mail in the application today. This opportunity to differentiate your car from the rest will pass us by if we don't reach our goal of 100 sold plates by Apr 30th 2014.

Please promote these plates to co-workers, neighbors and plate collectors. Remember they don't have to be a CCA member to buy a plate.

Further questions can be directed to: licenseplates@sunbeltbmwcca.org

Download your application here: <http://www.tax.ok.gov/mvforms/708-E.pdf>



**BMW Car Club
of America
Sunbelt Chapter**



AutoCross Dates

March 16, 2014

April – No Event

May 18, 2014

June 15, 2014

July 20, 2014

August 24, 2014

September 21, 2014

October 19, 2014

November 16, 2014



The Sunbelt Autocross Series is back for 2014! Please take a look at our newly released schedule for event dates. All makes and models are welcome to attend, so please bring out your neighbors and co-workers for some friendly competition.

The AutoCross is held at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department Driving Training Track in Eastern Oklahoma County.

Registration is 8:30—9:30 AM

Cost is \$25.00.

Please call 405-417-9559
for more information

or go to

www.sunbeltbmwcca.org

Click to watch a video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ppDeYjUym-Y>

Our AutoCross Sponsors

We are grateful to our AutoCross sponsors who have made this season possible by their kind generosity.

Allstate Sheet Metal

(Commercial Sheet Metal)

Goforth Plumbing & Mechanical

(Commercial Plumbing & Mechanical Contractor)

HighTecTronics

(Commercial Fire Alarms & Security)

Please support these vendors whenever possible!



2013 Holiday Dinner

By Charlie Snyder

On December 8th, the Sunbelt Chapter celebrated the holiday season in style!

Although the weather threatened and it was cold, we had a very good turnout for our Holiday Dinner held at Old Germany Restaurant in Choctaw, Oklahoma. The pre-dinner social hour consisted of good drink, seeing friends and, of course, talking about BMWs. As usual, the folks at Old Germany were excellent hosts and they provided a wonderful selection of culinary delights. Nobody left hungry. Once the appetites were satisfied, we gave away door prizes from our vendors (see our “thank you” section) and then the “Dirty Santa” began.

This year’s “Dirty Santa” has to have been the most active ever. Gifts were stolen at almost every turn. There were even devious conspiracies executed among various participants to protect or “steal” certain gifts! In the end, everybody received something from Santa. The question is whether any of these “gifts” will appear at the 2014 Holiday Dinner? You need to attend and find out!

We ended the evening with a toast from our host, Mike Turek, to our late, good friend and longtime member, J.R. Schneider. The Holiday Dinner is always a fine, relaxing time for members and their friends who attend. Next year plan to come, and bring some friends, to close out the year and start the Holiday Season.



A Special Thank You to these Vendors:

Old Germany Restaurant
Bavarian Autosport
Billy Boat Performance Exhaust
Mothers Polish
Turner Motorsport
Zymol



***Holiday Party
December 8, 2013***



Reasons to Renew

BMW CCA members in good standing may be eligible for substantial rebates up to \$1,500 on the purchase or lease of any new or certified pre-owned BMW. Visit bmwcca.org for more information.

Roundel Magazine, delivered to your door each month.

Discounts on parts and service.

Free CCA decals available from the club office.

Access to driving schools, driving events, and auto-crosses.

Local tech days, wine tours, and parties.

Many other travel and shopping discounts are available at www.bmwcca.org/membershipbenefits

Sunbelt Chapter Board Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. Locations change, so please check the website (sunbeltbmwcca.org) prior to the meeting date or if you'd prefer, let us know and we can place you on the meeting email distro. Board meetings are open to all members. We encourage anyone to attend to promote ideas & suggestions, or just show up to find out what's going on. We'd love to have you!

From our lawyers:

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New Members

Steve	Abbott	Lawton	OK
Ryan	Andersen	Owasso	OK
Sanford	Ang	Oklahoma City	OK
Chris	Beckwith	Broken Arrow	OK
Edward	Collins	Edmond	OK
David	Colquitt	Midwest City	OK
Kevin	Gregory	Edmond	OK
Brent	Haggard	Oklahoma City	OK
David	Holder	Edmond	OK
Shyam	Javvaji	Galveston	TX
Lee	Knuth	Edmond	OK
Kevin	Krieser	Lawton	OK
DeDe	Maxwell	Oklahoma City	OK
Jack	Mitchell	Fayetteville	AR
Bruce	Norton	Tulsa	OK
Craig	Smith	Stilwell	OK
Terry	Taylor	Oklahoma City	OK
Tobi	Wilson	Weatherford	OK

We would like to welcome these new members to the Sunbelt family.

