



Sonnenflecke



The Official Newsletter of the Sunbelt Chapter BMW Club

November 2016

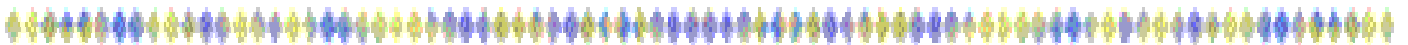
SUNBELT CHAPTER HOLIDAY DINNER

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Join us in the party room at the **Stables Café, 223 N Division Street, Guthrie, Ok,** from **11:30 to 4pm**, December 4th, for our annual holiday party. Dinner will be the Stables' famous BBQ buffet with all the trimmings, including drink and desert, for \$20 per person (cash or check paid to Sunbelt Chapter). The buffet is open until around 2:00, if you can't make the 11:30 start. As always, door prizes and a **Dirty Santa Gift** exchange will be part of the activities, starting around 1:00. *Everyone wishing to participant should bring a gift valued at approximately \$20.* Reservations are not necessary. We have been asked to park in the lots of the business to the North of the Stables Cafe, as they are closed on Sunday.

The 21st annual **Guthrie Territorial Christmas** celebration will be in full swing, so you may might want to plan on staying in the area until after dark to see all the decorations and lights on the businesses and homes in historic Guthrie. Other activities will also be underway, but details are not available at this time, so you might want to check the details at www.guthriesterritorialchristmas.com/

A **Territorial Christmas Carol, at the Pollard Theater**, will also be in production. If you have never seen it, this long running play is a version of Charles Dickens Christmas Carol, set in Oklahoma during the territorial period. Over the years, they have developed some great props and visual effects, which add to the drama. Make your reservations now, since most performances sell out early <http://www.thepollard.org/>



Oktoberfest Car Show

On September 10th, our club sponsored the 2016 Oktoberfest Car Show held at Choctaw Creek Park in conjunction with the Choctaw Oktoberfest. We raised \$445 for Oklahoma Special Olympics. This year's event was sunny but the temperatures were moderate, so it made for an enjoyable outing. During the event there was good music, fine German food, and drinks, ranging from water to water's natural progression: Beer! - Especially when brewed via The Reinheitsgebot (Bavaria, 1516).

This year each entrant was given a ballot to vote. Each entrant then voted for one favorite modern (1980 and newer) vehicle, and one favorite classic (pre-1980) vehicle by each marque represented in the show. Trophies consisted of glass mugs emblazoned with the Old Germany Restaurant logo. Each trophy was then filled with German beer as a treat for the winner.

Finally, a big "thanks" to our members who attended the show. Special thanks to members Mike and Norma Kesting for helping with administration of the show. Also special thanks to Sunbelt member Mike Turek and Old Germany Restaurant for providing t-shirts for our car show entrants and for inviting us to participate in Oktoberfest.

NEW MEMBERS

Randy	Baker	Edmond	OK
David	Beal	Claremore	OK
Rex	Boatright	Edmond	OK
Cynthia	Bouwkamp	Broken Arrow	OK
Ben	Bricker	Fayetteville	AR
Dustin	Burns	Moore	OK
Michael	Butler	Siloam Springs	AR
Matthew	Cates	Anadarko	OK
Phil	Cook	Edmond	OK
Erik	Cullins	Bella Vista	AR
Stephen	Davenport	Nichols Hills	OK
Chris	Evans	Oklahoma City	OK
Ronnie	Freeman	Cushing	OK
Maxime	Freire	Edmond	OK
Nick	Heinig	Jenks	OK
Patrick	McGregor	Yukon	OK
Mike	McSwain	Mustang	OK
Franco	Pigoni	Westminster	CO
Michael	Pittard	Norman	OK
Scott	Robinson	Oklahoma City	OK
Colt	Rogers	Greenwood	AR
Lawrence	Sallee	Barksdale Afb	LA
Randy	Salyer	Broken Arrow	OK
Edward	Wallace	Oklahoma City	OK
Scott	Young	Fayetteville	AR

From our lawyers:

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We would like to welcome these new members to the Sunbelt family.

**Congratulations on joining the CCA.
We look forward to seeing you at some upcoming events!**

Sunbelt Chapter Officers

President

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Sunbelt Chapter Board Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm.

