



## Another successful High Performance Driving Event...



## Chuckwalla 2016

See pages 10-13 for more.

Photos: Lisa Goehring



**Club racers get ready  
to take to the track.**

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# Fahren Affairs

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### Misc. Car Club Info

San Diego SCCA Auto-X ..... www.sdr-scca.com/solo2

SCCA Club Racing ..... sdr-scca.com/rr

SCCA Cal Club (L.A. region)..... www.solo2.com

[www.sdbmwcca.com](http://www.sdbmwcca.com)

## The President's Column

I want to thank Anne Littrell and the great group of volunteers that once again put on our HPDE and Club Race at Chuckwalla. The logistics of the Chuckwalla track are always challenging, and this year proved no exception. Because of the spring event date, we had to compete with other desert events for hotel rooms and potential banquet facilities. After many efforts to find an affordable venue, Anne and the planning group came up with the idea to eat at the track while the club racers were finishing up. This kept the costs reasonable and provided a fun event for the participants. This is just one example of the many decisions that need to be made to make the event successful. All the planning in the world only goes so far. You also have to be able to improvise when necessary. On Saturday when the ambulance was not available, Kelly Moon was able to re-arrange the event on the fly to maximize available track time for drivers and racers. My highest praise is that Anne, Kelly, and the rest of the volunteers make it look easy. I assure you that it is far from easy, and I appreciate the job everybody does to make our HPDE events a success.

Normally, this would be my last discussion of track events until next year, but this year we will have *two* events. Our second HPDE will be at Buttonwillow Raceway October 28-30. We are still working on the format of the 3-day event, so stay tuned. In addition to our events, you have the unique opportunity to drive at Mazda raceway Laguna Seca during this year's Oktoberfest in August. The track will be open for HPDE for 4 days, the sound limit is 105 dB, and you can drive as many as 4 days if you and your car can handle it. If you haven't signed up for Oktoberfest yet, do it now. The hotel is filling up fast, and there are limited spots for the HPDE, Autocross and Car Control events. The registration site for all the Monterey events is <https://www.bmwcca.org/celebratebmw>. You can sign up for the Legends of the Autobahn Concour, Monterey Festorics and Oktoberfest all at the same site. See the ad on pages 16-17 for further information.

Our board meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at Giovanni's, 9353 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. We welcome visitors, so come by and see what we are planning. The formal meeting starts at 6:30, but get there at 5:45 for pizza, soda and conversation with fellow BMW fans. All members and prospective members are welcome. Hope to see you there.

*Jim Patterson*



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### SUBMITTING INFORMATION TO THE EDITOR

Please send us your stories, tech. tips, photos, etc. We welcome and encourage any material you think would be informative or interesting to other members. All information should be submitted to the editor directly by e-mail to [sd-newsletter@sdbmwcca.com](mailto:sd-newsletter@sdbmwcca.com). The deadline for submitting information to the editor is the 15th of even months.

# 2016 Calendar of Events

## May 10

San Diego Chapter – Board Meeting

## May 15

San Diego Chapter – Jack Cavanaugh Clean Car Contest and Charity Auction, Spanish Landing Park. See page 6 for details.

## May 28-29

Bimmerfest, Auto Club Speedway, Fontana, CA. Info at [bimmerfest.com](http://bimmerfest.com)

## June 14

San Diego Chapter – Board Meeting

## June 18

San Diego Chapter – Rug Cunningham Memorial Runoff Autocross, Qualcomm Stadium

## June 26

San Diego Chapter – Cruise event. Details yet to be determined. Check club website for updates.

## July 12

San Diego Chapter – Board Meeting

## August 20-22

### BMW CCA Festorics – 100 Jahre Jubiläum!

Monterey, CA. Saturday, Aug. 20, 10am to Monday, Aug. 22, 11pm. More info at <http://festorics.org/>

## August 23-28

**47th Annual BMW CCA Oktoberfest – 100 Jahre Jubiläum!** Monterey, CA. Tuesday, Aug. 23, 9am to Sunday, Aug. 28, 5pm. More info at <http://ofest.bmwcca.org/>



### San Diego Chapter Monthly Board Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month

Giovanni's Italian Restaurant,  
9353 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.

