

# BMW IM HERZEN DES SUDENS

2017, Issue 3 • July 2017

## Joe Wheeler Plantation Fun Run (story on pages 6-8)



### Upcoming Club Events:

- Sat, Jul 22 - DeSoto Caverns Fun Run
- Sat, Aug 19 - Indoor Karting Event and Social at Veloce Huntsville
- Sep 23-24 - High Performance Driver Education at Barber Motorsports Park
- Sat, Oct 28 - Tennessee Walking Horse Fun Run
- Sat, Dec 2 - Muscle Shoals Music Fun Run

### Inside this issue:

Calendar of Events	1
President's Letter	2
Membership Benefits	2
Autocross and Skid Pad	3
2018-2019 Officer Nominations	4
Track Bucket List	5
Electronic Newsletter	5
Joe Wheeler Fun Run	6

## Barber Proving Grounds (story on page 3)



Photos courtesy of Troy Wesson

## Club Officers

### **President**

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slowery726@charter.net

### **Vice President**

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cjones@albmwcca.org

### **Secretary**

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clowery@albmwcca.org

### **Treasurer**

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## Board Members

### **Membership Chair**

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palsabama@gmail.com

### **Event Coordinator**

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256.773.1814 (home)  
256.466.4054 (mobile)  
clowery@albmwcca.org

### **Driving Event Coordinator**

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ahbowman@gmail.com

### **Newsletter**

Troy Wesson  
256.509.3602 (mobile)  
twesson@albmwcca.org

## **President's Letter**



Steve providing driving instructions at the Autocross on June 3 (page 3)

WOW 2017 is Rockin'

I hope you have been able to join us for the great events we are having this year. From fun runs to auto crossing to driving schools, we are doing it all.

I want to thank the crew that just put on our first auto cross at the Barber Proving Grounds. It was so much fun. Over half of the attendees had never driven their car at an autocross and everyone was asking when will the next event be held. Plan on joining us next time and see what the ultimate driv-

ing machine feels like.

We have some great events coming up: Jack Daniels Fun Run, Desoto Caverns, September Driving School, Indoor Karting Competition, Tennessee Walking Horses, Muscle Shoals Sound Tour and hopefully another autocross.

Elections are coming up this year. Please consider running for office as we need fresh ideas and people with a passion for BMW and a love of the club. Call me if you are interested or want to nominate someone.

If I don't see you soon, remember always keep the shiny side up and I will see you at the track.

Steve Lowery, President, HOD BMW CCA



## **The Benefits of a BMW Club Membership**

- Vehicle Rebate: BMW CCA members in good standing (membership for 12 months prior to the purchase) may be eligible for substantial rebates up to \$1,500 on the purchase or lease of a new or Certified Pre-Owned BMW from any authorized U.S. BMW Center. See [bmwcca.org](http://bmwcca.org) for details.
- Outstanding national events including BMW CCA's premier annual gathering, Oktoberfest.
- 12-month subscription to the Club magazine, *Roundel*.
- Driving schools, autocrosses, safety schools, fun runs and Club Racing.
- Regional club-sponsored car corrals at major road races, like the Indy and Grand Am Series at Barber Motorsports Park.
- Free classified ads on the website and in *Roundel* magazine.
- Access to our Technical Service Advisors for personalized advice.
- Ombudsmen to help with dealer issues.
- Friends of BMW: A roster of fellow BMW CCA members who can offer coffee and conversation, repair tools, workspace, sometimes even help when you're out on the road.
- Club library and video services. Borrow BMW-related books and videos.
- Availability of a BMW CCA affinity credit card.
- Free BMW CCA decals available from the club office.
- Access to all areas of the growing online community at [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org).



## Barber Autocross and Skid Pad

Most autocross events can be intimidating to a first timer. When an opportunity to drive the world-class landscaped Barber Proving Grounds came up, I jumped at the chance for a Saturday of fun on June 3. For \$125, I was offered a loaner helmet and a low-key opportunity to try out my car's handling in a safe environment. All 38 participants had at least 8 or more chances to drive the course as well as plenty of time on the wet skid pad—icing on the cake.

The Heart of Dixie Chapter is one of the first car clubs to take advantage of this rare opportunity to rent the entire proving grounds for a Saturday. There is no other facility in the world like this. With the heavy landscaped roadways, this facility allows for numerous course configurations while minimizing the use of cones—making it very easy to read the course. The course even includes a banked turn!