Locations change, so please check the website (sunbeltbmwcca.org) prior to the meeting date or if you'd prefer, let us know and we can place you on the meeting email distro. Board meetings are open to all members. We encourage anyone to attend to promote ideas & suggestions, or just show up to find out what's going on. We'd love to have you!

A Run Flat Experience

By Steve Jackson

Since run flat tires first became standard on BMWs, owners have argued for or against them. No matter which side of the argument you support, read on.

While driving at about 70mph, I hit what felt like an uneven expansion joint, and immediately the navigation screen displayed “left rear low”. Once I got the car stopped, I found that the front tire had a bulge in the sidewall, and the rear had the sidewall blown out, and zero air in it. The car didn’t really swerve, or perform as it would have with a completely flat conventional tire, it just squirmed a little like there was a slightly low tire. So, the run flat helped prevent loss of control from the immediate loss of all pressure.

Another factor that might mislead you into thinking the problem is less severe is that the BMW tire pressure warning does not give you a pressure reading like many cars do, it just says low, even when there is no air. Don’t assume you can continue driving normally because this warning message says “low”. And don’t forget that if you rotate your tires, the actual location of the low/flat tire may not be where the system indicates, so check them all.

Since the tire was already beyond repair, and my only other option was to have it towed, I drove the car about 24 miles home. I stayed on city streets to avoid exceeding the 50 mph speed specified on the tire sidewall and warning on the navigation display. When I got home, the tire temperature was about 125 degrees, indicating it was generating quite a bit of heat, on a 70 degree day at relatively low speed. The other tires were about the ambient temperature of 70 degrees. I have no doubt that if I had driven faster, or the outdoor temperature was hotter, the tire sidewall would have heated up even more and likely resulted in catastrophic failure of the tire. So no kidding about the speed or the range you can drive on a run flat. This is likely the reason that many tire shops will no longer patch ANY run flat tire, as they assume it has been driven while flat, and the sidewall has been damaged.

When I contacted local tire stores to see if they might have the tires in stock, they not have them and they couldn’t get them for at least five days! Tire Rack could get them to me a day or two earlier, but they had to come from warehouses in two different states. That doesn’t bode well for finding the tires locally and getting back on the road during a trip. Of course, the same can be true of standard tires, but they are generally more readily available.

If you switched to standard tires and bought a space saver spare, check the sidewall for the limitations for speed and distance. The spare should be fully inflated (you do check it occasionally don’t you?) and not damaged. Recent changes in lug bolt sizes and larger brake calipers may mean that space-saver spares sold previously may not fit current cars. Be sure to check that the spare is compatible with both the front and rear of your vehicle before you are stuck by the side of the road. Also, make sure that you have a jack in the car!

Tech Tip: BMW and Mini have switched to larger lug bolts, 14x1.25mm rather than the previous 12x1.5mm, even though the socket size is still 17mm. The torque for the larger bolts is 103 ft/lbs. Wolf Racing sells threaded alloy hanger pins in the new size for \$10 each. The pins are smooth so they won’t damage your wheels like the ones that have knurled ends. Using two hanger pins makes removing or mounting a wheel much easier, with less chance of damaging the wheel or other components.

Please click these websites for the most up-to-date information on club events.

Local Sunbelt Chapter Page: <http://www.sunbeltbmwcca.org/>

Bimmerforums Regional Forum: <http://forums.bimmerforums.com/forum/forumdisplay.php?323-Oklahoma>

Sunbelt Chapter National Page: <https://www.bmwcca.org/chapter/sunbelt-chapter>

Find us on Facebook, Sunbelt Chapter BMW CCA



Sunbelt Chapter BMW CCA, Inc

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Bethany, OK 73008-0533



The Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department Driving Training Track is still unavailable for autocross events. We will pass along any new information as soon as it becomes available to us.
Thanks for your patience and support!

Reasons to Renew

BMW CCA members in good standing may be eligible for substantial rebates up to \$1,500 on the purchase or lease of any new or certified pre-owned BMW. Visit bmwcca.org for more information.

Roundel Magazine, delivered to your door each month.

Discounts on parts and service.

Free CCA decals available from the club office.

Access to driving schools, driving events, and autocrosses.

Local tech days, wine tours, and parties.

Many other travel and shopping discounts are available at www.bmwcca.org/membershipbenefits

Coffee and Cars

Held the first Saturday of every month at

Northpark Mall, 12100 N. May,
Oklahoma City, OK 73120

8:00 to 11:00 am

www.coffeeandcarsokc.com