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**DIE ZEITUNG... "THE NEWSPAPER"
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA
CONNECTICUT VALLEY CHAPTER**

Annual Dinner Meeting February 6, 2016



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EVENTS CALENDAR

By Adrian Pasternak
Vice President and Activities Chairman

Dec. 5th – Holiday Party – Sloper-Wesoly House,
New Britain - Host: Joe Robinson

Dec. 18th – Board Meeting – Host: Roger Chartier

Feb. 6th – Annual Dinner Meeting – Maneely's Lodge,
South Windsor, CT. Guest Speaker: TBA
Host: Heather Centrella

* Feb. 2016-Jan. 2017 Board Meetings Hosts cannot
be scheduled until after the Jan/Feb 2016 Election at
the Annual Dinner Meeting

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Request for DZ Submissions...

The DZ is always looking for member contributions. We can all find the latest BMW press releases or racing news in the Roundel or on the internet... ho hum. But you can't learn about the interesting tid-bits of information specific to our personal BMW relationships and adventures there. Have you taken a particularly scenic drive or stopped at an especially noteworthy café or destination? We would like to know about it. Please submit your articles and high resolution photographs to DZ@ctvalley.org or mail to BMWCCA-CVC Newsletter, P.O. Box 432, Hartford CT, 06141. Your fellow Chapter members will love you for it.



CELEBRATING 42 YEARS!

2015 BOARD MEMBERS & KEY PEOPLE

President... Lance Johnson
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Vice President/Activities Chair... Adrian Pasternak
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Secretary... John Bate
JBate@ctvalley.org

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Membership Chairperson... Joe Robinson
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Driving Event Coordinator... Dave Rich
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Tire Rack Street Survival Coordinator... Dave Ortoli
(203) 269-8761, dortoli@ctvalley.org

Members at Large:

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Heather Centrella... hcentrella@ctvalley.org

Bob Morin... bmorin@ctvalley.org

Roger Chartier... rchartier@ctvalley.org

Sheila Morin... smorin@ctvalley.org

Dave Ortoli... dortoli@ctvalley.org

Joe Robinson... jrobinson@ctvalley.org

jerri Wiley... jwiley@ctvalley.org

Willy Wiley... wwiley@ctvalley.org

Danielle Cartolano... dcartolano@ctvalley.org

NEW MEMBERS

NAME... TOWN/STATE...

Mark McDonough	Rocky Hill	CT	Rodney Abbott	Plantsville	CT
James Burgoyne	Darien	CT	Tim Brennan	Redding	CT
Jon Cook	East Lyme	CT	Michael Figulski	West Hartford	CT
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Randall Wiberg	Newtown	CT	Tammy Metz	Sandy Hook	CT
Craig Floch	Shelton	CT	Alexis Vidals	Meriden	CT
Skaria Thomas	Westport	CT	William Ainsworth	Woodbury	CT
Ernest Jordan	Manchester	CT	John Billington	Fairfield	CT
Anton Yelyashkevich	Norwalk	CT	Jay Pearlman	Guilford	CT
Bryan Koci	Danbury	CT	John Allison	Easthampton	MA
Tom Woodruff	Wallingford	CT	Raffi Fattal	New Haven	CT
David Edmunds	Derby	CT	Kyle Redmond	West Springfield	MA
Susan Larson	Southington	CT	Colby Norden	Windsor	CT
Keith Larson	Southington	CT	Kevin Rosales	Willimantic	CT
Erica Larson	Southington	CT	Peter Molfese	Rocky Hill	CT
John Piontkowski	New York	NY	Daniel Ford	Ridgefield	CT
Joseph Gatti	New Canaan	CT	Mary Ford	Ridgefield	CT
Carol Abbott	Plantsville	CT	Robert Szmania	West Springfield	MA



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Another year is winding to a close and Chapter activities are thinning out in anticipation of the coming winter. Over the past few weeks (at least as of the time this is being written), Adrian Pasternak has hosted another very successful Haunted Fall Picnic at the Ward Pound Ridge Reservation. We also co-hosted with the Patroon Chapter, our first two day High Performance Driver's School at the new Whisky Hill Course at the Palmer Motorsport Park outside Ware, Massachusetts. The layout of the course is like a roller coaster and the fall foliage was spectacular (even though we saw snow flurries on day 2). BUT... we fell well short of the number of students we required to break even on the event. Although the event represented a tremendous value, with 2 full days on track (no sharing of track time with The Lime Rock Club) for only 50% more than our typical single day schools, only 64 students registered as compared to the 90 required to break even. As you may have guessed, this has initiated some energetic discussions among the Chapter Board regarding the reasons for the shortfall and the likelihood that we will return next year. For the regular Driving School participants who chose not to do the Palmer 2 day school, Dave Rich and the Driving Events Committee would be VERY interested to hear why you chose not to participate in the "Fall Thrill at Whisky Hill".