The skid pad was like ice and great way to get a feel for your BMW at the edge—with and without stability control. Everyone had a great time and I can't wait until next year.



Photos courtesy of Troy Wesson and Cristy Verduzco  
Story by Troy Wesson



More pictures from the event can be found at <http://albmwcca.org/gallery/barber-proving-grounds-2017/> and <https://hodbmwbarberjune2017.shutterstock.com/pictures>. We hope to see you at our next autocross!

## Upcoming 2018-2019 Officer Elections and Nominations

The officer election ballots will be printed in the 4th Quarter newsletter (on or about October 1, 2017). So if you've considered becoming an officer, now is the time to throw your hat into the ring. Elected and appointed board member positions are listed below.

How to run for an elected office on the Heart of Dixie board of directors:

- **Submit your name, position desired and member number.** Your member number will not be published, but will be utilized to verify that you are an active member in good standing.
- **Submit a short candidacy statement** on why you want to run for office and what qualifies you for that position. Please limit to less than 10 sentences. Samples may be seen on-line in the 4Q 2015 Newsletter at [www.albmwcca.org](http://www.albmwcca.org).
- **Include a recent photograph.** Your candidacy statement and photo will be published in the 4th Quarter 2017 Chapter newsletter, which will contain the ballots.
- **Submit by September 15, 2017** (midnight) to the newsletter editor at: [twesson@albmwcca.org](mailto:twesson@albmwcca.org). (Call Troy Wesson at 256-509-3602 if you do not receive e-mail confirmation of your submission within 48 hours.)

### ELECTED OFFICER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- You must be an active member to run for an elected position.
- **President** presides at all Chapter meetings, reports the actions of the Board of Directors to the Chapter, and supervises and coordinates the duties of the other officers. The president will be the chief spokesman for the Chapter in dealings with the public and with BMW CCA, Inc. The president retains ex officio status for six months following election of new officers.
- **Vice president** assists the president in the performance of his/her duties and acts in his/her stead in the event of absence, disability or disqualification. He/she is responsible for overseeing event scheduling and functioning as the liaison between the Board of Directors and event organizers.
- **Secretary** keeps complete minutes of all Chapter meetings. At these meetings, he/she is responsible for ensuring that full compliance with the bylaws is maintained. He/she is responsible for notice to the members of all annual and special meetings. He/she is responsible for all past minutes of the Chapter.
- **Treasurer** has custody of all moneys, debts, obligations, and assets of the Chapter. He/she is authorized to make normal ongoing disbursements as required to operate the Chapter. Extraordinary disbursements in excess of an amount determined by the board and specified in the Operations Manual shall not be made without special authorization by the board. The treasurer keeps the Chapter's books of account on a calendar year basis beginning January 1. Files IRS Form 990 annually. He/she shall give a financial report at each regular meeting of the chapter. The treasurer has custody of the past financial records of the Chapter.
- The officer period is from January 1, 2018 thru December 31, 2019. The president's ex officio status will continue through June 30, 2018.

### APPOINTED OFFICER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

If you would like to contribute to the club in an appointed Coordinator Position, please contact the current President (and soon to be ex officio), Steve Lowery at [slowery726@charter.net](mailto:slowery726@charter.net) by **December 15, 2017** and submit your name for consideration for one of the appointed positions below. The newly elected 2018 officers will select the members to fill all appointed Coordinator Positions for the 2018-2019 period at their first board meeting. The members selected to fill the coordinator positions has a vote on all decisions concerning their area of responsibility. The Board of Directors has final approval of all activities of the nominated positions listed above.

- **Activities / Event Coordinator:** Plans the yearly calendar of events and coordinates each activity
- **Driving Event Coordinator:** Plans and organizes all track or autocross driving events.
- **New Member Chair:** Contacts all new members monthly with welcome letter, club information and phone contact if required.
- **Newsletter Editor:** Assembles, edits, publishes and distributes quarterly club newsletter per club guidelines. Provides copies to Regional and National chapters.
- **Sponsorship Chair:** Contacts all current and potential sponsors of the club. Collects all sponsor contributions and insures correct implementation of the program.
- **Web Master:** Responsible for all website content remaining current on a weekly basis (minimum).



## Track Bucket List and Bookend Oktoberfests

I drive my 2008 E92 M3 to HPDE events, pulling a small tire and tool trailer. Going to events within a day's drive worked out well with my available time when I was working. So, I travelled to several tracks in the Southeast.