5:45 P.M. – Pizza & soft drinks  
6:30 P.M. – Board Meeting



## New Club Members Welcome!

Eduardo Arredondo	Christopher Hurst	Chris Postle
Kristin Atkinson	Matthew Iskra	Trevor Printz
Shashi Barot	Griffin Izzo	Ron Reyes
Scott Blanco	Andrew Johnson	Zachariah Ritsema
Ryan Bledsoe	Gary King	David Rizzo
Daniel Boever	Alex Kuznik	James Scott
Cole Bridges	Luke Lanzante	Jonathan Siegel
Timothy Cicirelli	Robert Latven	Scott Smylie
Robert Collins	Jonathan Laymon	Dylan Steeves
Gonzalo Duriel	John Leighton	Harry Sullivan
Jonathan D'Augusta	Richard Lynch	Scott Tarman
Claya El-Moussa	Jessica Mart	Mark Taylor
Blake Ellison	Tierra Matthews	Daniel Urrego
Jeffrey Gaines	StevieAnn Nance	Ludovico Verducci
Richard Gerger	Kenneth Neal	Richie Vue
Carter Gonzales	William Nichols	Timothy Wassil
James Haskin	John Pavia	Steven Whiteside
Jorge Hernandez	Anhkhoh Phan	Richard Zampell
	Justine Pierret	

Be sure to check the website for all the latest news and event announcements!

[www.sdbmwcca.com](http://www.sdbmwcca.com)

## Are you moving?

Update your address with the **National office** at [bmwcca.org](http://bmwcca.org) or call 1.800.878.9292

# 2015 Volunteer of the Year

Since 2003, we have honored the memory of Bill Brecht by presenting an annual award for the club member who best represents the spirit of volunteerism that Bill represented throughout his life. The club has been fortunate to have great volunteers, and each year we have had a difficult choice picking one volunteer of the year. I'm happy to announce Kim Schwarz as the winner of the 2015 Bill Brecht Memorial Volunteer of the Year award. Kim has been our Autocross director since 2014. Shortly after her election, the chapter was "volunteered" to put on the Oktoberfest Autocross in Monterey. Kim managed to organize a very successful national event while putting on a full schedule of San Diego events. After that start, we all knew that the Autocross program was in good hands. Kim has continued to make improvements to the Autocross program to make it better for the participants, instructors and volunteers. In addition to Autocross, Kim is active moderating our Facebook page, and has recently taken over our Twitter account. In each case she has stepped up to take over a difficult task and done it with style and grace. I look forward to working with Kim for many more years.



Photo: Theju Ganesh

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# **THE 2016 JACK CAVANAUGH MEMORIAL CAR SHOW, CLEAN CAR CONTEST & CHARITY AUCTION**

**Sunday, May 15, 9:00 A .M. – 3:00 P.M.**

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*Photos: Lisa Goehring*

# Foothills to Mountaintop Cruise

The Foothills to Mountaintop Cruise on Sunday, March 20 started in the parking lot of the Poway Target Store. Although the weather was quite overcast and misty, as we departed the delightful sun appeared. It was a wonderful day for a BMW cruise. There were many winding roads, testing our driving skills. When we were able to take our eyes off the road, we were treated to great views of the local countryside.



Drives like this one make us appreciate our BMWs. There were 68 members, friends, and children who had a great deal of fun following the out-of-the-way roads, including those which wound and twisted up and down Palomar Mountain. After coming down the mountain, we drove another 30 miles through the north county, ending at Lake Wohlford for a pleasant lunch with our fellow travelers.

Our next cruise/run will happen on Sunday, June 26. Check the club's web site and *Fahren Affairs* for more details.

*Jim Lloyd*



Photos: Lisa Goehring



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### CHRIS KEEFER

Formerly of La Jolla Independent BMW Service, Chris has been a leading technician in the San Diego BMW community for the last 13 years. Chris started Independent Motorcars in order to continue to deliver a high level of service to his customers and expand those services to the other makes and models his customers have in their garage.



### KATE CONSTABLE

Kate is a huge car nut which makes her the perfect fit as the Customer Relations Director at Independent Motorcars. Her daily computer feed is jammed with everything from the latest offerings from European auto manufacturers to the latest news and cars from sites like Jalopnik and Bring a Trailer.



### JAY PRZEPADLO

Formerly of La Jolla Independent BMW and Herman Cook VW, Jay has an extensive knowledge of BMW cars and has been factory trained in VW and Audi automobiles during his 15-year career. His main focus is to maintain customer vehicles to a higher-than-factory standard.