Looking down the road a bit, we still have a few events waiting in the wings. On December 5th, we are once again confirmed at the Wesoly-Sloper House in New Britain for the ever popular CVC Holiday Party and Yankee Swap. Finally, we have confirmed Saturday evening, February 6th with Maneely's Banquet Hall for the Annual Dinner Meeting & Election. We have approached several fascinating potential speakers, so stand by for an announcement.

Speaking of the annual election, the ballot for this year's election is located on the back cover. You may either cut it off to cast your vote, or make a photo copy. A few things to note: first, Veteran Chapter member Willy Wiley has volunteered to return as Chapter President upon my exit. Personally, I find it very disappointing that out of the 2,000+ members there are so few interested in shaping the activities and direction of the Chapter. Second, we have 2 candidates for the position of Vice President/Activities Chairman. Adrian Pasternak (incumbent) and Joe Robinson have both indicated their interest in running. Finally, the candidates for Member at Large fall short of the number of openings by one. So, if you are interested in becoming more involved in the Chapter leadership Team, please notify anyone on the current Board.

I know I have mentioned this before, I will be stepping down as DZ editor at the end of the year. It has been an interesting experience, with its rewards and frustrations. During my tenure, I've overseen the production of 35 full color bi-monthly editions of the publication. What I have not mentioned before is that Danielle Cartolano will be taking over the editor's desk. She and her other half, Joe Robinson joined the Chapter Board last year and have brought some much needed fresh energy, perspectives and activities to the Chapter. If you have any ideas for articles you would like to see or better yet, contributions to the publication, please send them to Danielle DZ@ctvalley.org or DCartolano@ctvalley.org.

Thank you... -lmj

DZ INFORMATION

Disclaimer.....
Die Zeitung is published bi-monthly by the BMW CCA Connecticut Valley Chapter, P.O. Box 432, Hartford, CT 06141

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Membership in the BMW Car Club of America is \$48.00 yearly and includes a one year subscription to Roundel, the national publication of the club, and to Die Zeitung, the publication of the CT Valley Chapter. Associate membership is available for \$10/year (no publications included).

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Articles, etc. for inclusion in the Die Zeitung should be sent to DZ@CTValley.org. Copyright information must be included with all items submitted for publication.

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*Full Color camera ready art should be emailed to: Roger Chartier
RChartier@ctvalley.org*



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CELEBRATING 42 YEARS!

