

BMW IM HERZEN DES SUDENS

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Did we see you at Barber?

See pages 4 & 5 for some of
our recent events at the
Barber Motorsports Park



Photo Courtesy of Troy Wesson

Join us on **Saturday, August 6th**, for our Fun Run to Florence, AL. We will be visiting two locations in Florence as well as eating lunch in downtown.

Our first stop will be at **Trissl Sport Cars** (<http://trisslsportscars.com>). Trissl has an impressive collection of Porsche cars many of which are rare and limited models. Trissl seeks to connect other Porsche collectors and enthusiasts with the car of their dreams. Each car in the collection has a story and during our private tour we will learn what makes Porsche such a great car. We are very grateful to Trissl for giving our Heart of Dixie chapter this type of access so you don't want to miss out!



After our Trissl tour has completed we will make a short drive to downtown Florence for lunch. After lunch, it's another short drive to the **Rosenbaum Home**. The Rosenbaum Home (<http://wrightinalabama.com/>) is the only Frank Lloyd Wright structure ever built in Alabama. Built in 1940, the house is considered one of the finest examples of a "Usonian" home ever built.

Watch for our email soon with registration information as well as our morning meeting time and place.

SAVE THE DATE:
Florence Fun Run
Saturday, August 6



Photo Courtesy of Troy Wesson

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President's Letter

Happy Summer! Hope you are doing well and enjoying the early dog days of summer. The club has been active and having a great time. Since our last newsletter we had a tremendously successful high performance driving school combined with a BMW Club Race. Even though it was Mother's Day weekend, we managed to have outstanding sponsors and participant involvement. It is always a good day at the track. Thanks to Jack Joyner Chief Driving Instructor and staff that pulled it off again.

The Tire Rack Street Survival (TRSS) school at Shelton State was a success and hopefully we played a part in raising the skill level of our young drivers for a safer tomorrow. Thanks go out again to Jack Joyner TRSS Chairman and all of the Instructors for a top notch job.

On May 18th, we made our way to Tigers



for Tomorrow with 38 members and guest for a great day of driving and camaraderie. See the article on page 6 for details.

Come join us for the second half of 2016 as we have a great trip planed to the Frank Lloyd Wright house in Florence and a peek at a some special Porsche sports cars. Check the web site calendar for dates and details of all upcoming events.

Till we meet again.
Blau und WeiB Roundel
(Blue and White Roundel)
Steve Lowery

Read more about *Tigers for Tomorrow* on Page 6

Photos courtesy of Rafael Rosado

**Save these dates...**

Sat, Aug 6 - Trissl Sports Cars and Wright-Rosenbaum House Fun Run in Florence

Sun, Oct 16 - Teen Street Survival School at Hoover Met

Sat, Oct 29 - Blount County Covered Bridges Fun Run

Fri, Nov 4 - River City Bimmers hosts Tail of the Dragon

Sun, Nov 6 Weekend (See Page 5 for more details)

Stay tuned to e-mail from albmwcca.org, our Facebook page and the Heart of Dixie Quarterly Newsletter for more details.

BMW Car Club
Of America
Heart of Dixie Chapter



Milky Way Farms

By Troy Wesson

Home of the largest dining room table in a private home in the United States. At 28 feet long and 12 feet long, Frank Mars' table can seat 40 people. Built in place, this solid oak table resides in the grand hall of the "Clubhouse" on the Milky Way Farm north of Pulaski, Tennessee.

Built in the 1930s, Frank Mars stopped over in Lynnville on his train ride to Florida from his chocolate factories up north. He fell in love with the area and quickly acquired 2805 acres to build his farm where he raised thoroughbred horses, sheep and cattle. This Tudor-style mansion is over 25,000 square feet and has 21 bedrooms and 14 bathrooms where he and his wife loved to entertain. Celebrities include Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz who stayed for weeks enjoying the property including its private swimming pool and tennis courts.

Having changed hands at least a dozen times over the years, this unique and his-



Photos Courtesy of Troy Wesson

toric property is back in the hands of a father-daughter team from Nashville with an eye on preservation. Due to its popularity as a wedding venue, it is challenging for a private tour of this nature without advanced planning.

