

# ***The Southern Accent***

*BMW Car Club of America*

**Gulf Coast Chapter**



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## **I get by with a little help from my friends.. By Josh Henderson/Vice President**

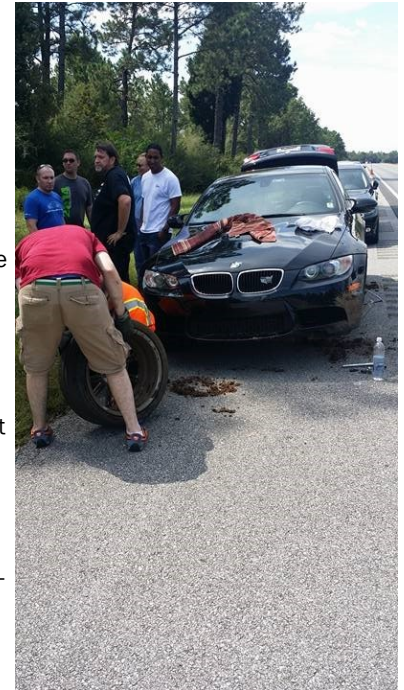
September 26, 2015

For this article in the Gulf Coast Bimmers Newsletter I would like to talk about some of the values of being a part of your local CCA. I am not talking about the monetary values such as discounts or the extras such as the Roundel Magazine. I am talking about the actual value in the company you keep.

For September's Pensacola Cars & Coffee meeting, a large group of people from the local chapter met for the car show, and then proceeded to go to lunch after the show. On our way to lunch one of our lead members had some tire issues after running through some debris in the road. We abruptly all stopped to help our comrade in need. After accessing the issue at hand we figured out the side wall of the tire had punctured in the front left tire. As you all know the run flat tires that come with our cars are a harsh ride at times so many enthusiasts proceed to switch their tires to non run flat tires, usually Michelin Pilot Super Sports due to their superior quality. Because of the non RFTs tires and not having a spare. We had to see if we could seal the leak. We had a total of 10 Bimmers with us on the side of the road so there were plenty of minds and tools to tinker with. After realizing the leak was unrepairable with what we had at hand, the member proceeded to tell us he would just get road side assistance to get his car and

tow it to nearest tire shop or dealership. We proceeded to help him and made a call to one our other members who was not with us at the time to explain to him what had happened. After telling him the situation he immediately brought one of his extra wheels to put on the M3 so he could be mobile again.

It may not seem like a lot but it just comes to show that sometimes a local car club is more than just a social club. It turns into a loyal car family. There is a social value that you can get from your local car club. Not only is there a vast deal of knowledge available from other car enthusiasts. People will be willing to throw out a helping hand when in need. That is something you can't buy or find a lot. I can truly say I am proud to call myself a part of the Gulf Coast Bimmers.



## Manual no more: BMW to drop stick from next M5, M6

April 6th 2016 by Andrew Ganz via MotorAuthority

It will soon be the end of an era for BMW's manual transmission—at least in the company's sporty M5 and M6 models.

BMW says that limited interest from consumers is forcing it to drop the manual transmission option in its [next generation M5](#) and M6 to focus instead on dual-clutch gearboxes.

Speaking with [Car and Driver](#), the head of BMW's M division, Frank van Meel, said that "demand has dropped to zero" for M5s and M6s with stick shifts. BMW has previously said that it developed the current manual transmission M5 and M6 specifically for the United States, but even here there has been less demand from consumers than the automaker expected.

Van Meel's statement serves as the best confirmation yet about what some of BMW's engineers [have said](#) over the last few years.

BMW has been slowly phasing

out manual transmissions in its American market models. A few years ago, the automaker made the transmissions a "no cost" option over an automatic, rather than making buyers pay extra for a transmission that shifts itself.

Today, the M5 and M6 are the only 5- and 6-Series models available with a manual transmission in the U.S.

Don't fret, performance fans: van Meel says that the smaller M2, M3, and M4 will all retain their clutch pedals, however.



## Podiums in the second race of the season

**BMW M6 GTLM and BMW M6 GT3 both finished second at the 12 Hours of Sebring.**

**Sebring (US), March 20, 2016...** BMW Team RLL secured the maiden podium result for the newly developed BMW M6 GTLM at the legendary 12-hour race in Sebring (US). Bill Auberlen (US), Dirk Werner (DE) and Bruno Spengler (CA) finished second in the GTLM class at round two of the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship (IWSC), sharing driving duties in the Number 25 BMW M6 GTLM.

When last-stint driver Werner crossed the line after 235 laps of the Sebring International Raceway, the gap to the winning Corvette was 2.882 seconds. John Edwards (US), Lucas Luhr (DE) and Kuno Wittmer (CA) in the Number 100 BMW Team RLL car also had their sights firmly set on a podium finish, until the car was spun by another competitor, dropping it back to sixth in the final phase of the race.

Following the car's first pole position on Friday scored by Auberlen, this result is the next milestone in the young racing career of the BMW M6 GTLM. It was again Auberlen who clocked the fastest GTLM lap time of 1:59.182 minutes during the race. Spengler, usually racing with BMW Team

MTEK in the DTM, was able to celebrate on the podium after his very first visit to Sebring.



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## **Upcoming Events**

**Cars & Coffee Ft. Walton**

**Every 2nd Saturday 10-12**

**Behind Starbucks at Santa Rosa Mall**

**340 Mary Esther Blvd, Mary Esther, FL 32569**

**Cars & Coffee Tallahassee**

**Every 3rd Saturday 8-10:30**

**Texas Roadhouse**

**3131 Capital Circle Northeast**

**Tallahassee, FL**

**Cars & Coffee Pensacola**

**Every 4th Saturday 8-10**

**Behind Mellow Mushroom**

**5175 Bayou Blvd, Pensacola, FL 32503**

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