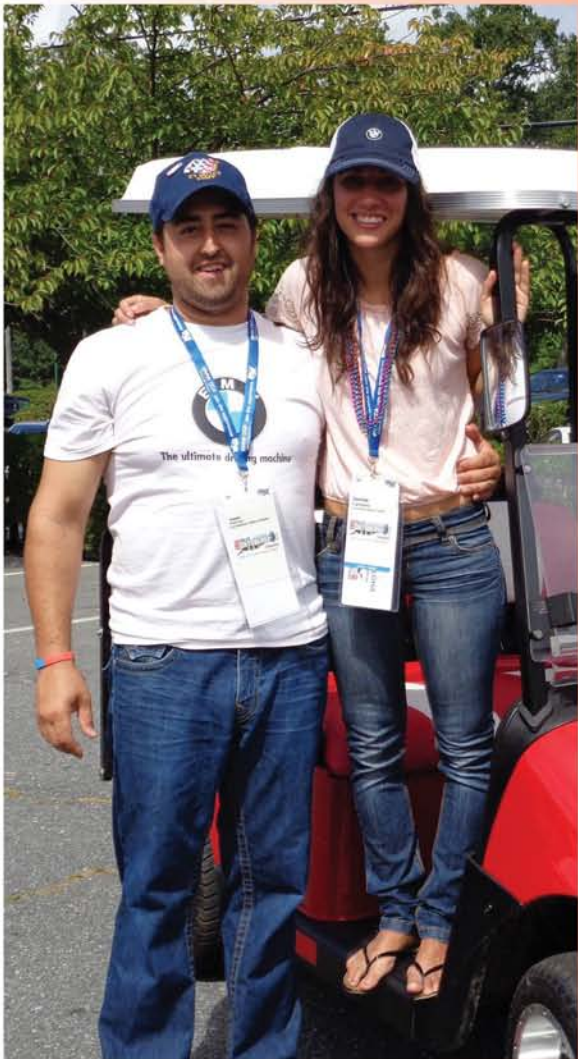
OKTOBERFEST

FIRST TIMERS

By Joe Robinson

We were on the fence about going to Oktoberfest this year. On the one hand, it was practically in our backyard, and it would be years before that happened again. On the other hand, we couldn't find puppy sitters, and it seemed a little too expensive. Next year, it's in California, which will probably quadruple our puppy sitting needs and expenses, and that's fine with me cause we're going! I can't believe we almost didn't go this year! We had never been, and now we've seen the light, and it was good! It was like the Olympics of BMW. Of course, you are reading this from the current BMW Car Club of America Gymkhana Gold Medalist! Oh we won, by 0.5 of a second.. The crowd roared as my girlfriend Danielle matted the gas of that golf kart! The squealing tires, the skidding stops, the wheelies from acceleration.. Well, it felt that way anyway, and if we had missed any one of those bottle caps or getting Homer Simpson into the bins... Ok, too hard to explain, but it was great! Our first Oktoberfest, and we came home with trophies! Many people from the CVC came in 1st in their events, and one member had enough accumulated points from all the events to win the whole thing! I'm very proud of our Chapter and our friends. If it wasn't for them we wouldn't have even gone at all. We could only stay for two days, but we got the bug! Some people drive across the Country, go to every possible event at Oktoberfest and party well into each night. Now I know why. I had never seen a 2002 Turbo or Batmobile in person, I can't wait to see an M1! Also, next year's event will be celebrating 100 years of BMW and I can't even imagine how much more spectacular it will make it all. Hope to see you all there!





CELEBRATING 42 YEARS!

BMW CCA OKTOBERFEST A VETERAN'S VIEW 2015

By Bob Morin

As this was our 30th Oktoberfest attended, we've seen a lot over the years. We can remember times when nearly 30 CVC members would attend Oktoberfest as far away as Keystone, CO, but in recent years, there have been times when Sheila and I were the only CVC representatives at the event. When the location was first announced in southern NJ, we were hopeful that other local Chapter members might be joining us this year. As it turned out, that number swelled back to the nearly 30 count, and many were attending their first Oktoberfest.

We thoroughly enjoyed the eye-popping enthusiasm shown by Joe Robinson & Dani Cartolano who were experiencing their first Oktoberfest and when I learned that they were planning to write a brief article for the DZ documenting their experience from the first-timers point of view, I decided to submit a few thoughts from the other end of the spectrum.

As O'fests go, this year's event was a pretty good one. All of the events were well-run and great fun. The vendor area is growing again, after a few lean years. The schedule was little unusual, due to the Jewish holiday smack in the middle of the week, but the down time left an excellent opportunity for the non-Jewish participants to spend the free day running the Fun Rally, which oftentimes can be difficult to fit into the schedule when trying to "do it all." For non-Rallyists, there was an apparently terrific visit to the Simeone Automotive Foundation Museum.

The compacted schedule due to the Wednesday "off" meant that Tuesday included the Concours, the Gymkhana, and the TSD Rally, as well as the usual evening social events. One almost needed the time off on Wednesday to recover. Thursday, depending upon your interest, was spent either Autocrossing, or driving one of the two tracks at NJMP, or perhaps taking advantage of the BMW CCA Foundation Charity Rides in one of the BMW NA race cars on hand, including one E92 M3 driven by Bill Auberlin, or the very car that was BMW's first winner in the U.S., the Sebring winning CSL from

1975, driven by none other than Brian Redman, who had done the lion's share of the driving at Sebring to ensure that first victory for BMW of North America.

Thursday evening there was a Prohibition themed reception, and far more than last last year when there was a 70s theme, people REALLY got into dressing up for the part. There were some really terrific Roaring 20s styled outfits on display. And the menu for the evening was pretty fancy, too. Among the appetizers were an oyster station, and shrimp cocktail, and the buffet dinner included Beef Wellington, salmon & a risotto station.