Congratulations on joining the CCA. We look forward to seeing you at some upcoming events!

Scan anytime for up-to-date calendar information.



2014 TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please click these websites for the most up-to-date information on club events.

Sunbelt Chapter National Page: <https://www.bmwcca.org/node/2382>

Local Sunbelt Chapter Page: <http://www.sunbeltbmwcca.org/>

Bimmerforums Regional Forum: <http://forums.bimmerforums.com/forum/forumdisplay.php?323-Oklahoma>

Like Sunbelt BMW CCA on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sunbelt-Chapter-BMW-CCA/248758539734>

Volunteers are Always Welcome!

Want to get involved? Have an idea for an event? Help plan a tour or a drive!

Email or call a board member with your suggestions.

The more people who stand up and volunteer, the more successful our club becomes.

Welcome To My Pad

by Steve Jackson

Last issue we talked about what to look for in a buffer to use during a therapy session with your car, which is only 1/3 of the equation. To get the best finish you'll also need a selection of pads and polishes. In this installment we'll look at foam pads, some specialty pads you might find useful, and then next time we'll discuss products to put on them.

With three pad densities, and two to three levels of polish, you can mix and match to get the required level of cutting action to achieve that perfect finish. A "hard" or cutting pad for dead paint and scratches; a medium for most general polishing; and a "soft" finishing pad to get that really high gloss. Using extremely fine polishes, glazes and liquid waxes will satisfy most folk's polishing needs. Each manufacturer uses a different system of color coding and terminology for pad density, but you can usually find a table or chart on the distributor website, such as www.Autopia.com for Lake Country, or a manufacturer website such as Maguire's, allows you to compare pads within a product line, and to use as part of your decision guide when buying pads.

You'll have to decide on the surface shape of the pad top; which can be flat, dimpled, or concave, and also whether the pad has single or dual density foam. I prefer flat surface pads, which allow me to do the job in less time. Furthermore, my choice of dual density foam allows even pressure over the curves of the car. I also think these pads accept less polish, leave the best shine, and more importantly, require the least pressure -thereby reducing the chance of swirls. Dimpled pads and concave pads are often advertised to reduce polish slinging, but they require more pressure on the buffer to get the whole pad in contact with the paint. Not something you want to do. As long as you apply polish onto the pad, smear onto the surface, then start the buffer in contact with the surface, slinging won't be much of an issue anyway.

Another type of pad, microfiber, is relatively new and more specialized. Some are intended as cutting pads, and some as finishing pads. Our Club President has taken a liking to them, and believes the finishing pads provide a superior shine over foam. Maguire's and Lake Country both also make these types of pads.



You may also look to polishing pads for other surfaces such as glass. You can use your foam pads to run over the windows, but they are not as effective as glass cleaning pads, which are much stiffer and abrasive. There are two types, thin pads which are used primarily for cleaning stubborn deposits from windows using a glass polish such as Griot's (shower doors too!). The other type a thick, hard felt pad used to polish minor scratches out of windows. Felt pads are usually used with Rhodite (Eastwood.com) and are a last resort to remove, or make scratches on windows less obvious. Read the directions carefully, and protect your paint from glass polish

splatter and pad overrun, since either type is far more abrasive than paint products.

You can damage the glass if you work too fast, and there may be visible "waviness" in the window, so the driver's side of the windshield is not the first place to try this repair (replace your wipers and you won't have to).

Welcome To My Pad (con't)

Pad size is determined by the backing plate(s) you have. The pad must be larger than the backing plate, but not so large that the edge is unsupported. In general, use pads that are about ½” to 1” larger in diameter than the backing plate. Since they are thin and not stiff enough to support themselves, microfiber or glass polishing pads may work better with a backing plate that is only slightly smaller than the pad. Be extra careful when polishing locations where the backing plate could come in contact with some part of the car, such as a mirror. Some pads have a “skirt” on the back side so the backing plate is recessed into the pad, further protecting your finish from plate contact; however these may only work with specific backing plates. If you have more than one size backing plate you can use different pad sizes tailored to the area you are polishing.