In 2015 I retired and had more time to dedicate to my track hobby and I came up with a "track bucket list". It started out that September at Oktoberfest at New Jersey Motor-sports Park where I had two days each on Thunderbolt and Lightning tracks. In November, it was back to Barber Motorsports Park, in Birmingham. In January 2016, I made my first trip to Sebring (my first "flat" track), February was Circuit Of The Americas in Austin and March was a return to Road Atlanta and the National Corvette Museum track. In May, I had the opportunity to experience the "climbing esses" at Virginia International Raceway and then back to Barber again.

I continued checking off tracks on the "list" with Mid-Ohio in June and Watkins Glen in July (where they measure run-off in inches!). I made another trip to NCM and finished my distant travels in August at the 2016 Oktoberfest in Monterey with the Fistorics and 4 days on Laguna Seca. This was my 21 day, 5343 mile, 9 state drive for the year. It was worth it to experience Laguna Seca!

I will be adding PittRace and Lime Rock tracks in 2017, along with NOLA Motorsports Park for Oktoberfest in New Orleans. It is great to use an M3 the way it was meant to be driven!

While not on the track, my daily driver is a 1991 E34 M5 with 285,000 miles.

Best Regards,  
Wayne Teas  
Birmingham, Alabama



Photo courtesy of Wayne Teas



Photo courtesy of Wayne Teas



Photo courtesy of Troy Wesson

BMW Car Club of America

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Communication Options

You may specify your preferences for the types of e-mails you would like to receive from BMW CCA. An e-mail address is required to be on record if you wish to renew or make purchases on the website. Current club members are not able to opt out of receiving renewal notices and updates of club benefits.

You may also specify whether you would like to receive your chapter's newsletter via e-mail, or US mail. PLEASE NOTE that if you opt to receive the chapter newsletter via e-mail, but the chapter is not sending it via e-mail yet, you will receive a paper copy until they begin sending it via e-mail.

Receive Chapter Newsletter via\*

- E-mail
- US Mail (print copy)

**Steps:** 1) [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) 2) Login 3) Click *Manage Accounts* 4) Click *My Profile* 5) Update/Verify E-Mail Address and *Submit* 6) Click *E-mail Preferences and Demographics* 7) Click *Receive Chapter Newsletter via: E-Mail and Update* 8) Logout

## Did you receive a paper copy of the newsletter in the mail?

Please take a moment to log into [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) to update your profile to e-mail delivery of your chapter newsletter. Also verify that your e-mail address is filled in and correct. With this preference, you will receive immediate access to the club newsletter and upcoming events in color. Archived copies are always accessible at [www.albmwcca.org/news](http://www.albmwcca.org/news). If for some reason you are not receiving the electronic newsletter and believe you should be, please contact Carol Lowery at [clowery@albmwcca.org](mailto:clowery@albmwcca.org) to ensure that your address is correct in our mail program and that you have not accidentally opted out of future communications.





More pictures at:  
<http://albmwcca.org/gallery/wheeler-plantation-fun-run-2017/>

## Joe Wheeler Plantation Fun Run

On Saturday, May 13, 32 members of the Heart of Dixie chapter took on some of the best roads west of I-65. Starting in Warrior, we headed northwest through Arkadelphia on some very fresh pavement. We then took a spin, winding up one of the best up-hill hairpin turns in the area as we worked our way through the country to Smith Lake and beyond.

Upon arrival in Houston, we enjoyed an outstanding Cajun brunch at *Chef Troy's Talk of the Town*—a club favorite. While we waited, many enjoyed a quick visit to the 1868 log jail across the street. Our visit in Houston was short lived as we had to make a 1 pm tour at Pond Spring.

Pond Spring is the home of Joe Wheeler. The present day house was built in 1870 is fully restored with original furniture and memorabilia. This 90 minute tour was outstanding and a hidden gem of Alabama. General Wheeler was a national figure, serving as a Confederate Cavalry officer, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and a U.S. Major General during the Spanish-American War. Can't wait to return to Pond Spring with the family to experience some rare history and coveted artifacts.

See you all on our next run! Regards, Troy Wesson

**Do you have pictures from a club event? Are you interested in writing a story from one of our events? Do you have a story to tell about your BMW? If so, please contact the editor at [twesson@albmwcca.org](mailto:twesson@albmwcca.org). We are always looking for ideas for the next Heart of Dixie newsletter.**



All photos courtesy of Troy Wesson





Houston Jail (1868) across from Chef Troy's—second oldest in the country



Photos courtesy of Troy Wesson







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Heart of Dixie Chapter



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