Friday, was similar to Thursday. Many who did Autocross on Thursday found themselves at the track on Friday, and visa versa. Friday evening, we traveled from the host Stockton Seaview Inn to the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City for the closing banquet. This may have been the finest venue for the banquet yet and will be difficult to beat in future events. They had a nice open room with plentiful hors d'oeuvres during a pre-dinner cocktail hour, and then we crossed the hallway to a theater that offered great viewpoints of the stage and the video screens from every seat, due to multiple levels. The dinner was terrific, with outstanding service, including some BMW-themed desserts and cookies.

It was great to see so many CVC members in attendance, and I hope that we now have a fresh group of participants for future events. Next year is not close by, in Monterey, CA, but we will be celebrating BMW's 100th birthday, so it is sure to be a very special event worth attending. I know that Joe & Dani want to go. How about you?

Oktoberfest is becoming a very expensive vacation, and sadly it is causing the decision to attend or not to be more difficult. There are ways to participate on more of a budget however, using day passes and so forth, so keep that in mind. It would be amazing if we could get 30 CVC members in Monterey next year. I doubt that you'd be disappointed!

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LANDS' END

Fall ~~Thrill~~ Chill @ Whiskey Hill

by Dave Rich

Our first HPDE on the Whiskey Hill Raceway at the new Palmer Motorsports Park was an astounding success. The co-hosting arrangement with our brethren from the Patroon Chapter worked very well with the shared workload reducing the burden on everyone.

The event was broadly promoted as the Fall Thrill at Whiskey Hill which in hindsight, we can now rename the Fall Chill at Whiskey Hill. Except for the briskness in the air, Saturday was gorgeous.... a beautiful blue sky, puffy clouds and the highly anticipated kaleidoscope of fall colors made for great viewing.

Then Sunday happened.... the temps dropped even further and some dark clouds appeared bringing passing snow squalls.

It really put a damper on things, but the snow quickly passed and allowed some of the best sessions of the event recorded in the afternoon.

We are definitely looking to return to this fabulous track next year, possibly a bit earlier in the season. If you have any interest in helping with our 2016 HPDE calendar, please contact me at 860-638-9087 or drich@ctvalley.org about joining the Driving Events Committee.





CELEBRATING 42 YEARS!

MEMORIES OF THE '79 CANNONBALL

PART 5

by Harvey Adelberg

Popular myth has it that the Cannonball was a “no rules” race. Not true. There were three rules:

- 1) The drivers at the starting line had to be the drivers at the finish line.**
- 2) No additional drivers could be added along the way.**
- 3) The vehicle at the starting line had to be the same vehicle at the finishing line.**

Brock Yates must have anticipated the possibility that a team could drive out of the Lock, Stock & Barrel Restaurant, in Darien, CT and head straight for the Newark airport to catch a flight to LAX. They could relax for a day in sunny southern California, then drive the same make/model/color vehicle across the finish line in Redondo Beach ahead of all the rule-abiding participants. The mere thought of doing the same would have never crossed their mind... more than once or twice.

HISTORICAL NOTE: One year later, Rosie Ruiz had her Boston Marathon title stripped when it was learned that Rosie joined the race a half mile from the finish line.



Pony Express

Select five veteran riders, space them 600 miles apart, and head west, pony express style. That's what Ken Ward, Steve Ward, George Egloff, Wendy Epstein and Dick James did over the course of 43:32, placing 30th. Although the introduction of new riders/drivers along the way was prohibited in four wheeled vehicles, the motorcycle riders were given a “Why not?” exception.

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

Three friends, Al Alden, Dick Field and Tom Hickey (pictured, but in unknown order), professors from Dartmouth College, carefully planned their strategy to win the Cannonball. With the exception of a small 6.9 badge on the right side of their trunk lid, this 450 SEL blended well with other vehicular traffic. With enough power to cruise in the 150 mph range, this team did almost everything right.



One exception involved a request by Brock Yates to compute gas mileage over the course of the race to qualify for Best and Worst gas mileage awards. Rather than toss enough money across the counter to cover the gas purchase, along with a "Keep the change" request (to save valuable seconds), Al, Dick and Tom interpreted Brock's request as "Get receipts. Requesting receipts for the 10-12 gas stops could have easily added one minute to each stop. They finished in second place in 32:59.... EIGHT minutes behind the first place finisher.

Passing a Lotus

With a cruising speed of only 100-110mph, our 300SD rarely passed other Cannonball racers. Overtaking John Harrison's Lotus Esprit was one of those rare instances. John's perspective was that he was happy to let us "smoke out the radar traps." That's just what we did.



