

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

FROM: Wynne Smith, Executive Director
TO: BMW CCA National and Service Officers,
Chapter Presidents, Newsletter Editors
DATE: September 20, 2002

MEMBERSHIP STATS as of 09/19/2002

	Full	Associate	Total
Current Membership	63259	7266	70525
Last Month's Membership	63039	7220	70259
Monthly Net Gain (Loss)	220	46	266
Monthly % Change	0.349%	0.637%	0.379%
Last Year's Membership	57022	6336	63358
Annual Net Gain (Loss)	6237	930	7167
Annual % Change	10.938%	14.678%	11.312%
New Members, 09/02	1339		
Renewals 09/02	67.3%		
Roundels Mailed	63,600		

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To be held November 2 and 3, 2003 in Austin, Texas. If there are topics you'd like your Regional Vice President to present, please contact them to make sure your topic appears on the agenda.

Minutes from the Board Meeting held in Pasadena, California in August are enclosed herewith and are available on the www.bmwcca.org website.

One of the topics discussed was that of the wording for the Operations Manual regarding DEC committee elections – which was initially discussed with Chapter representatives at the Chapter Congress in October of last year. I have excerpted it here for your review.

DEC ELECTIONS

The Operations Manual currently reads:

8.5 NATIONAL DRIVING EVENTS COMMITTEE

The committee shall consist of a chairman, one representative from each region and other members as determined by the Board.

The Committee is responsible for the BMW CCA Driving Events program. BMW CCA supports drivers schools conducted by chapters and by Oktoberfest. The Driving Event Program is intended to promote driver education and safety by providing a framework for members to improve their driving skills in a fun and safe environment. To these ends the Committee shall:

Update, maintain and, enforce the Driving School Standards (Section III Paragraph 6 of the BMW CCA Operations Manual). If a chapter violates the Driving School Guidelines, the regional DEC (Driving Events Committee) representative will talk with the chapter representatives and try to work out a solution

that is amiable and within the guidelines. Failing that, the regional DEC representatives will discuss the issue with the current Board representative on the Committee and that individual will then bring the issue to the entire Board for discussion and action.

Create and conduct Driving School Instructor Training Programs.

Assist chapters in creating or improving their driving school program.

The Driving Events Committee Chairman shall provide the National before each Board meeting a status of the Driving Event Committee projects.

Change to read:

8.5 National Driving Events Committee

The Driving Events Committee will consist of one representative from each region to be elected by the chapters of each region, and additional members appointed by the National Board as deemed necessary. The committee shall select a chairperson from within the committee. Elected DEC member terms will be two years* and will be staggered to coincide with the terms of the corresponding region vice president.

The Driving Events Committee is responsible for the BMW CCA Driving Events program. BMW CCA supports driving events conducted by chapters and by Oktoberfest. The Driving Events Program is intended to promote driver education and safety by providing a framework for members to improve their driving skills in a fun and safe environment. To these ends the Committee shall:

- Update, maintain and, enforce the Driving School Standards (BMW CCA Operations Manual Section III, paragraph 6). If a chapter violates the Driving School Standards, the elected DEC representative for that region will work with chapter representatives to arrive at an amicable solution that meets the standards. If the regional representative and the DEC as a whole cannot effect a solution, the matter will be referred to the National Board for resolution.
- Create and conduct Driving School Instructor Training Programs.
- Assist chapters in creating or improving their driving events programs.

The Driving Events Committee Chairman shall provide the National Board at least two weeks before each National Board meeting a Driving Events Committee report that will include, as a minimum, status of ongoing projects, a summary of instructor training conducted, a summary of driving event incidents, and a summary of DEC finances for the year to date.

*In the initial year of elected DEC positions, the terms of the South Atlantic, North Central, and Pacific Regions will be two-year terms, and the North Atlantic and South Central terms will be for one year. Following that cycle, all terms will be for two years. *[Note: this asterisk and note will be removed from the Operations Manual in 2005.]*

8.5.1 Election of DEC Members

The National Office will solicit nominations for DEC regional positions using announcements in "News from National," the BMW CCA web site, and *Roundel* magazine. Nominations must be received at the National Office no later than close of business on the last day of October. Candidates must be BMW CCA members in good standing and must reside in the region they wish to represent. Candidates may include with their nomination a 300-word candidacy statement that will be included with the ballots.

After verifying both candidate eligibility and individuals serving as chapter driving events coordinators (or equivalent position), the National Office will prepare the DEC ballots and send them out no later than December 1st. Ballots must be returned to the National Office by January 15th. The results will be received,

tallied, submitted to the region vice presidents for approval, and released in time to confirm the elected DEC representatives at the same time that the Board confirms the other National Service Officer positions, which is normally at the Annual Meeting.