The Heart of Dixie BMW Car Club took advantage of this unique opportunity and ventured out from Athens on Sunday, April 25 at 11:00am. The group of 16 individuals and 9 cars took on the challenge of some of the finest back roads from Elkmont, Alabama to Prospect, Tennessee and then on and upwards through the most scenic back roads around Pulaski before arriving at the grand drive into the farm property. Arriving in style, we got premium parking in front of the man-

sion.

Upon arrival, we were graciously welcomed in to the grand hall for some background and history of the facility before sitting down for lunch at the aforementioned table. Our three course meal started with a beautiful salad with poppy seed dressing and mixture of lettuce, strawberries, blueberries and grapes along with iced tea or water. Then came the second course of baked chicken breast with a generous helping of vegetables. We topped off our meal with pecan pie ala mode and a Milky Way bar and a cup of coffee in the signature farm mug.

We then watched a video that filled in some of the history of Mr. Mars and his farm and then had free reign of the entire first and second floor of the manor home – with every bedroom fully furnished with antiques. Many of the bathrooms still feature original working fixtures. We had an opportunity to relax in the grand hall and purchase souvenirs before heading out on a hay ride of the property.

All 16 of us took a tradi-

tional hayride pulled by a pickup throughout a good portion of the property. We saw many of the original homes on the property that house the workers and have been renovated to house the support staff. We stopped first at the chandelier barn where we visited with the horses and sheep. True to its name, the barn features three hanging chandeliers - including one that is original. We also got to see four baby peacocks that are being raised for the property.

We then ventured cross-country to visit the wedding barn on the far side of the property. We passed the stone office building and trophy house. We also saw one of the many natural springs that is still used today. At the wedding barn, we actually were able to drive through the facility – it was so huge. You could tell this would be an awesome location to have a wedding with its many potential offerings for decorations and reception opportunities.

Afterwards, some of our members hopped in a Polaris for a ride to the top of the hill to see the original mausoleum location where

Continued on Page 4



More pictures at:
<http://albmwcca.org/gallery/milky-way-farms/>



Milky Way Farms
continued

Mr. Mars was buried before he was moved. You can see for miles from the top and it is used today as another outdoor wedding venue. We wrapped up with some ice cold water, a visit with the farm cat and a scenic ride home to the interstate through Lynnville.

The group was so excited about the trip that many were raving about how soon they want to come back. Some, just to re-run the many great roads. Milky Way Farm does offer occasional open houses to the public and more details can be found at milkyway-farm.org.



Barber Historics—May 21-22, 2016



All photos courtesy of Troy Wesson



Our HoD Chapter participated both Saturday and Sunday with the club corral, parade laps and designate BMW viewing tent. Amazing weather!



High Performance Driver Education



Head Instructor
Jack Joyner



Many thanks to all that participated in the chapter's HPDE the weekend of **May 7-8, 2016**. If you missed this year, be sure to sign up next year for this amazing opportunity to drive at the Barber Motorsports Park.



Photos Courtesy of Troy Wesson



BMW Tail of the Dragon Event

River City Bimmers (Memphis) is inviting you to drive the Tail of the Dragon with us again this year! Joined by several other clubs last year we had a fantastic turnout and we're aiming for bigger and better this year! We will be staying at Fontana Village again, are currently working on group rates, and we will be having a group dinner as well. We will have more details in the months to come!

It's a magical route that car and bike enthusiasts alike put on their bucket list. It's more than 318 curves in 11 miles, it's a long established route that dates back before the asphalt and roaring engines were graced with its presence. Before men used the route and built upon it, it belonged to nature and was a route that was carved out by large herds of buffalo. If you really think about it, this is a path as nature intended it to be. It's not just a road, it's a dream, it's a feeling, and it's everything you envision driving to be before you get your driver's license. This isn't the same route you take to work every day, or the long interstate you clamor on to get where you're going, it is more than a road, a path, a route. It is freedom, togetherness, and a sound belief that any road so beautiful, majestic, treacherous, should be driven, and with great enthusiasm.

The **weekend of November 5**, we will be driving the mystic route, and for those of us who have never been, we will be living a dream, and for those of you have already driven those 318 curves, you will be reliving that dream. Whatever it may be, we hope that you join us and make a drive that has been so memorable for ages and generations before us. Let's be a part of history together, and even make a little history of our own.

Info and reservations:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1315425348485121>
 or www.rcbimmers.org



Photo Courtesy of Wayne Wesson

Strengthen the Foundation, One Brick at a Time...