We were nailed doing 101mph on Interstate 71. This was no routine speeding stop. We had to follow the state trooper about 5 miles to the District Court House in Mansfield, Ohio, where we were processed, slowly. Very slowly. Bail bond was set at \$900 (about \$23,000 in 2015 dollars).

After spending some quality time talking to the trooper, he gave us the "skinny" on juris prudence, Ohio style. As the driver of the vehicle, I would pay 10% of the bail bond in cash, forego a court appearance in Mansfield when my case was called, forfeit the \$90, and if I were smart, I would avoid speeding in Ohio for at least three years. The trooper then escorted the Diesel Team back to Interstate 71 and waved goodbye as we headed west. Total elapsed time for the Court House Tour: 59 minutes 35 seconds.

The following morning, Harvey's older sister, Elena, who lived in Mansfield, was reading the "Police Blotter" section of her morning newspaper, as was her custom, to see if she knew any of the named miscreants...

"How odd" she thought, "another person with the same name as my brother!" When she read the home address, she was even more startled, "That IS my brother!!" Within a week, we were back on speaking terms.

Since karma has a way of evening things out, the bald tires on John Harrison's Lotus (in John's words, "Poor man's racing slicks") led to a rare DNF when his vehicle slid into a guardrail during a rainstorm in St Louis.

Next month, more missteps and daring feats as the Diesel Team speeds ahead towards Redondo Beach.

CELEBRATING 42 YEARS!

Annual Dinner and Election Meeting

February 6, 2016 ~ 6pm

The 2016 Annual Dinner and Election Meeting will be held, as last year, in the rustic setting with elegant flair at the beautiful Lodge at Maneeley's in South Windsor, CT.

The evening will begin at 6pm with a cocktail hour offering scrumptious hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, followed by a delicious dinner at 7pm, announcement of the newly elected 2016 Board Members, and fabulous entertainment with door prizes throughout. Stay tuned to your email and our chapter website for speaker announcement and/or any additional details as the date nears!

To attend, please send checks made payable to BMW CCA-CVC in the amount of \$37 per person to same at Box 432, Hartford, CT 06141 for receipt by January 30, 2015. Please include your email address (for confirmation & correspondence) and names of attendees (for verification & place cards) with your check. While you do not need to be a member to attend, only chapter and associate members are eligible for door prizes.

Want to socialize with other wonderful members of the Chapter, get involved, meet the Board, and have a great time? Come partake in this enjoyable evening!

Cost: \$37.00 per person

Date: February 6th, 2015

Location: The Lodge at Maneeley's 65 Rye Street,
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For questions, email hcentrella@ctvalley.org

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BMW CCA DAYS AT LIME ROCK CORRECTION NOTICE

Apparently, in spite of the brevity of the article that I wrote in the last DZ (Sept/Oct) about the BMW CCA Days at Lime Rock park, I managed to make several errors and create some misconceptions that need to be corrected. Our Regional Vice-President, John Sullivan was kind enough to bring to my attention firstly, that I gave credit to sponsorship for the affair to New Country BMW in Hartford, CT. While New Country did indeed participate in the sponsorship of the festivities, BMW NA actually contributed 60% of the sponsorship dollars and New Country contributed the remaining 40%. This in no way diminishes the importance of the contribution made to the event by New Country BMW, without whom we would not have been able to accomplish the hospitality and the corral.

John also pointed out that before I even got through the first paragraph, I also gave the impression that the Chapter was responsible for working with Lime Rock to get this event coordinated, when in fact it was all done by John Sullivan, as part of his Regional Vice-Presidential duties, and he worked with Ryan McIntosh at Lime Rock to negotiate the terms of the event and work began back in February, when John became involved and worked on a weekly basis with Ryan to get this done, a period of three months of negotiations and one month of logistical planning.

Later in the article, I may have inferred that we (as in the CVC) had made available the copies of Roundel and the membership flyers, when in fact John was also responsible for procuring those, and also for transporting them to Lime Rock.

Additionally, John brought the Boston Chapter Bimmer newsletters, made the arrangements with the National Office so that we were able to offer a special code for new and renewing members to take advantage of the discounted membership fees we were offering, and brought the BMW CCA flags that were pictured on the poles.

I apologize for the errors and misrepresentations of how the event came about. I should have done more research before authoring the article.

-Bob Morin





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