### ERIK STORER

Formerly of La Jolla Independent BMW, Erik is our resident customer service advocate, in-shop assistant, code enforcer, neat freak and comedian. Erik is the support system of Independent Motorcars in all facets of what we do. Chances are he has picked you up or driven you home without the use of navigation or Google Maps.

## Show Your Membership Card and Save!

*The following advertisers offer a discount to BMW CCA members. You must show your membership card at the time of purchase.*

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**Dieter's:** 10% off Parts and Labor

**5 Point Auto Detail:** 10% discount

**La Jolla Independent BMW Service:** 10%

**Mastercare:** 10% discount

**Oceanside Motor Sports:** Complimentary Detail Upgrade



# Rocky Mountain Chapter Autocrossing in February?

Well, sort of, but my long suffering wife Diane and I headed to San Diego for the second winter in a row to visit Club members Rick and Sharon Eismin, and coincidentally it was on the same weekend as the San Diego Chapter Space Race Autocross at Qualcomm Stadium. This was indeed a striking coincidence (not), as we managed to get to San Diego for the February 2015 autocross at Qualcomm.

One of the best parts of BMW CCA membership is being able to travel the country and meet other members and participate in their local events, and the San Diego Chapter's crew are masters at putting on an autocross in the very same efficient manner as the Rocky Mountain Chapter. Very well laid out instructions, quick and thorough tech inspection, timely drivers' meeting and on-time start that allowed an incredible 8 morning practice runs and 4 afternoon timed runs. However, San Diego puts an instructor in everyone's car in the morning to make sure a complete knowledge of the course and procedures are provided.

To say the course was challenging is an understatement, and it truly utilized the huge west lot of the stadium to great advantage. The first half of the course consisted of an uphill section with 2 long sweepers, a short slalom with offset last cone and a fast downhill to the next slalom and the completely off-camber, downhill set of sweepers, slaloms and gates that ended in a tricky technical finish. The fastest car, a fully prepared Porsche GT3, ran the course in about 77 seconds while back markers with winter tires ran in the upper 90s.

Did I mention that it was an absolute blast? In our Z3, it was second gear all the way, but banging on the rev limiter a couple of times. While the course was well-marked and easy to read it had VERY technical sucker features that, while they looked easy, could add seconds to your run if you were not on top of your game. (Ask me how I know).

One difference that I liked was that 2 driver cars had the first driver doing all of their runs before turning the car over to the second driver. This really helped keep the event moving and allowed the 8 morning practice runs. However in our mud/snow-tired Z3, it was impossible to keep the tires cool in the beautiful low 70s San Diego weather. Oh well, we run for fun and not glory.

As is normal in BMW Club events, everyone was super friendly, the lunch was great and smiles and laughs were evident all day. With luck, we will be back next February to once again destroy a set of tires and enjoy the hospitality of the San Diego Chapter.

*Michael Critchley*  
Rocky Mountain Chapter



*Photo: Theju Ganesh*

# Chuckwalla Valley Raceway High Performance Driving School & Club Race

March 12-13, 2016



Photo: Lisa Goehring

*"We got to drive like we never thought we ever could, and all the while never once feeling like we were being pushed too hard or into a situation that was unsafe or uncontrolled. Really amazing experience and something I'd highly recommend." RL*

*"The classroom sessions, coupled with having instructors on every lap, ensured my safety while optimizing my learning experience. I look forward to more learning and track sessions with BMWCCA!" MD*

*"I really liked having the racers join in the weekend. It adds a special flavor to the weekend." JA*

These are a few of the comments from students at the recent High Performance Driving School held at Chuckwalla Valley Raceway. Fifty-seven students participated in the driving school. For many, it was their first time on a race track. It proved to be an exciting and challenging time for all. In addition, fourteen BMW Club Racers held their first race of the season. For Club Racers,



Photo: Theju Ganesh



Photo: Theju Ganesh

this first event of the year at Chuckwalla gives them an opportunity to be with fellow BMW CCA enthusiasts and share the fun and excitement of Club Racing.