The **BMW CCA Foundation** is selling personalized commemorative Bricks to be installed at the Foundation's new headquarters in South Carolina. If you've been to the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, you may have seen a similar program. Bricks already purchased have been temporarily installed inside the Foundation's offices; these will later be incorporated into an outdoor plaza.



To raise awareness and to kick off the program with a good start, there is currently a Chapter Challenge underway. You should have already received several emails about the program. Chapters of all sizes may compete on relatively even terms, as they are broken down into four size-based categories – a small Chapter need not sell as many Bricks as Golden Gate or the Boston Chapter to have a successful drive! Winners in each size category will receive a Brick and “other goodies”!

Bricks are available in several different sizes, with over 70 designs available, plus Chapter and Foundation logos. Fully customized bricks may also be purchased at a significant upcharge. (art charges may be amortized over a larger order, so if you can talk some friends into using the same art, costs come down)

The Chapter Challenge runs through the end of 2016, with “regular” sales continuing after that, of course. If only 20 people from each of the 67 Chapters purchased the smallest 4X8 brick (\$50), the Foundation would raise \$67,000. If every member bought the largest, \$200 Brick, over \$14M would be raised! Somewhere in the middle is where they're aiming...the current goal is \$7M, with \$2M already raised. The modest goal is to reach 1000 Bricks sold this calendar year to Chapter members. What is the money to be used for?

“Our vision is to be a living repository of BMW information and benefit the motoring community. Hence, the Foundation has established three ambitious initiatives:

- *The Street Survival Teen Driving Safety Program*
- *The Library, Archives and Museum Program*
- *The Conservation and Preservation Program”*

The Foundation's site, with order form, sizes, clip art, and pricing:
<http://www.fundraisingbrick.com/bmwccafoundation>



Tigers for Tomorrow Fun Run by Steve Lowery

Wow what a turn out we had for a chance to see the best Tigers/Lions/Bears/Wolves and wild cats in Alabama. We launched, I mean started from Cullman and made our way toward Attalla where our state has one of the finest tiger preserves around. The Conga Line of BMWs arrived at the preserve bright and early, but before we ascended Untamed Mountain we put our race, I mean street cars in full time traction control. The last little climb was a slippery slope.

We met the guide and owner of the preserve and began our lesson on tigers in captivity and the history of Untamed Mountain. We learned a little about tiger instincts and how most animals of prey have four basic instincts. These animals are so majestic and it is evident by their playfulness as to



Photo courtesy of Rafael Rosado
See Page 2 for more pictures

the level of care and wellbeing they are being provided.

After a super interesting tour, we proceeded back down the treacherous slope of Untamed Mountain hoping to return another day.

Lunch was enjoyed at Wills Creek Vineyard under sprawling oak trees overlooking an inviting lake. We were famished after tracking those Tigers and I ate every crumb. Wills Creek is a member of the Alabama Wine trail and specializes in Muscadine and grape wines. We had a private tasting and evidently there was much cheer because the shopping bags were heavy on the way out.

If you are ever in the Attalla area and want a fun day, go see our friends at these two interesting destinations.

The BMW Genius corner from BMW of Birmingham!



THE BMW M760i xDrive SEDAN.

BMW is pleased to announce the 2017 BMW M760i xDrive sedan, the latest addition to the M Performance line-up. The M760i xDrive will launch in November 2016 and arrive in dealerships starting early 2017.

Performance and Handling

- M Performance TwinPower Turbo 12-Cylinder Gasonline Engine
- 600 HP at 5,500 rpm
- 590 lb-ft torque
- 0 to 60 mph in 3.9 (preliminary)
- Top Speed of 155mph
- 8 Speed Sport Automatic
- Standard Active Comfort Drive with RoadPreview
- Standard Integral Active Steering

Exterior

- M Aero Kit with Cerium Gray accents for air intakes
- Kidney grille bars and air breathers in Cerium Gray
- M twin tailpipe design
- M Sport Exhaust
- Unique 20-inch M light-allow wheels
- Standard M Sport Brakes with blue calipers
- Exclusive mirror caps
- V12 badgin on C-Pillars in Cerium Gray



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NEWSLETTER

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Got an idea for a story?
Interested in providing
pictures or a story from
our next club event? If
so, contact Troy Wesson,
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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 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.



Photo Courtesy of Troy Wesson
See Page 3 for more about Milky Way Farms

BMW Club lunch at the largest dining room table in America at Milky Way Farms