Check the temperature of the pad regularly during use to see if it's getting hot. If so stop for a while or change pads, otherwise the glue on the hook and loop could come loose. As soon as you are finished using a pad, place it face down in water to keep the soaked-in polish from drying out. Even better, rinse the pad thoroughly in warm water (hot is bad for the glue), then pour on a little pad cleaning solution and squeeze the pad to distribute thoroughly, then rinse thoroughly with warm water. This will take longer with polishes that are not water based.

Griot's Garage makes a microfiber towel and pad cleaning solution that works well when used in this manner. Leave the pads standing on edge in a clean environment to dry thoroughly, probably three days at least. Store the pads in zip type bags, or a sealed plastic box, to keep them clean. Once a pad is torn, too worn, or the hook and loop comes loose, it can be repurposed for hand polishing or wax application.



Confused? Unfortunately I can't tell you which specific pads to buy without also knowing what polishes you are using, the type and condition of your paint, and how much time you are willing to spend on your car therapy sessions. As your skill level increases, you will get a feel for what pad to use depending on the condition of the surface, and what polish to use with it.

Factoid: Treat the black rubber and plastic on your car before you polish and wax. It will make it easier to get off any dried polish or wax.

CONDOLENCES

On January 27th we lost our friend and Arkansas Vice President while he was attending a car show in Austin, TX. Gene was an enthusiastic BMW club member and owner. His love for BMW's drove him to join the chapter board and he was even looking into creating a separate Arkansas Chapter.



Gene Allen Renken, died Monday, January 27, 2014 at Heart Hospital in Austin, Texas. He was born on October 23, 1944 in LeMars, Iowa to Carl Renken and Marie Ahrendt Renken. He was raised and educated in LeMars, Iowa, and graduated from Iowa State University. Gene married Barbara Beauchamp in October, 1985 in Washington, Iowa. He was employed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture serving in Field Offices in Iowa, California, and Washington, D.C. He retired as the Chief I.T. Architect for the U.S.D.A. in 2007. They moved to Bella Vista, Arkansas in 2004. They were members of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bentonville, Arkansas. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Kenneth. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Renken of Bella Vista, Arkansas; one daughter, Sarai Hopfe (Lewis) of Westminister, Colorado; two brothers, Herbert Renken (Elnora) Glendale, Arizona, Vernon Renken (Francine) of Glendale, Arizona; and one sister, Ramona Lang (Robert) of LeMars, Iowa.

Gene will be missed by all those that knew him. Please keep his family in your thoughts.



Gene and Barbara taking delivery of their new Z4 in October. 2013.



BMW NEWS



Under BMW's new naming convention, the old 1-series coupe and convertible become the 2-series. The 2 launches initially as a coupe in 228i and M235i, both with BMW's now familiar N20 and N55 engines. The 228i and M235i begin at \$33,025 and \$44,025.

BMW has introduced another diesel variant of the 3-series in the U.S. This time they forego the more powerful (and expensive) 335d in favor of the cheaper and more efficient 328d. The 2.0 liter turbo 4-cyl has 180hp and 280 torque. A far cry from the 425 torque number the 335d put out, but the 328d will get 45mpg highway. The sedan is available in RWD or AWD and there is a wagon variant in AWD only. Prices start at \$39,525.



For 2014 the 3-series Gran Turismo (hatchback?) joins the often unloved 5GT in the U.S. line-up.

The 3GT is more than a 3 hatch, it stretches 7.9in more than the sedan which allows for 2.8in more rear legroom. The cargo area is also larger than the 3-series wagon. The GT is available in AWD only in 328i and 335i designations. Prices start at \$42,375.

Configure your new BMW today at: www.BMWusa.com



Sunbelt Chapter BMW CCA
P.O. Box 54551
Oklahoma City, OK 73154

Gene taking delivery of his new X3 at the BMW Performance Center in South Carolina.



Gene Renken 1944-2014