I want thank all of the instructors who came out and worked hard to make the event a success. As usual, these events do not go well without the support of our members. I thank my staff for all their hard work and dedication. Dan Tackett orchestrated the instructor core, while Matthew Kogan took care of the Club Racers in addition to instructing. Our stalwart chief steward Kelly Sakata-Moon is a magician, in the way she manages to keep us on schedule even with unforeseen delays. This year she was assisted by Theju Ganesh and Mihajlo Tomic. Satakal Khalsa took care of the trailer and equipment. Andre Pantic handled track set up and take down. Seth Hanson conducted the C-D Classroom session in addition to instructing. The A-B classroom was ably run by Phil Kogan. Theju Ganesh, Lisa Goehring and Sonia Minasian worked the Friday and Saturday registration. Our Michigan snow bird, Lindsay Draime, was there to help whenever needed.



Photo: Lisa Goehring



Photo: Theju Ganesh



Photo: Theju Ganesh

Once again, I would like to thank our sponsors, BMW of Escondido/Brecht Motorsports, Toyo Tires, Independent Motorcars and Oceanside Motorsports as well as all of you who came out to support the event as students.

Anne Littrell - BMW CCA San Diego Driving Events

BMW of Escondido



**Mark your calendar, for there will be a second HPDE this year! Buttonwillow Raceway October 29-30, 2016**



Photo: Lisa Goehring

# More Trackside Fun



Photo: Lisa Goehring



Photo: Theju Ganesh



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Photo: Lisa Goehring



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Photo: Theju Ganesh



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Photo: Theju Ganesh



Photo: Theju Ganesh



Photo: Lisa Goehring



Photo: Lisa Goehring

## Online Registration will open on May 2

Register Online at <http://sdbmwcca.motorsportreg.com>



Scan and register now!

It's time again for everyone's favorite event--our annual Runoff Autocross! This is our ninth runoff event that honors the memory of Rug Cunningham, founder of Cunningham BMW, now BMW of El Cajon.

Eleven drivers will qualify for our 2016 Runoff by winning their car classes. The winner of the Runoff will get his or her name on the perpetual trophy and will receive a personal trophy to display proudly and commemorate the event. Our format includes one practice session for all drivers, followed by three timed runs to determine trophies for this event. The first-place winner of each car class earns a runoff position in the afternoon. As all other drivers continue to enjoy fun runs in the afternoon, each runoff contender will drive the same "mystery" car. The driver with the best time will be crowned our 2016 Runoff Champion. Will it be you? Join us on Saturday, June 18 in Qualcomm's Southeast Lot to find out!

***We are updating our helmet ratings to Snell 2010 or 2015. If you have Snell 2005, get your new helmet soon as our grace period ends Dec 31, 2016!***

Please note: We have new car classifications as shown at right. Please make sure that your car class is up to date in Motorsport Reg, and if you have questions, feel free to email us at [autocross-director@sdbmwcca.com](mailto:autocross-director@sdbmwcca.com).

Remember the sound limit at Qualcomm: **all cars must be under a 92db noise level – we'll be checking!**

***Our sincerest thanks to BMW of El Cajon for their continued support of our Autocross Program!***

Newcomers: We've all had a first time and we're all still learning, so relax, have fun, and enjoy your time with us. You will have an instructor take you around the course for one lap in your car showing you turn-in points, braking zones and so on. Your instructor will then ride with you for your next three laps helping you learn the course. In your next session, and the timed runs, you can have an instructor with you as much or as little as you want – whatever makes you comfortable. These events are what you make them; you can push for good lap times and enjoy the friendly competition or you can have more of a social event where running laps is just another part of a fun-filled day.

See the **Autocross Information Page** at <http://www.sdbmwcca.com/autocross> to get a better idea of how to prepare for this wonderfully addictive sport for your first time.

Note: We do run if it's raining – you'll learn more and your tires will wear less – so if you see some unusual drops of water falling from the sky, grab your raingear and head to the Q! **Also, the helmet standard has changed to require Snell 2005 or 2010 ratings. Check yours now to be sure it's up to date – rentals are limited.**

The entry fee is \$65, including breakfast items, lunch, and beverages. You can pay online if you register in advance at <http://sdbmwcca.motorsportreg.com>, or with cash or check if you wait to register onsite. You must be a BMW CCA member to participate, and you can join online at [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) in advance. Please **print and bring your membership confirmation** if you have not yet received your BMW CCA membership card. We check membership of all participants at the gate.