Each chapter within a region will be eligible to cast one vote for the DEC representative for that region. The chapter vote will be cast by the chapter's driving events coordinator or equivalent position, as identified by the chapter president. If the chapter has no driving events coordinator or equivalent position, the vote will be cast by the chapter president. The candidate receiving the most votes wins. In the event of a tie, the region vice president will select the DEC representative from among the candidates tied with the most votes. In the event there are no candidates for election, or if a vacancy exists on the DEC, the region vice president of the represented region will select an individual to fill the vacancy, subject to National Board confirmation as a National Service Officer.

DEC elected member terms will be two years. To provide continuity, terms will be staggered, with South Atlantic, North Central, and Pacific region representatives elected in odd-numbered years, and North Atlantic and South Central region representatives elected in even-numbered years.

8.5.2 Appointment of Additional DEC Members

As needed to meet DEC responsibilities and workload, additional members may be appointed by the National Board. These members may be needed to equitably spread the workload of the committee or to add expertise in areas other than high-performance driving schools, such as autocrosses, rallies, and safety schools, as well as driving events that meet the needs of particular models, such as roadsters and sport activity vehicles. It is incumbent upon the DEC to request additional members as it identifies the need for them.

Additional DEC member appointments will be subject to national Board confirmation as National Service Officers.

THE 15% RULE

We have been warned by our Accountant that it will be "prohibitively" expensive to conduct the research and submit a request for a private letter ruling from the IRS asking if membership in BMW CCA, regardless of chapter, constitutes membership in each chapter for the purposes of that chapter meeting the 15% rule. Even then, there is no guarantee or even likelihood that the IRS would rule in our favor. We will continue to look into that approach to determine if there is a way that it would be economically feasible. Our Accountant has advised that the best possible course of action available to chapters would be to require that paying attendees of chapter events, be members of the chapter. For people who are not members of BMW CCA, this would mean joining for \$35. For BMW CCA members of other chapters, this would mean paying \$13.50 for the additional chapter membership.

Members wishing dual chapter affiliation can call national with a MasterCard or visa and we will prorate the \$13.50 so that their memberships run concurrently. Chapters wishing to spot-check dual affiliations can email inquiries to either BMWCCCLUB@aol.com or questions@bmwcca.org.

ELECTIONS

Positions open are: Secretary, Treasurer, North Central Regional Vice President, South Atlantic Regional Vice President and Pacific Regional Vice President.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors in Pasadena, CA August 10 and 11, members of the Board were asked to indicate their intentions as to whether they would be running again. Barbara Adams has indicated that she intends to run; Kathy Lyle has indicated that she will not; Scott Blazey has indicated that he will; Carlos Diaz-Estrada has indicated that he intends to run; and Keith Wollenberg has indicated that he will not run.

Candidates must be nominated by a member who has been a member for at least six months prior (the nomination must include the BMW CCA membership number of the nominating person) and the candidate's acceptance of the nomination should be countersigned on the same page (including the candidate's own membership number).

Nominees for Regional Offices, and those nominating them, must reside and be a chapter member in the specific region. If you would like a template, please contact me and we can email or fax one to you.

Nominations should include a candidacy statement of **no more than 300 words** and an appropriate photograph of the candidate. Those wishing to help in refining the CCA's strategic framework: its values, vision, mission and broad goals; those wishing to help formulate and refine policies that govern our practices should send their nominations, acceptances, candidacy statements and photographs must be received at the National Office **before 5 PM EST October 31, 2002.**

EDITORIAL EYE

At the Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Conference in late May of this year one of the presenters, Linda Jorgensen, asked for samples of our newsletters for her segment – Real-World Newsletters. Well, she so thoroughly enjoyed our unique club and our unique newsletters that we became her July column. Enclosed is an issue of Editorial Eye – *please* be sure your Newsletter Editor receives the enclosed

GATEWAY TECH/ TECHFEST WEST

Scheduled for March 19- 24,2003 to be held at the Pacific Palms Conference Resort in the beautiful San Gabriel Mountains of California *may not happen*. The LA Chapter is stretched too thin to handle the event entirely on their own and has asked the national office staff and volunteers from neighboring chapters to assist. The matter is under discussion by the BMW CCA Board as of this writing. If you are within driving distance of City of Industry, CA and would like to volunteer for any of the following positions: Advertising & Marketing (creating ad copy for Roundel, a calendar and program copy/ website copy for the event). Events (responsible for creating a schedule of activities relating to the event, but outside of and in addition to the technical sessions). Budget (responsible for taking forecast budget, finalizing it and monitoring it against actual costs). Onsite assistance for Registration and Non-technical events during the four days - please send me an email wynne_smith@roundel.org. Unless we have the manpower and the teams in place to make this the premier event it should be, it is unlikely the National Board will consider it appropriate to proceed. It would be a shame to see the tradition of Gateway Tech to be dropped for a year.

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best regards,

The National Office will be closed Monday, October 14th
In observance of Columbus Day.

Petit Lemans tickets and corral passes still available! First come/first served. \$80 for parking, passes and lunch at the BMW corral.
864 250-0022.