**REMEMBER: IF REGISTERED ONLINE, BRING PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP AND ARRIVE BY 7:30AM (BEFORE ON-SITE CUT-OFF) TO KEEP YOUR RESERVED SPOT**

Gates will open at 6:30am; tech and registration will open at 7:00am. Tech will close at 8:20am and no cars will be inspected or allowed to run after this time. There is a **mandatory drivers meeting at 8:30am** and the course opens for runs at 9:00am.

**When you arrive:**

1. If you registered online, stop at the gate to sign the waiver and notify the Gate Greeter. Your name will be checked off the pre-registration list. All participants must show their BMW CCA membership card. Those who did not register online will receive a numbered card at the gate in their order of arrival; take it to the Registration table.

**There is no guarantee that spots will be available for those who wait to register the day of the event.**

2. Empty all loose items from your car, then go through the Tech Line and have your car inspected. Bring your Tech card and you will receive Tech and helmet stickers.

3. Take Gate card and Tech card to Registration to get checked off for pre-registration or pay your \$65 entry fee. You will receive car numbers to place on your side windows.

4. If you don't have a helmet, you can rent one from the club for \$10.

5. Your entry fee of \$65.00 includes one lunch and unlimited beverages. Additional lunches can be purchased at Registration for \$7 each.

Women drivers and Novices are classified based upon the car they are driving. We award a Women's Class trophy to the woman with the fastest time, and two Novice trophies to the two fastest novices. This means women and novices will be eligible for multiple trophies. You are only a novice for the first and second time you autocross, and if you win a novice or class trophy you are no longer a novice.

QUESTIONS? Contact Jim Patterson at: [sd-autocross@sdbmwcca.com](mailto:sd-autocross@sdbmwcca.com).

See you at the Q!



# Please note car classes:

## CAR CLASSIFICATIONS:

- LC** ALL BMWs through Model Year 1988; E30s through Model Year 1986; all naturally aspirated 4-cylinder models – Stock or Modified
- NAS** ALL naturally aspirated, non-M BMWs not in Legacy Class – Stock
- NAM** ALL naturally aspirated, non-M BMWs not in Legacy Class – Modified
- TS** ALL turbocharged BMWs (4-6-8-12 cyl, gas or diesel) – Stock
- TM** ALL turbocharged BMWs (4-6-8-12 cyl, gas or diesel) – Modified
- MS** ALL M cars under 400 factory hp – Stock
- MM** ALL M cars under 400 factory hp – Modified
- MPS** ALL M cars over 400 factory hp – Stock
- MPM** ALL M cars over 400 factory hp – Modified
- MC** ALL R-class MINI Cooper models (Stock or Modified)
- X** ALL non-BMW, or Austin MINI models
- G** ALL Instructors OR experienced drivers who choose Gold Class *and* drivers running non-DOT tires (i.e. slicks)

*\*Classification for specific cars is at the discretion of the Autocross Director*

## ONLY Alterations Permitted in Stock Classes:

- ANY size wheel and tires. Tires must have DOT treadwear rating of 140 or higher
- ANY shock absorber using stock mounting and ANY suspension bushing material
- ANY air filter or air intake AHEAD OF mass airflow meter
- Non-stock software/firmware is permitted on naturally-aspirated engines only
- ANY brake pad material is allowed with Stock-size brake components
- Catalyst-back exhaust systems and strut tower braces are permitted

## ANY other alterations move to Modified Classes, including:

- Tires with DOT treadwear rating under 140
- Non-stock springs, coilover suspensions, non-stock anti-roll bars
- Software/firmware alterations to turbocharged/supercharged engines
- Non-stock mass airflow meters, camshafts, downpipes, removed catalytic converter
- Non-stock-size brake rotors or calipers (stock-size replacements OK in Stock)



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**Do you have  
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Meet & Greet?**

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Contact Rachel Mills at  
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## **Want to show off your car?**

If you'd like to be featured in our Member Spotlight, send in a brief story about your car, an experience you had at an event, what you love about the Club, why you joined, etc.

Include a high-resolution photo with your submission and send to:  
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If you'd like to share a brief story about your car, an experience you had at an event, what you love about the Club, etc., let us know! Include a high-resolution photo(s) with your submission, and email to: [sd-newsletter@sdbmwcca.com](mailto:sd-newsletter@sdbmwcca.com)  
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Third page, internal	7.5" x 3.5"	\$120	\$600
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*Photo: Fred Larimer*



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